

Mass Torts



Chambers ranks our team among “The Elite” firms nationwide for product liability and mass torts defense. Few firms match our experience in mass torts litigation; fewer still can approach our results and efficiency.

Trial Expertise

Benchmark Litigation ranks us among the nation’s top 20 trial firms. We try cases nationwide involving mass accidents and injuries, toxic torts, and pattern litigation. We understand the nuances and natural progressions of each arena and collaborate closely with clients as claims evolve. Our trial expertise enables us to quickly identify compelling narratives and expose weaknesses in opponents’ cases early—which, combined with our well-known trial record, often secures favorable resolutions before trial.

MDLs

We are highly regarded for coordinating multidistrict litigation and managing large volumes of consolidated cases, nationally and internationally. We simultaneously prepare bellwether cases for trial while developing resolution strategies and assembling nationwide teams to achieve favorable settlements quickly and efficiently.

Scientific Strength

Our team has a strong scientific background and excels at exposing weaknesses in plaintiffs' expert testimony. We communicate effectively with clients' professionals in engineering, science, medicine, and other disciplines to develop persuasive briefs and courtroom demonstratives. We also know how to simplify technical material for juries and judges—abilities that help us protect clients from nuclear verdicts in a time of rampant verdict inflation.

Business Insight

We understand that mass torts litigation affects clients well beyond the legal particulars of any given case. We work closely with clients to identify solutions best for their business overall, and we are deeply experienced in crisis communication—working with public relations consultants, media specialists, and lobbyists to protect our clients' brand and reputation.

Cases

Won a complete defense jury verdict for Caesarstone USA in a toxic torts trial with industry wide implications. It was the third case tried to verdict in the U.S. and the first in Colorado where workers sued companies in the stone countertop fabrication industry over silica exposure.

Represent Michelin North America as national trial counsel and coordinating counsel for toxic tort litigation.

Serving as lead national trial counsel to a major U.S. distributor of vaping products in federal multidistrict litigation in California. We are liaison counsel to all of the distributor defendants in the litigation.

As lead national trial counsel to GE Healthcare, successfully argued before the U.S. Judicial Panel on Multidistrict Litigation to defeat plaintiffs' attempt to create an MDL involving gadolinium-based contrast agents.

Representing Michelin and Goodrich Corp. against claims brought by more than 100 plaintiffs alleging groundwater contamination by benzene and other chemicals from a long-closed tire manufacturing plant in Oklahoma.

Won exclusion of plaintiffs' general causation experts in multidistrict litigation involving more than 600 claimants alleging the antidepressant Zoloft caused birth defects.

Successfully defended a privately held oil company in mass tort litigation arising from the deadly 2013 Lac-Mégantic train derailment in Quebec. Following resolution of the underlying claims, represented the client as a policyholder in recovering insurance proceeds that covered most of its contributions to the global settlement fund.

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Served as national counsel to a global healthcare company in multidistrict litigation involving over 12,000 claims relating to dialysis products, including identifying bellwether cases using a Moneyball approach and assisting with national resolution strategy and settlement.

Obtained dismissal of class action allegations and 15 of 17 claims against Whirlpool in an environmental toxic tort case. Plaintiffs voluntarily dismissed their remaining claims after the court's ruling.

Represented a major commercial insurer in nationwide concussion and traumatic brain injury class action litigation involving the National Collegiate Athletic Association, National Hockey League, and U.S. Soccer Federation.

Represented a food distributor in allegations of listeria contamination resulting in 33 deaths and 146 confirmed cases in one of the largest and deadliest food-borne illness outbreaks in the United States.

Retained as lead trial counsel to defend General Electric against claims brought by more than 100 NATO soldiers for cancer-causing exposure to ionizing radiation from missile systems used during the Cold War. Settled all 40 related cases for what would have amounted to approximately two months' worth of defense costs.

Won a jury defense verdict for Conoco following a six-week trial involving claims by the town of Castle Rock, Colorado that a leaking Conoco underground storage tank had contaminated the town's municipal drinking water.

Represented Conoco in the favorable settlement of toxic tort litigation brought by the City and County of Denver regarding the contamination and cleanup of Denver's former airport.

Represented Coors in the settlement of CERCLA litigation brought by the City and County of Denver regarding the Lowry Landfill.

Obtained voluntary dismissal of claims against Solvay Pharmaceuticals in litigation stemming from the 1999 Columbine High School shooting.

Won a defense verdict after five weeks of trial in Massachusetts in a living mesothelioma case, the first asbestos case tried to verdict in Boston in 10 years.

Won a defense jury verdict for Leslie Controls, the sole remaining defendant at trial after other defendants settled. A jury deliberated for just 20 minutes before deciding our client was not liable for the plaintiff's mesothelioma.

Won a jury verdict in Cook County, Illinois, for General Electric in an asbestos duty to warn case involving power plant land turbines.

Serve as national coordinating and trial counsel to a cochlear implant manufacturer for the defense of product liability lawsuits involving a Class III medical device.

Represented Continental Airlines and Global Aerospace in matters stemming from a 2008 incident in which a plane skidded off the runway at Denver International Airport due to strong crosswinds. The claims involved over 200 plaintiffs.

Defended Mobay Chemical Company (then a subsidiary of Bayer) against claims arising from the Sunshine Mine disaster. The catastrophic fire in the Idaho silver mine killed more than 90 miners. After a four-month trial, all claims against Mobay were dismissed.

Represented defendants in the Dupont Plaza Hotel fire that killed 97 people in Puerto Rico.

Represented defendants in claims relating to the Beverly Hills Supper Club fire, which killed 168 people in Southgate, Kentucky.

Won defense verdicts in simultaneous trials for Foster Wheeler in Los Angeles, CA, and Iowa City, IA.

Contacts

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