

Seismic Retrofitting of Pre-1976 Residences California Department of Insurance Continuing Education Course No. 260947

The instructor, Dr. Daniel Pradel (Provider No. 244778), is a Professor in the Civil Engineering Department at UCLA, a California licensed engineer, and also certified with the California Emergency Management Agency as a Post-Disaster Safety Assessment Program Evaluator. He was part of the American Society of Civil Engineering reconnaissance team after the 2011 Magnitude 9.0 earthquake in Japan. He has over 20 years of experience in performing first and third party claim investigations for insurance companies.



Robert A. Eplett, OES

Figure 2 - Loma Prieta Earthquake, Oct. 17, 1989
Home moved off of its foundation and was considered a total loss.



The aim of this seminar is to instruct brokers and adjusters on how single family residences built before 1976 have been retrofitted. The instructor, a licensed engineer, will explain the purpose of structural elements that are covered under earthquake insurance. He will also describe earthquake vulnerabilities, e.g., which elements are more likely to experience damage as a result of a future earthquake.

This continuing education seminar covers in detail the different types of foundations typically encountered in residential structures, their vulnerability in earthquakes, and the ways in which seismic retrofitting can increase the structural reliability during earthquakes.

Since many major building code changes were introduced after the 1971 San Fernando earthquake to improve the seismic performance of residential construction, the emphasis is placed on construction techniques prior to the 1976 codes and later retrofitting techniques. The seminar is intended to introduce the adjusters to the various types of foundations they may encounter, what to look for during a post-earthquake inspection, and suggestions they can make to the homeowner to increase the structural reliability of residences during and post earthquakes.

