



# COOK COUNTY ASBESTOS LITIGATION CONFERENCE

June 3, 2026

The Midland Hotel, Chicago, A Tribute Hotel



## Conference Co-Chairs:

**Megan Fahey Monty, Esq.**

*Cooney & Conway, Chicago, IL*

**Meredith Hudgens, Esq.**

*The Cook Group, Chicago, IL*

**Michael Maienza, Esq.**

*Vogelzang Law, P.C., Chicago, IL*

Agenda Sponsor:



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**Perrin Conferences**  
**Cook County Asbestos Litigation Conference**  
**The Midland Hotel, Chicago**  
**Wednesday, June 3, 2026**

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**10:45 AM: Registration** (Grand Balcony)

**11:00 AM – 12:00 PM: Young Lawyers Session** (Great Room II – Balcony Level)

**Moderator: Bethany Gasperin, Esq.**, Shrader & Associates, LLP, Chicago, IL  
**Sergio Gomez, Esq.**, Cooney & Conway, Chicago, IL  
**Christian Luciano Santiago, Esq.**, Vogelzang Law, P.C., Chicago, IL  
**Michelle Pawlowski, Esq.**, Vogelzang Law, P.C., Chicago, IL  
**Anna Liisa Schourek, Esq.**, The Cook Group, Chicago, IL  
**Gabrielle Voulgaris, Esq.**, MG+M The Law Firm, Chicago, IL

**12:00 PM – 1:00 PM: Lunch - The History of Asbestos Litigation in Cook County: Then, Now, and What's Next** (Great Room II – Balcony Level)

- Evolution of asbestos litigation in Cook County, including early cases, defendants, and pleadings.
- Expansion of claims from manufacturers to contractors and premises defendants, including broader liability theories.
- What makes Cook County's asbestos docket unique, including judges, discovery practices, and trial procedures.
- "Then vs. Now" reflections on how asbestos litigation has changed over time.

**James P. O'Shea, Esq.**, Husch Blackwell LLP., Chicago, IL  
**Daniel Ryan, Esq.**, Cooney & Conway, Chicago, IL  
**Tobin Taylor, Esq.**, Heyl Royster, Chicago, IL  
**Nicholas Vogelzang, Esq.**, Vogelzang Law, P.C., Chicago, IL

**1:15 PM – 1:30 PM: Opening Co-Chair Remarks** (Great Room I – Balcony Level)

**Megan Fahey Monty, Esq.**, Cooney & Conway, Chicago, IL  
**Meredith Hudgens, Esq.**, The Cook Group, Chicago, IL  
**Michael Maienza, Esq.**, Vogelzang Law, P.C., Chicago, IL

**1:30 PM – 2:00 PM: The Judicial Perspective on the New Standing Order**

**Hon. Maura Slattery Boyle**, Circuit Court of Cook County, Chicago, IL

## **2:00 PM – 3:00 PM: Cook County Trials in the Past Year**

- Overview of Bassett
- Real-life trial aspects
- Disclosure before and during the depositions
- Making sure you have the right expert
- Recent experience on jury selection, how jury pools can differ

**David Barrett, Esq.**, Cooney & Conway, Chicago, IL

**Thomas J. Burns, Esq.**, von Briesen & Roper, s.c., Chicago, IL

**Kasia Nowak, Esq.**, Foley Mansfield, Chicago, IL

## **3:00 PM - 3:15 PM – Break**

## **3:15 PM – 4:15 PM: Recent Cook County Laws, Decisions and Rulings**

- Recent PJ/FNC motion developments and trends
- Legislative intent and consent jurisdiction issues for out-of-state defendants
- “Standing Order for Dummies” updates and practical guidance
- Practical motion practice tips, including courtesy copies and routine vs. non-routine motions
- Recent developments on motions to compel genetic testing

**Matt Alva, Esq.**, Riley Safer Holmes & Cancila LLP, Chicago, IL

**Michael Cooney, Esq.**, Cooney & Conway, Chicago, IL

**Anthony Danhelka, Esq.**, MG+M The Law Firm, Chicago, IL

**James P. Kasper, Esq.**, Sinars Slowikowski LLC, Chicago, IL

## **4:15 PM – 4:45 PM: Insights from the Bench**

**Moderator: Meredith Hudgens, Esq.**, The Cook Group, Chicago, IL

**Moderator: Michael Maienza, Esq.**, Vogelzang Law, P.C., Chicago, IL

**Hon. Charles S. Beach II**, Chief Judge, Circuit Court of Cook County, Chicago, IL

**Hon. Thomas V. Lyons II**, Circuit Court of Cook County, Chicago, IL

**Hon. Maura Slattery Boyle**, Circuit Court of Cook County, Chicago, IL

## **4:45 PM – 6:00 PM: Networking Cocktail Reception (Great Room II – Balcony Level)**

***Sponsored by: Brogan Donovan Reporting, PC, The Cook Group, and Cooney & Conway***

Join us for this cocktail reception, which will combine the Cook County Asbestos Litigation Conference attendees with the Talc Litigation Conference attendees.



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**Perrin Conferences**  
**Cook County Asbestos Litigation Conference**  
**The Midland Hotel, Chicago**  
**Wednesday, June 3, 2026**

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

**CONFERENCE LOCATION**

**The Midland Hotel, Chicago, A Tribute Hotel (Marriott)**  
**172 West Adams Street**  
**Chicago, IL 60603**

**REGISTRATION**

**General Registration Rate: \$500**  
**Paralegal Registration Rate: \$195**

In-house counsel and insurance claims professionals who assign work to outside counsel receive complimentary registration at Perrin Conferences.

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

**Register Online:** [Cook County Asbestos Litigation Conference | Perrin Conferences](#)

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

*Email:* Bethany Corio [bcorio@perrinconferences.com](mailto:bcorio@perrinconferences.com)

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

**Register by Phone:**

|                |              |                                                                                         |
|----------------|--------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Lynnsey Perrin | 610-804-6165 | <u><a href="mailto:lperrin@perrinconferences.com">lperrin@perrinconferences.com</a></u> |
| Bethany Corio  | 610-220-1817 | <u><a href="mailto:bcorio@perrinconferences.com">bcorio@perrinconferences.com</a></u>   |

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

*Group discounts available, please inquire.*

***Perrin Conferences is hosting a Full-Day Talc Litigation Conference on Thursday, June 4, 2026 at The Midland Hotel, Chicago, A Tribute Hotel (Marriott). Register for both conferences together at the reduced rate of \$1,125.***

**HOTEL ROOM BLOCK**

There is a group rate at The Midland Hotel, Chicago, A Tribute Hotel (Marriott) for conference attendees and speakers. The rate is \$329 per night. Please use the link below

to reserve your room.

### **Reserve Your Room**

Contact Bethany Corio with any questions.

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

CLE applications are being made to all states as requested by attendees. Perrin cannot guarantee accreditation in every state. Approval is determined by each jurisdiction's governing body. Please send requests for state specific accreditation to Kelsey Miner.

### **CANCELLATION POLICY**

If you cannot attend the conference, please notify us prior to May 20, 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 May 21, 2026 and after will not be refunded. You may enroll a substitute at any time before the conference starts. Cancellations received on May 21, 2026 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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## Cook County Asbestos Litigation Conference

June 3, 2026, Chicago, IL

Mail-in Registration Form

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

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

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

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

**General Registration Fee: \$500**

**Paralegal Registration Fee: \$195**

**Dual Conference Registration Fee: \$1,125**

***Perrin Conferences is hosting the full-day Talc Litigation Conference at the Midland Hotel, Chicago, the day after Cook County Asbestos Litigation- on Thursday, June 4, 2026. Register for both conferences together at the reduced rate of \$1,125.***

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

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***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***