

Employee Spotlight: *Gordon Taranger*



Gordon Taranger, a liability specialist with ESIS Casualty Claims, has been with ESIS for 40 years! His impressive tenure and hard work has recently earned him ESIS' "*Lifetime Achievement*" award. We recently interviewed Gordon to find out more about his time in the industry and what he is interested in outside of work.

How long have you been with ESIS?

40 years

How did you initially get into the industry?

I had an opportunity to move into the insurance world but on the sales side. I worked that for 6 months or so and decided I had no interest in sales but wanted to make good use of the licenses I had obtained. I applied to a carrier and secured an entry level claims position, learned the basics and then obtained a job two years later with INA – Insurance Co of North America – our company's origin.

What made you stay with ESIS for so long?

I like familiarity and I've never believed the grass was greener anywhere else. I worked hard and have done a lot of interesting things in different positions within the company throughout the nation. It always kept me interested and I gained a lot of useful experience and knowledge from those different positions. My job at ESIS brought security to my life and I was able to balance that with an active outdoor life.

What are some of your hobbies outside of work?

I am an avid slalom course water skier and have been active in that for 25 years. It is a passion/sickness. I play the guitar and have been in a few Elvis Presley tribute/and other rock and roll bands. I have the opportunity now of joining the ski patrol for a local Vail owned resort and the training begins this summer and runs for 2 years. I am really looking forward to that.

What is the most satisfying part of your job?

ESIS managers have always done a great job of supporting their teams. I have been able to work remotely for a lot of my career here, and I appreciate that opportunity.

Can you describe any changes you've seen in the industry since the beginning of your career?

When I began, all of our work was paper driven and in some sense easier to quickly have information at your fingertips. Today we are doing much more than back in the paper file days in terms of tasks because of changes in technology. Initially, written correspondence and US

mail and phone were our communication methods. In the new world everything moves instantaneously with email and demands are greater as a result.

Do you have any advice for those just now entering the industry?

Expect to work longer than a 40 hour week to be on top of your job. Find a mentor to learn and gain every advantage to shorten the learning curve. It's a good career and it will take care of you but requires energy and commitment to be successful.