

February 27, 2019

United States Supreme Court Declines to Extend Special Tolling Rule to Insurance Adjusters

BY: J. Patrick Carley, III

On February 19, 2019, the Supreme Court of the United States denied a petition for a writ of *certiorari*, requesting review of the decision in *Bloom v. Aftermath Public Adjusters, Inc.*, 900 F.3d 516 (5th Cir. Sept. 4, 2018). In *Bloom*, the United States Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit ruled that Texas's special tolling rule suspending the statute of limitations on legal malpractice claims until completion of the underlying litigation from which the claims arose did not extend to claims against public adjusters. In connection therewith, the Fifth Circuit noted that the application of the special tolling rule was limited to cases involving legal malpractice, and rejected the argument that public adjusters are lawyers in disguise who effectively provided legal services. While the denial of the petition does not reflect the Supreme Court's views as to the merits of the decision, it does ensure that *Bloom* remains legal precedent.