



# **NATIONAL ASBESTOS LITIGATION CONFERENCE**

**The Charleston Place Hotel  
September 15-16, 2026**

## **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

**AGENDA SPONSOR: brownrudnick**

**Perrin Conferences**  
**National Asbestos Litigation Conference**  
**September 15-16, 2026**  
**The Charleston Place (Charleston, SC)**

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**Monday, September 14, 2026**

**11:00 AM: Golf Outing** (*Bulls Bay Golf Club*)

Kick off the conference by joining attendees and speakers for a round of golf at Bulls Bay Golf Club. For more information, 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 Café + Courtyard at The Charleston Place Hotel*)  
**Sponsored by: Epiq, Proceed Legal, and Simmons Hanly Conroy LLP**

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**Tuesday, September 15, 2026**

**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.**, VP, Leader of Litigation & Legal Reform, 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
- Increase in new defendants and emerging exposures
- Trends driving higher-damage cases and claim values

**John P. Arranz, Esq.**, Swanson, Martin & Bell, LLP, Chicago, IL  
**Joseph Belluck, Esq.**, Belluck Law, New York, NY  
**Trey Branham, Esq.**, Dean Omar Branham Shirley, LLP, Dallas, TX  
**Megan Burns**, Senior Managing Director, KCIC, Washington, DC  
**Scott Hymes**, Director, Gleason, Pittsburgh, PA

#### **10:00 AM – 11:00 AM: Trial Attorney Perspectives**

- Motions *in Limine* (necessary or not)
- Jury selection – what's new, what's old
- Recent trial discussions
- Use of demonstratives
- AI at trial

**Jennifer Alesio, Esq.**, Simmons Hanly Conroy LLP, San Francisco, CA  
**James Campbell, Esq.**, The Lanier Law Firm, Chicago, IL  
**Haley L. Hansen, Esq.**, Gordon Rees Scully Mansukhani, Chicago, IL  
**Brittany Russell, Esq.**, Weitz & Luxenberg P.C., New York, NY

#### **11:00 AM – 11:15 AM: Break (*Grand Hall*)** ***Sponsored by: Maron Marvel***

#### **11:15 AM – 12:15 PM: The Role of Science and Medicine in Asbestos Litigation**

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

**Daniel P. Blouin, Esq.**, Simmons Hanly Conroy LLP, New York, NY  
**Mark Love, Esq.**, Hawkins Parnell & Young LLP, San Francisco, CA  
**Richard Moynihan**, AVP, Director of Legal Reform and Strategy, The RiverStone Group, Manchester, NH  
**Pierre Ratzki, Esq.**, Weitz & Luxenberg P.C., New York, NY

#### **12:15 PM – 1:30 PM: Women's Lunch (*Cypress/Dogwood Room*)** ***Sponsored by: CMBG3***

**Amaryah Bocchino, Esq.**, MG+M The Law Firm, Wilmington, DE  
**Haley Combs, Esq.**, Foley Mansfield, St. Louis, MO  
**Bethann S. Kagan, Esq.**, Shein Law, Philadelphia, PA  
**Michaela E. Lancer, Esq.**, CMBG3 Law, P.C., Boston, MA  
**Sharon Sonnett**, Senior Counsel, American Honda Motor Co., Inc., Torrance, CA  
**Carrie Strasser**, Senior Claims, Analyst, The RiverStone Group, Manchester, NH

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

### 1:30 PM – 2:30 PM: In-House Counsel Roundtable

- Evolving challenges defending national asbestos litigation
- NCC/Local relationships

**Moderator: Matt Alva, Esq.**, Riley Safer Holmes & Cancila LLP, Chicago, IL  
**Paul Slater**, Chief Litigation Counsel, GE Aerospace, Fairfield, CT  
**Brendan J. Tuohy**, Senior Counsel – Litigation, National Grid, Waltham, MA  
**Abby U. Van Grinsven, J.D.**, Manager - Insurance, Litigation, and Claims, Boeing, Chicago, IL

### 2:30 PM – 3:30 PM: Document Management

- Managing historical and current case records
- Using organized case records to strengthen litigation and settlement strategy
- Supporting insurance recovery, allocation, and settlement analysis
- Reducing discovery disputes and settlement costs through efficient document management
- AI-assisted review and case management
- Privilege, confidentiality, consent, and document retention
- AI agents

**John A. Baden Esq.**, Motley Rice LLC, Mount Pleasant, SC  
**Debra Forsythe**, Sr. Director, Business Execution, Epiq, Marathon, FL  
**Aaron Heckaman, Esq.**, Bailey Cowan Heckaman PLLC, Houston, TX  
**Robert Parrish**, Director, Alvarez & Marsal, Washington, DC

### 3:30 PM – 3:45 PM: Break

### 3:45 PM – 4:45 PM: The Judicial Roundtable

**Moderators: Kerryann M. Cook, Esq.**, The Cook Group, New York, NY  
**Chris Layloff, Esq.**, The Gori Law Firm, Edwardsville, IL  
**Justin Weitz, Esq.**, Weitz & Luxenberg P.C., New York, NY  
**Hon. Andrew Carruthers**, Circuit Court, Madison County, Edwardsville, IL  
**Hon. Andrew Gleeson**, Chief Judge, Twentieth Judicial Circuit, Circuit Judge, St. Clair County, Belleville, 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

**4:45 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 16, 2026**

### **8:15 AM – 9:00 AM: Continental Breakfast**

*Sponsored by: Alvarez & Marsal*

### **9:00 AM – 10:00 AM: Expert Retention and Development**

- New experts (retirements, passings)
- Successes and failures
- How to work up an expert
- Development of new expert areas

**David B. Halpern, Esq.**, The Halpern Law Firm, LLC, Philadelphia, PA

**Janna M. Nuzum, Esq.**, Maron Marvel Bradley Anderson & Tardy LLC, Philadelphia, PA

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

**Amanda Webber**, Senior Claims Technical Director, Allianz Reinsurance America, Inc., Petaluma, CA

### **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
- The role of historical insurance reconstruction

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

**Kristen Drake**, President, PolicyFind, Indianapolis, IN

**Andrew Fantasia**, Senior Claims Superintendent, Admiral Insurance Group, Moorestown, NJ

**Brittany Hayes**, Director - Asbestos and Health Hazard Claims, Allianz Reinsurance America, Inc., Boston, MA

**Erin M. Voyik, Esq.**, VP, Leader of Litigation & Legal Reform, The RiverStone Group, Manchester, NH

**Jeffrey Ward**, Director – Indemnity/Specialty Claims, Nationwide, Wausau, WI

### **11:00 AM – 11:15 AM: Break**

### **11:15 AM – 12:00 PM: Lung Cancer Cases**

- Most active jurisdictions and why
- Impact of reduction in smoking
- Lung cancer causation
- Differences in strategy: Lung cancer v. Mesothelioma

**S. Christopher Collier, Esq.**, Lewis Brisbois Bisgaard & Smith LLP, Atlanta, GA

**Sergio R. Gomez, Esq.**, Cooney & Conway, Chicago, IL

**Katherine Nickerson, Esq.**, Manager, Asbestos Claims, The RiverStone Group, Manchester, NH

**Brandon Perlman, Esq.**, Weitz & Luxenberg P.C., New York, NY

**Ben Schmickle, Esq.**, SWMW Law, St. Louis, MO

**12:00 PM – 1:15 PM: Lunch** *(on your own)*

**1:15 PM – 2:00 PM: Talc Litigation Overview**

- New developments in science and exposure analysis
- Cutting edge motion strategy
- Recent verdicts
- Current appellate issues

**David S. Haase, Esq.**, Shook, Hardy & Bacon L.L.P., Philadelphia, PA

**Christopher Kozak, Esq.**, MG+M The Law Firm, New York, NY

**James M. Kramer, Esq.**, Simmons Hanly Conroy LLP, New York, NY

**Joseph J. Mandia, Esq.**, Weitz & Luxenberg P.C., Cherry Hill, NJ

**2:00 PM – 3:15 PM: Developments in Bankruptcy, Dissolutions and Receiverships in Asbestos Litigation**

- Overview of the most recent wave of bankruptcies
- Significance of dissolution and receiverships
- Corporate reorganization
- Dissolved entities
- Liquidating trusts
- Significance of exhausting coverage

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

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

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

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

**Christina Wolff, Esq.**, Holland Law Firm, Edwardsville, IL

**3:15 PM – 3:30 PM: Break**

### 3:30 PM – 4:30 PM: Professionalism and Ethics in the Litigation

- What is professionalism?
- How does professionalism relate to ethical rules/obligations?
- Professionalism in practice and how to address unprofessional behaviors
- Risks of failing to address unprofessional behavior

**Christa Chance, Esq.**, Quintairos, Prieto, Wood & Boyer P.A., Dallas, TX

**Nicole Brodie Jackson, Esq.**, Wilson Elser Moskowitz Edelman & Dicker LLP, Seattle, WA

**Karen E. Ross, Esq.**, Tucker Ellis LLP, Cleveland, OH

**Kush Shukla, Esq.**, Meirowitz & Wasserberg, LLP, New York, NY

### 4:30 PM – 5:30 PM: Networking Cocktail Reception (*Grand Hall*)

*Sponsored by: Brown Rudnick, Goldberg Segalla and Segal McCambridge*

### 6:00 PM – 8:00 PM: Conference Closing Party (*El Jefe Texican Cantina, 468 King St.*)

*Sponsored by: Motley Rice LLC*

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## Perrin Conferences

### National Asbestos Litigation Conference

September 15-16, 2026

The Charleston Place (Charleston, SC)

An optional golf event is scheduled for Monday, September 14, beginning at 11:00 AM. More detailed registration information below.

The Opening Networking Cocktail Reception will take place on the evening of Monday, September 14. The conference is two full days, on September 15 and 16 with a conference closing party on Wednesday, September 16 from 6:00-8:00pm.

*\*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 following hotels blocks are available for conference attendees and speakers:

**The Charleston Place Hotel**

205 Meeting Street, Charleston, SC 29401

Group rate: \$370 per night

[Click here to book.](#)

**Emeline Hotel**

181 Church Street, Charleston, SC 29401

Group rate: \$389 per night

[Click here to book.](#)

**The Mills House (Curio Collection - Hilton)**

115 Meeting St, Charleston, SC 29401

Group rate: \$409 per night Sept. 14/15 and \$449 per night on Sept. 16

[Click here to book.](#)

**The Lindy Renaissance Charleston Hotel (Marriott)- *GROUP RATE SOLD OUT***

68 Wentworth Street, Charleston, SC 29401

Group rate: \$359 per night

Please make reservations prior to August 14, 2026.

[Click here to book.](#)

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

Contact [Bethany Corio](#) 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 [CLE@perrinconferences.com](mailto:CLE@perrinconferences.com) with questions regarding approved states for CLE Credit.

CE Adjuster credit is approved in FL and TX and pending in NC, NH and OK. 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 [CLE@perrinconferences.com](mailto:CLE@perrinconferences.com) with any questions.

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

#### **Outing Details:**

**Monday, September 14, 11:00 AM**

Join us for a round at [Bulls Bay Golf Club](#) with conference attendees and speakers. Format will be play your own ball. The cost is \$325 per golfer, which includes round-trip transportation from The Charleston Place Hotel, one round, cart, lunch, and drinks. Pairings will be set by the course.

Please contact Ali Gill ([agill@perrinconferences.com](mailto:agill@perrinconferences.com)) with any questions or concerns. No cancellations or refunds will be provided after September 7.

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 1, 2026, and we will refund your fee, less a \$25 administrative 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 or after September 2, 2026 will not be refunded. You may enroll a substitute at any time before the conference starts. Cancellations received on or after September 2, 2026 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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LITIGATION CONFERENCE ...

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★  
**TEXICAN CANTINA**

468 KING ST. CHARLESTON, SC

WEDNESDAY

**SEPT 16**

**6:00-8:00 PM**

HOSTED BY



MotleyRice<sup>®</sup>  
LLC





# WELCOME TO CHARLESTON, SC

Voted 2024 #1 City in the US by TRAVEL + LEISURE

## BREAKFAST

- Millers All Day
  - 120 King St, Charleston, SC
  - 8am - 3pm
- Callie's Hot Little Biscuit
  - 188 Meeting Street, Charleston, SC
  - 476 ½ King St, Charleston, SC,
  - 8am - 2pm
- Bodega
  - 23 Ann St, Charleston, SC
  - 7am - 4pm

## THINGS TO SEE

- Historic Charleston City Market
  - 188 Meeting St, Charleston, SC
  - 9:30am - 5pm
- Rainbow Row
  - 83-107 E Bay St, Charleston, SC
- Pineapple Fountain
  - 1 Vendue Range, Charleston, SC



## LUNCH & DINNER

- Church & Union
  - 32b N Market Street, Charleston, SC
  - 10am - 12am
- SNOB (Slightly North of Broad)
  - 192 East Bay Street, Charleston, SC
  - 11am - 10pm
- Magnolias
  - 185 East Bay Street, Charleston, SC
  - 11:30am - 9pm
- 167 Raw Oyster Bar
  - 193 King Street, Charleston, SC
  - 11am - 11pm
- High Cotton
  - 199 E Bay Street, Charleston, SC
  - 4pm - 10pm
- HUSK
  - 76 Queen St, Charleston, SC
  - 5pm - 10pm
- Stars Rooftop
  - 495 King St, Charleston, SC
  - 4pm - 12am
- Halls Chophouse
  - 434 King St, Charleston, SC
  - 4pm - 11pm
- The Darling Oyster Bar
  - 513 King St, Charleston, SC
  - 4pm - 10pm
- The Watch | Rooftop Kitchen & Spirits
  - 75 Wentworth St, Charleston, SC
  - 11am - 11pm



**Perrin Conferences**  
**National Asbestos Litigation Conference**  
September 15-16, 2026 – 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: \$325**

*\*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***