

Mass Torts Litigation Committee

Meeting Minutes

October 8, 2019

Opening

The regular monthly teleconference meeting of the Mass Torts Litigation Committee was called to order at 2:02 p.m. (EDT) on October 8, 2019 by Karen Woodward.

Present

Kasey Adams, Jim Beck, Brad Drew, Sarah K. Frederick, Patrick McGrath, Emily Pincow, Erica Rutner, Munjot Sahu, David Schwan, Andrew Tharp, Courtney Ward-Reichard, Joe Winebrenner, Donald Winningham III, & Karen Woodward.

Ongoing Items

- 2019-20 Annual Plan [David Schwan]
 - David reported that Mass Torts subcommittee leadership met last week in Scottsdale and developed an annual plan with two deliverables each month.
 - The Annual Plan contains a list of deliverables for many subcommittee leaders to review and plan for. Please review these and let us know if you have any questions.
- ABA Litigation Connect [David Schwan]
 - David provided an update on the ABA's new communication platform with members, which will help in two-way communication with those who follow our committee.
 - We are also having a membership drive in which we're searching for new members and new subcommittee leadership. Please contact the Committee Co-chairs if you are aware of new members and potential new subcommittee leaders.
- Newsletter Status Update [Jim Beck]
 - The deadline for the last newsletter was 9/15. Jim Beck received four articles by the end of September, and he just received all four copyright waivers and has submitted the articles to the ABA for October publication.
- Website Content Update [Andrew Tharp]
 - We received one Practice Points piece in the month of September, by Kasey Adams, on behalf of Young Lawyers, addressing the importance of pro bono work for the legal profession. This submission is now available on our website: <https://www.americanbar.org/groups/litigation/committees/mass-torts/practice/>.

- The following subcommittees have Practice Points submissions due in October:
 - Environmental & Toxic Torts Litigation
 - Discovery Strategies
 - Experts & Evidence
- Book Update [Courtney-Ward Reichard]
 - Courtney reports that the complete and finalized book will be submitted to the Book Publication Committee of the ABA in the near future.

Future Planning

- Current Issues in Pharmaceutical, Medical Device, and Biotech Litigation Regional CLE Program; October 24-25, 2019; Pfizer, Inc., New York, NY [Michael Zogby]
 - We are co-sponsoring a Regional CLE with Products Liability at Pfizer's offices in New York.
 - We encourage members to attend.
- Joint Regional CLE Program; January 29-31, 2020; Westin Snowmass Resort in Snowmass Village, CO [Joe Winebrenner]
 - Planning continues for the Joint Regional CLE, and now is the time to register and make hotel reservations through the [Joint CLE](#) website. We consider this a mandatory meeting for subcommittee leaders.
 - There also remain sponsorship opportunities for firms and exhibitors, and we encourage everyone to consider sponsorship.

Mass Torts Committee Deliverables

- September – Newsletter [Jim Beck]; Special Edition Newsletter [Joe W.];
- October – Fall Leadership Dine-Around [Karen]; Pharma CLE [Michael Zogby];
- November – Mass Torts Book Project [Courtney Ward-Reichard]; Sound Advice [Kasey Adams]; &
- December – Sound Advice [Joe Winebrenner]; Quarterly Newsletter [Jim Beck]
 - Quarterly Newsletter subcommittees – MDL & Class Procedures Practice, Discovery Strategies, Experts & Evidence, and Aviation

Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at 2:33 p.m. (EDT) by Karen Woodward. The next general meeting will be via teleconference at 2:00 p.m. (EDT) on November 12, 2019.

Minutes submitted by: David Schwan, Committee Co-Chair

Approved by: Karen Woodward, Committee Co-Chair