



# **NATIONAL ASBESTOS LITIGATION CONFERENCE**

**The Charleston Place Hotel  
September 16-17, 2025**

## **CO-CHAIRS**

**Perry J. Browder, Esq.**

Simmons Hanly Conroy LLP, Alton, IL

**John B. Manning, Esq.**

MG + M The Law Firm, Boston, MA

**Joseph F. Rice, Esq.**

Motley Rice LLC, Mt. Pleasant, SC

**Erin M. Voyik, Esq.**

The RiverStone Group, Manchester, NH

**Perrin Conferences**  
**National Asbestos Litigation Conference**  
**September 16-17, 2025**  
**The Charleston Place (Charleston, SC)**

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**Monday, September 15, 2025**

**11:00 AM – 4:00 PM: Golf Outing** (*Bulls Bay Golf Club, separate registration*)  
*Sponsored by: Motley Rice LLC*

Kick off the conference by joining attendees and speakers for a round of golf at Bulls Bay Golf Club. For more information and to sign up, see the Golf Outing section at the end of the brochure. Transportation is provided to/from The Charleston Place Hotel.

**5:30 PM – 6:30 PM: Opening Networking Cocktail Reception** (*Palmetto and Charleston Grill*)  
*Sponsored by: Ankura Consulting, Goldberg Segalla and Simmons Hanly Conroy LLP*

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**Tuesday, September 16, 2025**

**8:00 AM – 8:45 AM: Registration and Continental Breakfast** (*Grand Hall*)  
*Sponsored by: KCIC*

**8:45 AM – 9:00 AM: Welcome & Opening Remarks by Co-Chairs** (*Live Oak/Magnolia Ballroom*)

**Perry J. Browder, Esq.**, Simmons Hanly Conroy LLP, Alton, IL  
**John B. Manning, Esq.**, MG+M The Law Firm, Boston, MA  
**Joseph F. Rice, Esq.**, Motley Rice LLC, Mount Pleasant, SC  
**Erin M. Voyik, Esq.**, Vice President/Director, APO Global Initiatives and Claims Counsel, The RiverStone Group, Manchester, NH

**9:00 AM – 10:00 AM: National Trends Driving Asbestos Litigation**

- Filing trends, hot jurisdictions and future projections
- Recap of recent verdicts
- Jurisdictional updates
- Impact of the Trump Administration on recent decisions and regulatory changes

- New Illinois Statute

**John P. Arranz, Esq.**, Swanson, Martin & Bell, LLP, Chicago, IL

**Megan Burns**, Managing Director, KCIC, Washington, D.C.

**Anthony S. Guardione**, Senior Counsel, Travelers, Hartford, CT

**John B. Manning, Esq.**, MG+M The Law Firm, Boston, MA

**Hon. Jennifer Medley**, Civil District Court for the Parish of Orleans, New Orleans, LA

**Raymond D. Rushing**, Corporate Counsel – Global Litigation, Cummins Inc., Chicago, IL

**Nicholas Vogelzang, Esq.**, Vogelzang Law, Chicago, IL

### **10:00 AM – 11:00 AM: Trial Attorney Perspectives: Trying Cases, Staying Sane and the Teams that Make that Possible**

- Damages
- Mental health
- Alternative Exposures
- Trial Teams

**Jennifer L. Alesio, Esq.**, Simmons Hanly Conroy LLP, San Francisco, CA

**Suzanne Ratcliffe Stern, Esq.**, Maune Raichle Hartley French & Mudd, LLC, New York, NY

**Brittany A. Russell, Esq.**, Weitz & Luxenberg, New York, NY

**Meghan B. Senter, Esq.**, MG+M The Law Firm, New Orleans, LA

**Claire C. Weglarz, Esq.**, Womble Bond Dickinson, Los Angeles, CA

### **11:00 AM – 11:15 AM: Break (Grand Hall)**

**Sponsored by: Maron Marvel**

### **11:15 AM – 12:30 PM: Talc Litigation Overview**

- Industrial talc and the interaction of other defendants
- Update on FDA and talc

**Jessica Dean, Esq.**, Dean Omar Branham Shirley, LLP, Dallas, TX

**Donald P. Blydenburgh, Esq.**, Simmons Hanly Conroy LLP, New York, NY

**Erin Smith-Corbally**, AVP, Director, APO Strategy & Claim Counsel, The RiverStone Group, Manchester, NH

**Jay E. Stuemke, Esq.**, Dean Omar Branham Shirley, LLP, Dallas, TX

**Theodore C. Yarbrough, Esq.**, Gordon Rees Scully Mansukhani, LLP, San Diego, CA

### **12:30 PM – 1:45 PM: Women's Lunch (Cypress/Dogwood Room)**

**Sponsored by: Husch Blackwell LLP and Sinars Slowikowski LLC**

**Moderator: Megan Slowikowski, Esq.**, Sinars Slowikowski LLC, Chicago, IL

**Betsy Czerwinski, AIC-M, AINS**, Senior Claims Manager, Great American Insurance Group, Cincinnati, OH

**Shannon E. Hall, CPCU, ARM, Are**, Assistant Vice President, Allianz Reinsurance America, Inc., Petaluma, CA

**Bethann Kagan, Esq.**, Shein Law Center, Ltd., Philadelphia, PA

**Nicole Nystrom**, Senior Corporate Claims Specialist, PMA Companies, Chicago, IL

**Jessica Proseri, Esq.**, Husch Blackwell LLP, St. Louis, MO

**Carrie Strasser**, Senior Claim Analyst, The RiverStone Group, Manchester, NH

**12:30 PM – 1:45 PM: Lunch** (*on your own*)

**1:45 PM – 2:45 PM: Causes of Mesothelioma and Lung Cancer Cases**

- Scott K. Keller v. ExxonMobil Oil Corporation
- Lung cancer dockets
- Modern lung cancer claims
- The current state of the law regarding take-home claims

**Allyson B. Bertin, Esq.**, Maron Marvel, Pittsburgh, PA

**Dennis E. Vega, Esq.**, Foley Mansfield, New York, NY

**Sophie Zavaglia, Esq.**, SWMW Law, St. Louis, MO

**Audra L. Zobrist, Esq.**, HeplerBroom LLC, Edwardsville, IL

**2:45 PM – 3:45 PM: The Significance of Dissolution and Receiverships**

- Corporate reorganization alternatives

**Charles Branham, III, Esq.**, Dean Omar Branham Shirley, LLP, Dallas, TX

**Michael Brockland, Esq.**, SWMW Law, St. Louis, MO

**David J. Goodearl, Esq.**, Leader Berkon Colao & Silverstein LLP, New York, NY

**Edward A. Smallwood, Esq.**, Post & Schell, P.C., Pittsburgh, PA

**3:45 PM – 4:00 PM: Break**

*Sponsored by: Cetrulo LLP*

**4:00 PM – 5:00 PM: In-House Counsel Roundtable**

- Evolving challenges defending national asbestos litigation
- Impact of Artificial Intelligence on asbestos litigation

**Moderator: Timothy Gallagher, Esq.**, McMahon, Martine & Gallagher, LLP, New York, NY

**Nicholas Fox**, Counsel, Volvo Group North America, LLC, Greensboro, NC

**Raymond D. Rushing**, Corporate Counsel – Global Litigation, Cummins Inc., Chicago, IL

**Paul Slater, Esq.**, Senior Counsel, General Electric Company, Fairfield, CT  
**Brendan J. Tuohy**, Senior Counsel – Litigation, National Grid, Waltham, MA  
**Nate Walker**, General Counsel, NA, Legal Affairs, Husqvarna Group, Charlotte, NC

**5:00 PM – 6:30 PM: Networking Cocktail Reception** (*The Riviera Theater, 225 King St.- located across the street from The Charleston Place Hotel*)  
**Sponsored by: MG+M The Law Firm**

Join us at the corner of King and Market Streets for live music, heavy hors d'oeuvres and stations, specialty cocktails and an open bar.

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## **Wednesday, September 17, 2025**

**8:15 AM – 9:00 AM: Continental Breakfast** (*Grand Hall*)  
**Sponsored by: Forman Watkins & Krutz LLP**

### **9:00 AM – 10:00 AM: Developments in Asbestos-Related Bankruptcies**

- Overview of the most recent wave of bankruptcies

**Moderator: Lisa Nathanson Busch, Esq.**, Simmons Hanly Conroy LLP, New York, NY

**John Baden, Esq.**, Motley Rice LLC, Mount Pleasant, SC

**George R. Calhoun, Esq.**, Ifrah Law, Potomac, MD

**James F. Coleman, Esq.**, Goldberg Segalla, Philadelphia, PA

**Mary Margaret Gay, Esq.**, Gay Jones & Kuhn PLLC, Jackson, MS

**Bruce E. Mattock, Esq.**, Goldberg, Persky & White, P.C., Pittsburgh, PA

**David J. Molton, Esq.**, Brown Rudnick LLP, New York, NY

### **10:00 AM – 11:00 AM: The Insurance Perspective**

- Carrier views on trial activity in new jurisdictions
- Perspectives on emerging high-risk jurisdictions
- A comparative look at other toxic torts to asbestos litigation

**Moderator: Corey Schaefer, Esq.**, Husch Blackwell LLP, St. Louis, MO

**Brittany I. Hayes**, Claims Specialist, Asbestos and Toxic Tort Cases, Allianz Reinsurance America, Inc., Petaluma, CA

**Richard Janisch**, Principal, Arcina Risk Group LLC, Los Angeles, CA

**Frederick C. Schaefer**, Associate Vice President, Nationwide, Wausau, WI

**Stephen Zarzecki**, Senior Vice President, USAIG, New York, NY

**Craig Ziolkowski**, Assistant Vice President, Resolute Management, Inc., Chicago, IL

### 11:00 AM – 11:15 AM: Break

### 11:15 AM – 12:15 PM: Ethics and Successor Liability Issues

- Insurance archaeology as a tool for ethical defense
- Navigating mergers and legacy systems

**Moderator: Joseph W. Belluck, Esq.**, Belluck Law, LLP, New York, NY  
**Kristen Drake**, President, PolicyFind, Indianapolis, IN  
**Melissa Fuller, Esq.**, Forman Watkins & Krutz LLP, New Orleans, LA  
**Holly Harris**, Senior Counsel, Chevron Products Company, San Ramon, CA  
**Anne Kearse, Esq.**, Motley Rice LLC, Mount Pleasant, SC

### 12:15 PM – 1:30 PM: Lunch *(on your own)*

### 1:30 PM – 2:15 PM: Recent Decisions and Their Impact on Employer Liability Cases

- Implications for personal injury litigation

**Edward Casmere, Esq.**, Norton Rose Fulbright US LLP, Chicago, IL  
**Judith Conway, Esq.**, Cooney & Conway, Chicago, IL  
**Jay Evans, Esq.**, Segal McCambridge, Pittsburgh, PA  
**Katherine Nickerson**, Senior Claims Analyst, The RiverStone Group, Manchester, NH

### 2:15 PM – 2:45 PM: The Role of Medicine and Science in Asbestos Litigation

- Current state of genetics
- Genetics related to mesothelioma causation and treatments

**John Hurst, Esq.**, Motley Rice LLC, Mount Pleasant, SC  
**Len M. van Zyl**, CEO, ArrayXpress Inc., Raleigh, NC

### 2:45 PM – 3:15 PM: Best Practices When Multiple Parties Are Retained for a Mass Tort Program

- The value of a proactive lien program
- The importance of defense-side coordination in Medicare reporting

**Debra Forsythe**, Sr. Director, Epiq, Charlotte, NC  
**Aaron Heckaman, Esq.**, Bailey Cowan Heckaman PLLC, Houston TX  
**Andrea Morton**, Chief Operating Officer, LitPRO, Charlotte, NC  
**Jennifer Prieto, Esq.**, Polsinelli, Los Angeles, CA

**3:30 PM – 3:45 PM: Break**

**3:45 PM – 5:00 PM: The Judicial Perspectives**

**Hon. Andrew K. Carruthers**, Circuit Court, Madison County, Edwardsville, IL  
**Mark K. Hsu, Esq.**, Hawkins Parnell & Young, LLP, New York, NY  
**Bethann Kagan, Esq.**, Shein Law Center, Ltd., Philadelphia, PA  
**Chris T. Layloff, Esq.**, The Gori Law Firm, Edwardsville, IL  
**Hon. Joshua Roberts**, Court of Common Pleas of Philadelphia County, Philadelphia, PA  
**Hon. Eric Schumacher**, Coordinating Judge for New York City Asbestos Litigation (NYCAL), Supreme Court of the State of New York, New York, NY  
**Hon. Maura Slattery Boyle**, Circuit Court of Cook County, Chicago, IL  
**Justin Weitz, Esq.**, Weitz & Luxenberg, New York, New York

**5:00 PM – 6:00 PM: Networking Cocktail Reception (Grand Hall)**  
*Co-Sponsored by: Brown Rudnick, Epiq, Leader Berkon Colao & Silverstein LLP and LitPRO*

**6:00 – 8:00 PM: Closing Conference Party (El Jefe Texican Cantina – 468 King St.)**  
*Sponsored by: Motley Rice LLC*

Join us for this casual gathering with an open bar and heavy hors d'oeuvres.

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**Perrin Conferences**  
**National Asbestos Litigation Conference**  
**September 16-17, 2025**  
**The Charleston Place (Charleston, SC)**

An optional golf event is scheduled for Monday, September 15, beginning at 11:00 AM. More information with details will be posted closer to the conference date.

The Opening Networking Cocktail Reception will take place on the evening of Monday, September 15. The conference is two full days on September 16-17.

*\*Speaker and Agenda are subject to change.*

**CONFERENCE LOCATION**

**The Charleston Place Hotel, 205 Meeting Street, Charleston, SC 29401**

## REGISTRATION

**General Registration: \$1,395**

**Paralegal: \$475**

All in-house counsel and insurance claims professionals receive complimentary registration at Perrin Conferences live programs.

Contact [Bethany Corio](#) 610-220-1817 or [Lynnsey Perrin](#) 610-804-6165 with questions or to register at the complimentary rate.

**Register Online: [National Asbestos Litigation Conference](#)**

**Register by Mail/E-mail:** Complete the Mail-In Registration Form at the end of this brochure.

**Mail to:** Perrin Conferences, 214 Orchard Way, Wayne, PA 19087

Each registration includes private website access to course materials and admission to all sessions and networking events such as refreshment breaks and cocktail receptions.

*Group discounts available, please inquire.*

## HOTEL ROOM BLOCKS

### **The Charleston Place Hotel**

**205 Meeting Street, Charleston, SC 29401**

Perrin Conferences has a group rate at the Charleston Place Hotel for \$360 per night. [Click here to make your room reservation](#). To make a reservation in the Perrin room block you may also call or email Reservations directly at 1-800-611-5545 / [reservations@charlestonplace.com](mailto:reservations@charlestonplace.com) and reference Perrin Conferences.

### **The Lindy Renaissance Charleston Hotel (Marriott)**

**68 Wentworth Street, Charleston, SC 29401**

Perrin Conferences has an additional room block at The Lindy, which is located near the conference hotel. The group rate is \$349 per night.

[Click here to make your room reservation](#).

### **The Ryder Hotel**

**237 Meeting Street, Charleston, SC 29401**

Perrin Conferences has a third room block at The Ryder Hotel. The group rate is \$348 per night. [Click here to make your room reservation](#).

### **The Planters Inn**

**112 N Market Street, Charleston, SC 29401**

Perrin Conferences has a fourth room block at the Planters Inn. The group rate is \$479 per night. [Click here to make your room reservation](#).

*We suggest booking as soon as possible, hotel blocks do sell out.*

Contact [Bethany Corio \(bcorio@perrinconferences.com\)](mailto:bcorio@perrinconferences.com) with questions about rooms.

### **CLE & CE CREDIT INFORMATION**

Applications are being made to all CLE states as requested by attendees. Perrin files for CLE approval for all requested states prior to the conference with materials provided and therefore cannot guarantee accreditation by each jurisdiction's governing body. Please contact [Kelsey Miner](#) with questions regarding approved states for CLE Credit.

CE Adjuster credit applications are pending in NC & OK and approved in FL & TX. To receive full CE Adjuster Credit, license numbers need to be submitted to Perrin Conferences no later than 7 days post conference. Any submissions after 7 days may not be approved for full credit. Please contact [Kelsey Miner](#) with any questions.

### **GOLF OUTING AT BULLS BAY GOLF CLUB**

#### **Monday, September 15, 11:00 AM**

Join us for a round at [Bulls Bay Golf Club](#) with conference attendees and speakers. Format will be a golf scramble. The cost is \$300 per golfer, which includes roundtrip transportation from The Charleston Place Hotel, one round, cart, lunch, and drinks. Pairings will be set by the course. Please register by September 8.

**Golf Registration Link:** [Perrin Conferences Golf Outing at Bulls Bay Golf](#)

Please contact [Bethany Corio](#) with any questions or concerns. No cancellations or refunds will be provided after September 8.

We strongly suggest bringing your own clubs. There are only a limited number of rental clubs at the course. If you are interested in renting a set of clubs, please contact the Bulls Bay Golf Club to reserve equipment.

Bulls Bay Golf Club, 995 Bulls Bay Boulevard, Awendaw, SC 29429 | (843) 881-2223

### **CANCELLATION POLICY**

If you cannot attend the conference, please notify us prior to September 2, 2025 and we will refund your fee or provide a credit for a future conference. The credit needs to be used within one year from the conference date.

Cancellations received on September 3, 2025 and after will not be refunded. You may enroll a substitute at any time before the conference starts. Cancellations received on September 3, 2025 and after may receive a credit for \$200 less than the registration

amount paid and can be used by their firm/company within one year from the conference date.

### **FINANCIAL AID POLICY**

Perrin Conferences is dedicated to providing high-quality continuing legal education to attorneys interested in course offerings. Program registrants who are unable to afford registration fees due to financial hardship may apply for a complete registration waiver or reduction in fee. Factors to be considered include employment status and annual income. Please send a written letter to Lynnsey Perrin addressing your financial situation for consideration. All requests must be submitted 14 days prior to the start of the program and are kept confidential.

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# WELCOME TO CHARLESTON, SC

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**Perrin Conferences**  
**National Asbestos Litigation Conference**  
September 16-17, 2025 – Charleston, SC

Registration Form

Attendee Name \_\_\_\_\_

Company/Firm Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

**CIRCLE ONE:** Attorney    Non-Attorney    Insurance Professional    In-House Counsel

**Registration Fee: \$1,395**

**Paralegal Fee: \$475**

**Golf Fee: \$300**

*\*All Insurance Professionals & In-House Counsel receive Complimentary attendance*

Name on Card \_\_\_\_\_

Credit Card Number \_\_\_\_\_

Expiration Date \_\_\_\_\_ Code \_\_\_\_\_

***Please Mail Form to: Perrin Conferences, 214 Orchard Way, Wayne, PA 19087***

***Email Form to: [bcorio@perrinconferences.com](mailto:bcorio@perrinconferences.com) or [lperrin@perrinconferences.com](mailto:lperrin@perrinconferences.com)***

***Make Checks Payable to: Perrin Conferences, LLC***