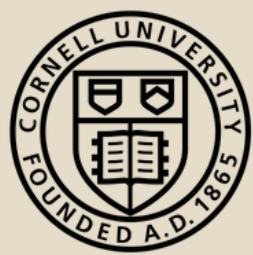


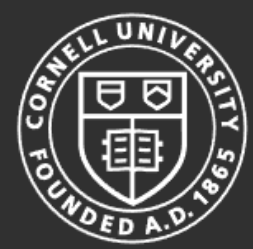
Cornell Law Review proudly presents its 2024 Symposium

Mass Torts Inferno

New Battle Lines in the Resolution Debate



Cornell
Law School



Cornell Law
Review

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Cornell Law School, Ithaca, NY

In the last decade, the somewhat predictable resolution options for mass tort cases experienced a seismic shift. In the new paradigm, federal bankruptcy is supplanting MDL and other resolution options for many high-profile mass tort cases. Corporate defendants are exploring novel resolution techniques. This shift creates new battle lines and raised stakes; significantly affecting individuals from marginalized or subordinated groups, especially victims of sexual predation and substance abuse disorders.

So what is the optimal venue to resolve mass torts? This complicated question and all the issues it implicates are exacerbated by the interdisciplinary nature of mass tort problems. Although scholars of mass torts are familiar with various pathologies, the problem is that these scholars tend to shy away from the specialized world of bankruptcy law. Meanwhile, bankruptcy scholars are unversed in MDLs and have not benefitted from the hard-earned lessons taught to litigators over the last 30 years of mass tort litigation.

This symposium explores the legal innovations and statutory exploitations that have disrupted mass torts. Modern mass torts involve hundreds of thousands of victims affected by various types of tortious conduct ranging from sexual abuse and asbestos exposure to opioid trafficking. This symposium brings together diverse scholars to address the new, non-class aggregate litigation strategy that is reshaping the field. It also seeks to create a dialogue among scholars and practitioners of tort law, bankruptcy law, civil procedure, constitutional law, and federal courts. We hope to be at the leading edge of aggregate litigation's next phase.

Cornell Law Review is proud to partner with Andrew Bradt (Berkeley), Sergio Campos (Boston College), Zachary Clopton (Northwestern), Alexandra Lahav (Cornell), and Samir Parikh (Wake Forest) to present this symposium.

Registration and Refreshments

8:00 – 8:30am

Opening Remarks

8:30 – 9:00am

Panel 1: The Optimal Venue for Mass Torts

9:00 – 10:30am

Moderator: Alexandra Lahav (Cornell)

Panelists: Andrew Bradt (Berkeley), Zachary Clopton (Northwestern), Maggie Gardner (Cornell) & Matt Linder (White & Case)

Inter-Panel Break

10:30 – 10:45am

Panel 2: Litigation Finance Makes the World Go Round

10:45am – 12:15pm

Moderator: Samir Parikh (Wake Forest)

Panelists: Michael Andolina (White & Case), Suneal Bedi (Indiana), Will Marra (Certum), Maya Steinitz (Boston U.) & W. Bradley Wendel (Cornell)

Lunch

12:15 – 1:00pm

Keynote Conversation

1:00 – 2:00pm

Moderator: Alexandra Lahav (Cornell)

Hon. Michael B. Kaplan, Hon. Eduardo C. Robreno, and Hon. M. Casey Rodgers discuss mass tort resolution.

Panel 3: Resolution and Endgame Issues

2:00 – 3:30pm

Moderator: Sergio Campos (Boston College)

Panelists: Samuel Issachoroff (NYU), Mark Kesselman (Purdue), Robert Klonoff (Lewis & Clark), Hon. M. Casey Rodgers (N.D. Fla.) & Adam Zimmerman (USC)

Inter-Panel Break

3:30 – 3:45pm

Panel 4: The Future of Mass Tort Resolution

3:45 – 5:15pm

Moderator: Teddy Rave (Texas)

Panelists: Chris Greco (Kirkland), Chris Odinet (Texas A&M), Edward Neiger (ASK LLP), Chris Seeger (Seeger & Weiss) & Eli Vonnegut (Davis Polk)

Concluding Remarks

5:15 – 5:30pm

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