

# **Mass Torts Litigation Committee**

Meeting Minutes  
September 14, 2021

## **Opening**

The regular monthly teleconference meeting of the Mass Torts Litigation Committee was called to order at 2:04 p.m. EDT on September 14, 2021 by Joe Winebrenner.

## **Present**

Kasey Adams, Jim Beck, Karen Crawford, Brad Drew, Edward Gaus, Andrew Jackson, Natassia Kwan, Paul Majkowski, Patrick McGrath, Dustin Rawlin, Andrew Tharp, Courtney Ward-Reichard, Dale Weppner, Joe Winebrenner.

## **Latest Programing & Publications**

Josh Kahn submitted an August Sound Advice titled: “Lawyers Behaving Badly: How to Effectively Represent Your Client When Opposing Counsel Plays Dirty.”

Steve Harkins Submitted an August Sound Advice titled: “Tips for Handling Exhibits During Remote Depositions.”

Andrew Jackson & Ruben Gonzalez submitted an August Practice Points article titled: “Three Rules for New Lawyers Creating Visual Aids for Trial.”

## **Upcoming Events & Publications**

A pre-committees workshop meeting is scheduled for September 22, 2021 and a Committees Workshop meeting is set for October 1, 2021 to plan deliverables for the upcoming year. Joe Winebrenner will circulate additional information. We plan to host an informal happy hour following the pre-committees workshop meeting on September 22, 2021.

Fall Newsletter articles are due to Jim Beck September 15, 2021. Sub-committees contributing are: Young Lawyers, Pharma/Medical Device, Toxic Torts, Experts Evidence, and Aviation corner. Andrew Jackson agreed to provide an article for Young Lawyers and Dustin Rawlin agreed to provide an article for Pharma/Medical Device.

September Practice Points are due September 27<sup>th</sup>. Subcommittees scheduled to contribute are Aviation, Experts & Evidence, and Environmental & Toxic Torts.

## **Future Events and Publication Planning**

Planning for the 2022 Joint CLE is underway. The all-virtual CLE is set for January 29-31, 2022. Karen Crawford, Andrew Tharp, and Edd Gaus are lining up speakers and looking to get the program in place before October/November.

A roundtable on Mass Tort Litigation Updates in 2021, Court re-openings, and General Changes after COVID-19 is tentatively scheduled for October 19<sup>th</sup>. Andrew Jackson is confirming dates and roundtable submission. We will look to work with other ABA committees to encourage attendance at this roundtable.

**Good News is Here**

Dustin Rawlin from the Pharma/Medical Device subcommittee shared his recent appellate victory where the 8<sup>th</sup> Circuit affirmed dismissal with prejudice as a response to an inadequately explained Rule 41(a) voluntary dismissal motion following removal to a federal court.

**Adjournment**

Meeting was adjourned at 2:30 p.m. EDT by Joe Winebrenner. The next general meeting will be via teleconference at 2:00 p.m. EDT on October 12, 2021.

Minutes submitted by: Andrew Jackson, Young Lawyers Committee Co-Chair

Approved by: Joe Winebrenner, Committee Co-Chair