



37th Environmental & Emerging Claim Manager Association Annual Conference

April 20-21, 2023

*Convene City View
30 South 17th Street
(Floor 13)
Philadelphia, PA*

Conference Panelists



Thursday, April 20

Keynote Address (8:15-8:45 AM):

Environmental Justice from an EPA Standpoint

Samantha Phillips Beers, USEPA Region 3; Director, Office of Communities, Tribes, and Environmental Assessment

Samantha Phillips Beers is the Director of the Office of Communities Tribes and Environmental Assessment Enforcement, at the at the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region III office in Philadelphia. She directs the staff responsible for working with all communities, the 7 federally recognized tribes in the region, children's health, opportunity zone, environmental education, and the national environmental program assessments.

Ms. Phillips Beers has been with the EPA since January 1991. Prior to her current position she was responsible for the Office of Compliance and Environmental Justice responsible for conducting field inspections and sampling within the region, overall planning, tracking, and monitoring of the Region's enforcement and compliance assurance program; targeting, conducting inspections and developing cases against violators of multiple environmental laws; enforcement and compliance assurance at the region's federal facilities, assuring that the national historic property act requirements are met, and promoting environmental protection for all. She served as a central point of contact for states, EPA Head Quarters and citizens on enforcement, compliance assurance and Environmental Justice issues.

Previously, she served as a Senior Attorney in the Office of Regional Counsel. While in Regional Counsel, her practice primarily focused on hazardous waste issues under the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act and Superfund. She also served as the Office of Regional Counsel's Environmental Justice legal advisor providing Environmental Justice advice on a myriad of issues facing the agency.

Before coming to EPA, Ms. Phillips Beers was employed by the California Department of Fair Employment and Housing Department where she litigated employment and housing discrimination complaints. She earned a B.S. in Political Science from Haverford College and a J.D. from the University of California, Berkeley, Boalt Hall School of Law where she was an assistant editor of Ecology Law Quarterly. She returned to the University of California Berkely School of Law to receive 2 Environment Social Governance certifications in 2021 and 2022. She is admitted to practice in both New Jersey and Pennsylvania.

Panel Topic (8:45-9:35 AM):

Sediment Cleanup and Shoreline Development – Cost Considerations and Lessons Learned

Moderator: Mark Davis, Esq., Davis Law Offices, Gig Harbor, WA

Mark Davis is an Attorney at Davis Law Office, PLLC, in Gig Harbor, Washington. Davis Law is an environmental litigation firm whose attorneys have handled large and small environmental matters dating back to the early stages of EPA enforcement actions under the Superfund statute in the 1980s. Sediment sites have always been a major part of their practice, beginning with the Commencement Bay/Nearshore Tideflats Site, included on the first National Priorities List in 1983. Mark joined Davis Law Office as an Associate in 2016 and became a partner in 2020. His work has included the Portland Harbor Superfund Site, the Lower Duwamish Waterway Superfund Site, sediment sites in Bellingham, Washington and Anacortes, Washington, and several smaller sites with sediment impacts.

Emerald Erickson-Mulanax, Senior Geologist, Farallon, Issaquah, WA

Emerald Erickson-Mulanax is a Senior Geologist at Farallon Consulting in Issaquah, WA. She has more than 13 years of environmental consulting experience providing insurance claim evaluation services for clients in Washington and Oregon that includes initial claim analysis, ongoing claim monitoring, cost audits, and litigation technical support. She also manages Superfund site cleanup allocation projects and remedial investigation and cleanup projects that involve assessment and cleanup of soil, groundwater, sediment, and air.

Silje Roalsvik, Senior Account Manager, Resolute Management, Boston, MA

Silje Roalsvik is a Senior Account Manager with Resolute Management, Inc. in Boston, MA. In her role with Resolute, she is responsible for the direct claims handling of a portfolio of complex environmental and toxic tort claims. Silje has over 12 years of experience in the insurance industry, specifically in insurance coverage and handling of complex insurance claims, both in private practice and in-house.

Carl Forsberg, Esq., Forsberg & Umlauf, Seattle, WA

Carl Forsberg is a Shareholder with Forsberg & Umlauf, P.S. His heavy litigation practice emphasizes general liability defense, analysis and counseling insurers on first and third-party coverage issues, also the defense of alleged insurance bad faith matters. He obtained his undergraduate degree from Gonzaga University and his law degree from Pepperdine University School of Law. Carl enjoys teaching and regularly participates as an instructor for the National Institute of Trial Advocacy (“NITA”), in their trial practice and deposition skills training seminars. After teaching for many years, he is now a guest Lecturer, occasionally lecturing on pre-trial and trial issues at the University of Washington School of Law and Seattle University School of Law.

For over 20 years, Carl has served on the King County Bar Association’s Judicial Screening, Judicial Conference and Judicial Selection Committees. Carl is the past Chair of KCBA’s Judicial Screening and Judicial Evaluation Committees. In 2010, Carl received recognition as the Washington Defense Trial Lawyers, Defense Attorney of the Year, in 2013 he received King County Bar Association’s Outstanding Lawyer award and in 2018 he received King County Bar Association’s President’s Award. Carl has been AV Preeminent Rated for the past 35(+) years and has been named to Washington’s “Super Lawyer’s” list the past 20 years and to Washington’s “Top 100” attorneys list.

Panel Topic (9:35-10:20 AM):

A glimpse into the Crystal Ball: A Short List of True Emerging Environmental Regulations and Issues of 2023 - Excluding PFAS

Moderator: Kathleen Olear, Esq., AVP Claims Counsel, Sompo International, Missoula, MT

Kathleen Olear, an Assistant Vice President, Claims and Counsel, is the Claim Lead for Sompo International US Insurance Environmental Liability claims. She manages claims under policies including site pollution, contractor's pollution and professional liability coverages for the Construction sector. Kathleen has over 25 years of experience in the insurance industry. She began her insurance career in private practice litigating environmental coverage matters on behalf of major insurance carriers nationwide at a boutique insurance coverage law firm and then transitioned to insurance claims, working as Environmental Claims Counsel and Senior Trial Attorney at several major insurance carriers. Kathleen worked at Markel Service, Incorporated for almost two decades as manager of the Environmental and Energy claims team, overseeing complex first and third-party claims under environmental package policies. Throughout her career, she has provided extensive underwriting support and training. Kathleen holds a BA in English Literature from Fairfield University and a JD from Seton Hall Law School. She is admitted to practice law in New Jersey, the United States District Court for the District of New Jersey and the Third Circuit Court of Appeals. She is a frequent speaker at insurance industry events and currently serves as Vice President of EECMA.

Sarah Mangelsdorf, Esq., Goldberg Segalla, St. Louis, MO

Sarah B. Mangelsdorf is an accomplished attorney with more than 15 years of experience practicing across a broad range of legal areas, with extensive knowledge in toxic tort and environmental law. She represents many large corporations and businesses, including manufacturers of petroleum and chemical products, industrial equipment, general contractors, timber and agricultural companies, and members of the maritime industry. Sarah has defended clients, through trial or settlement, in various legal matters involving asbestos, environmental law, OSHA, products liability, and wrongful death. She regularly counsels clients on general compliance and litigation issues arising from state and federal environmental regulations and enforcement actions with the express aim to avoid costs of litigation and mitigate any potential liability.

Sarah's background in both the public and private sectors gives her a unique perspective and deep understanding of regulatory issues. As an Assistant Attorney General in the Agriculture and Environment Division, she litigated cases involving various environmental laws and regulations, including the Missouri Clean Water Law, the Missouri Air Conservation Law, the Missouri Hazardous Waste Management Law, and the Missouri Solid Waste Management Law.

Erin Miter-Scanlon, Esq., Goldberg Segalla, Philadelphia, PA

Erin Miter-Scanlon focuses her practice on defending toxic tort and asbestos claims on behalf of clients including product manufacturers, distributors, suppliers, contractors, and property owners. Her experience includes litigating high-stakes matters in plaintiff-friendly claims venues throughout Pennsylvania, New Jersey, and New York. She is involved in all aspects of litigation from inception through trial and appeal. Erin also frequently assists in crafting and coordinating multijurisdictional defense strategy for clients facing claims regionally and nationally.

Prior to entering private practice, Erin served as a legal intern in the Monroe County District Attorney's Office, where she interviewed victims of harassment, assault, and petit larceny for prosecution. Erin draws on a background including product liability, construction, and general litigation in matters involving claims of negligence, strict products liability, and worksite injury under New York Labor Law §200.

Carol Murphy, Senior Engineer, Trihydro Corporation, Chesterfield, MO

Carol Murphy has over 30 years of experience in environmental consulting, compliance, risk management in engineering consulting, environmental insurance, and industrial sectors. In her current role, Carol assists Trihydro's clients with environmental management, risk assessments, loss control, claims management and investigation, and compliance services. She has a Bachelor of Science degree in Chemical Engineering from the University of Illinois and is a Certified Hazardous Materials Manager (CHMM). She is also a member of the ITRC Team, "Contaminants of Emerging Concern". While she resides in St. Louis, Missouri, she has worked on project sites across the United States.

Panel Topic (10:40-11:25 AM):

The Hidden Costs of Clean Energy

Majda Rabah, Ph.D., Roux Associates, Somerset, NJ

Dr. Rabah is a registered Professional Engineer, and a Licensed Site Remediation Professional (LSRP) in the State of New Jersey with over 25 years of experience in the planning, development, and management of complex environmental remediation projects under various State (NJDEP, NYSDEC, and SCDHEC) and Federal (RCRA and CERCLA) regulatory programs. She has managed, designed, and overseen the implementation of investigation and remediation at numerous large-scale, multi-faceted environmental remediation projects with a wide range of contaminants (petroleum hydrocarbons, chlorinated solvents, PCBs, emerging contaminants, etc.) under complex geological conditions.

Dr. Rabah holds a Ph.D. in Environmental Engineering from Stevens Institute of Technology. Her Ph.D. research was funded by NASA to develop a gravity-independent grey water treatment system for space applications, a prototype of which was tested at Johnson Space Center in Houston, Texas. Dr. Rabah is currently a Principal Engineer for Roux Associates, Inc.

Robert Walsh, Esq., White and Williams LLP, Philadelphia, PA

In over 35 years of practice, Robert Walsh has developed a national practice representing insurance companies in coverage litigation and providing claim advice and claim monitoring. He is the Co-Chair of the firm's Insurance Coverage and Bad Faith Practice Group. While he is based in the firm's Philadelphia office, he is also admitted in New York and New Jersey and maintains an active practice in those states. Robert has handled insurance coverage litigation in more than 20 states ranging from Maine to California and Florida to Washington.

He has developed particular focus in complex claims involving environmental damage, asbestos, toxic tort liabilities and employer's liability claims. Robert also has extensive experience litigating coverage disputes and providing coverage advice for other diverse matters, such as claims under professional liability and other "claims made" policies, construction defect claims and cutting edge product liability claims involving pharmaceuticals and food additives. Bob is a Fellow of the American College of Coverage Counsel. He is a regular presenter at White and Williams' Coverage College. He has also spoken at Perrin Conferences and other conferences on insurance litigation topics and he provides regular training to the firm's insurance company clients.

Marcel Ricciardelli, SVP, Allied World Assurance, Philadelphia, PA

Marcel Ricciardelli has over 25 years of experience in environmental risk management, underwriting and insurance management. He is currently responsible for the Environmental Unit and Design Professional Unit.

During his tenure, Allied World has introduced multiple new products, launched several risk management tools, and established itself as leading environmental insurance underwriter and professional liability

underwriter for design professionals. Allied World's Environmental Unit provides environmental impairment liability, environmental casualty, and construction professional and pollution liability. The Architects and Engineer unit is a leading provider of project professional and practice programs for large design firms and design build contractors.

Prior to joining Allied World, Marcel was in executive underwriting and leadership roles at several major insurers. Over the course of his career, he began his insurance career as a line underwriter and has held positions of increased responsibility including product line management, industry group practice leader, chief underwriting officer, director of underwriting operations and principal executive responsible for a variety of specialty insurance operating units. Marcel is a recognized subject matter expert on environmental risk management and a respected thought leader who regularly participates in industry conferences and publishes by-lined articles. He holds a B.S. in Engineering from the University of Massachusetts.

Panel Topic (11:25-12:15 AM):

Environmental Justice from Federal to State Regulation: A Legislative and Environmental Insurance Perspective

Adam Berardi, Esq., White and Williams LLP, Philadelphia, PA

Adam Berardi is a Partner at White and Williams LLP, representing major national and international insurance companies in coverage disputes and complex commercial litigation around the country. His practice focuses primarily on the resolution of coverage claims for long-tail liabilities involving environmental cleanups, mass tort, and product liability, many of which regularly involve hundreds of millions of dollars of disputed coverage.

Representative Terry M. Brown JR, Esq., District 92 North Carolina House of Representatives

Representative Terry M. Brown, an associate with Buchanan Ingersoll & Rooney, is a member of the North Carolina House of Representatives, representing the constituents of District 92 and serving on seven Select Committees including Appropriations, Insurance, and Regulatory Reform. As a litigator, Terry focuses on complex commercial litigation, labor and employment law, and product liability issues in addition to advising clients on internal investigations and corporate compliance.

Helen Eichmann, Esq., SVP, Allied World, NY, NY

Helen Eichmann is a Senior Vice President at Allied World with over 25 years of experience in the environmental insurance industry assisting clients with assessing and developing insurance products to help manage potential environmental risks arising from their operations. Helen is responsible for developing policy wording, underwriting strategies, pricing methodology, and probable loss analysis for Allied World's Environmental Insurance Division pollution legal liability products.

Scott Recker, Senior Consultant, Antea Group, Charlotte, NC

Scott Recker, the Environmental Remediation Practice Leader at Antea Group, has more than 35 years of experience solving environmental business problems. His expertise lies specifically in a sound, scientific foundation coupled with building fit-for-purpose solutions to help clients navigate regulatory, community, technical, and stakeholder perspectives during site closures or divestitures. Scott's areas of expertise include remediation portfolio management and management consulting, complex multi-source investigations, environmental needs assessments, and regulatory negotiation.

Panel Topic (1:15-2:00 PM):

Looking at Environmental Exposures to Chemicals through Different Lenses: Case Study of How the Scientific, Legal, and Insurance Communities View Ethylene Oxide

Sara Brothers, Divisional Vice President, Senior Claims Consultant at Great American Insurance, San Diego, CA

Sara Brothers is a Divisional Vice President and senior Claims Consultant for Great American's Environmental Division. She is a recognized environmental industry expert, with over 35 years of extensive consulting and industry experience in the petroleum, industrial, commercial, and government sectors. A professional geologist with an MBA, She is always tracking and evaluating emerging regulatory, industry, and technical trend that have the potential to impact the industry.

Before joining Great American, Sara worked in both industry and consulting, managing insurance and site assessment and remediation projects for Trihydro Corporation, RCRA corrective action and closure projects for Safety-Kleen Corporation in the US and Canada, and leading teams at Intel Corporation responsible for semiconductor facility construction. Sara graduated from Harvard University with a Bachelor of Arts in Geology and holds a Masters of Science in Geology and Masters of Business Administration from the University of New Mexico.

G. Scott Dotson, Principal Health Scientist, Insight Exposure & Risk Services Group, Cincinnati, OH

Dr. Dotson is a Principal Scientist with 20 years of experience in toxicology, industrial hygiene, human health risk assessment, and occupational health and safety. This experience includes employment as a health scientist by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) for over a decade. As a health scientist for NIOSH, Dr. Dotson relied on his knowledge of toxicology and industrial hygiene to critically evaluate occupational hazards and develop recommendations that served as the basis of NIOSH policies, scientific-decision making strategies, and tools. He has conducted assessments to characterize the risk of adverse health effects associated with exposures to a diverse range of chemicals which have relied on various approaches, such as systematic reviews, weight-of-evidence analysis, and data integration, in addition to inhalation dosimetry.

Dr. Dotson is a certified industrial hygienist (CIH) and a Diplomate of the American Board of Toxicology (DABT). He obtained a M.S. from Murray State University in Occupational Safety and Health with an emphasis in industrial hygiene and a Ph.D. in toxicology and risk assessment from the University of South Florida. He is actively involved in several professional organizations, such as the American Industrial Hygiene Association (AIHA), Product Stewardship Society, and Society of Toxicology (SOT). In 2023, he became a member of the American Conference of Governmental Industrial Hygienists (ACGIH) Threshold Limit Value (TLV) committee.

David A. Goldman, Esq., CMBG3 Law, Boston, MA

David Goldman is a founding member of CMBG3 Law with offices in Massachusetts, Rhode Island, California, and Michigan. David has extensive experience defending companies involved in asbestos personal injury cases as well as in other environmental suits. He has defended and negotiated the successful resolution of hundreds of cases. He is actively involved in representing clients in business contract disputes and also consults with investors concerned about the ethylene oxide litigation.

David is a member of both the Massachusetts and Rhode Island state and federal bars, and is an honors graduate of The University of Michigan (undergraduate) and Suffolk University Law School.

Panel Topic (2:00-2:45 PM):

Climate Change Claims: From CO2 to CGL

Rebecca DuBoff, Esq., Senior Claim Specialist, AXIS, NY, NY

Rebecca DuBoff is a Senior Claims Specialist with AXIS Insurance Company based in Berkley Heights, NJ, specializing in Design Professional, Environmental and complex Commercial General Liability Claims. Prior to AXIS, Rebecca worked at another carrier, and spent nearly ten years as an insurance coverage attorney at NYC and NJ law firms, litigating cases on behalf of insurers and reinsurers nationwide.

Konrad R Krebs, Esq., Clyde & Co, Philadelphia, PA

Konrad Krebs is an Insurance Services Trial and Appellate Attorney at Clyde & Co US LLP based out of Philadelphia and San Francisco, where he represents insurers in mass tort, environmental, and other large exposure claims.

Yvonne Schulte, Esq., Clyde & Co, Los Angeles, CA

Yvonne Schulte is an Insurance Coverage Attorney at Clyde & Co US LLP from Los Angeles, where her practice is focused on representing insurers in claims brought under a variety of third-party liability policies, with a focus on environmental claims and pollution liability exposures.

Dean Seman, Esq., Bardsley Law, LLC, Paoli, PA

Dean Seman is a Civil Litigator at Bardsley Law from Berwyn, PA, where he defends environmental, toxic tort, professional liability, and construction defect matters. Dean relies on knowledge and technical skills gained in his former experience as an environmental engineer to achieve successful results for clients in complex environmental disputes.

Panel Topic (3:05-3:50 PM):

Vapor Intrusion in California: Regulation, Litigation, and Coverage

Moderator: Elizabeth Brockman, Esq., Partner, Selman Leichenger Edson Hsu Newman Moore LLP, Los Angeles, CA

Elizabeth Brockman is a Partner at Selman Leichenger Edson Hsu Newman and Moore in the firm's Los Angeles office. She has practiced for over 30 years counseling and representing insurance companies in connection with coverage claims and litigated disputes in many areas, including environmental pollution arising under a wide variety of policies including CGL, EIL, PLL, and CPL coverages, toxic torts, construction defect, and medical products, many of which include extracontractual claims. Elizabeth also assists insurers in working with defense counsel and the insured and its coverage counsel in evaluating exposure to effectively resolve claims for which a defense and/or coverage is being afforded.

Elizabeth has been responsible for several published opinions before the California Supreme Court and the California Court of Appeal, including the landmark cases *Foster-Gardner Inc. v. National Union Fire Ins. Co. of Pittsburgh, PA.* (1998) and *Federal Ins. Co. v. MBL, Inc.* (2013). She is frequently called upon by clients and various organizations to give presentations on a variety of subject matters relating to emerging issues in insurance law in California, including those specifically relating to the area of long tail claims, and is often asked to participate in seminars and workshops on newly passed legislation and related regulations, and guidelines necessary for corporate compliance.

Robert Burkholder, Esq., Claims Counsel, Berkley Environmental, West Chester, PA

Robert Burkholder is a Claims Counsel at Berkley Environmental in West Chester, PA. His expertise includes Environmental law and coverage, interaction of various policies in complex claim situations, emergency response, site pollution claims, severe bodily injury claims, project claims, excess claims, cyber losses, professional liability claims, product liability issues, contract law, insurance coverage, and construction defect litigation.

Numerous achievements developing and implementing innovative approaches to claims management and loss mitigation/prevention for industry leading insurers and clients. Managed high-exposure claims portfolios, containing costs and successfully negotiating significant settlements. Gained initial litigation experience with defense law firms. Skilled in building internal and external relationships with counsel, experts, brokers and insureds. Experienced in drafting policy, procedures and associated training and negotiating a broad range of insurance, regulatory and contractual issues. Successfully directed in-house and outside counsel through discovery, mediations, arbitrations, settlements, and suits.

Thomas F. Vandenburg, Esq. Partner, WSHB, Glendale, CA

Thomas Vandenburg is a Partner in WSHB's Glendale, California office where his legal practice focuses on environmental, toxic tort and habitability litigation. Vandenburg is a Partner in the Glendale, California office of WSHB. Tom's environmental practice includes high exposure multi-party CERCLA cases, Clean Water Act storm water litigation, claims brought under California's Proposition 65, state law nuisance claims, and others. His toxic tort practice covers personal injury claims involving alleged occupational and environmental exposures to pesticides, soil fumigants, benzene, VOC's, hexavalent chromium, metals, industrial solvents, asbestos, silica, and mold. In January of this year, Tom celebrated his 30-year anniversary of practicing law in the State of California.

Alborz Wozniak, CEO, Veritas Environmental Consulting, Inc., Pleasant Hill, CA

Alborz is a principal engineer at Veritas Environmental. He is board-certified and a professional engineer in California and Washington. He has provided environmental consulting to federal and local governments and private businesses for over 30 years. He specializes in the cleanup and restoration of contaminated sites across the US. He provides expert witness testimony in areas involving sources and timing of contamination, analysis and estimation of response costs, and allocation of responsibility.

Panel Topic (3:50-4:35 PM):

Coverage Law Update: What Every Insurer Needs to Know

Laura Foggan, Esq., Crowell & Moring, LLP, Washington, DC

Panel Topic (4:35-5:20 PM):

Resilience Reduces Risk: Avoiding litigation in the Built Environment as the Climate Changes

Catherine Pierce, EVP, The Vertex Companies, Apex, NC

Catherine Pierce has over 22 years of technical and management experience in environmental consulting and insurance services. She has provided consulting services related to environmental site assessments, field investigation activities, scheduling and coordination of subcontractor activities, regulatory reporting, collection of soil and groundwater samples, data analysis, and loss control services. Currently, Ms. Pierce serves as Executive Vice President of the Environmental Insurance Services group at VERTEX. Her primary responsibilities include management of clients and VERTEX staff for environmental claims and files across

the United States. Ms. Pierce is responsible for staffing and overseeing claim management services to insurance and litigation clients including risk management, claim investigation, remedial investigations, regulatory reporting, cost negotiation and closure negotiation. Ms. Pierce also serves as the Chair of the DEI Council and People of Color Employee Resource Group.

Jessica Mederson, Esq., Stafford Rosenbaum LLP, Madison, WI

Jessica Mederson is a Partner in Stafford Rosenbaum LLP's Litigation department in Madison, Wisconsin. After practicing for a decade in Texas she moved to Wisconsin, where she litigates business and IP matters in state and federal courts across the United States, focusing her practice on construction disputes, UCC litigation, contract disputes, director/officer and shareholder litigation, employer-side employment litigation, and patent infringement litigation. Jessica also advises corporate clients on contractual negotiation issues and employment law and has extensive experience with both ediscovery issues and attorney-client privilege issues. Jessica is President of the Western District of Wisconsin Bar Association Board of Directors as well as being a member of the Precast Concrete Institute and its Financial/Risk Management Committee. She is also certified for entry into OSHA Permit-Required Confined Spaces. She writes and presents nationally on addressing resiliency in construction projects and business operations. She is admitted to practice in Wisconsin, Minnesota, Texas, and Florida as well as a number of federal courts across the Midwest and in Texas.

Mónika Serrano, Resilience Program Manager, Turner Construction Company, NY, NY

Mónika Serrano, WELL AP, LEED® AP BD+C, LFA, Climate Reality Leader, fitwel Ambassador, leads the resilience program at Turner Construction. A Venezuelan native and Mechanical Engineer graduate from Lafayette College, she has held roles in most phases of the construction process in her 18 years in the industry. Mónika considers climate change one of the biggest threats to humanity and is constantly pushing the bar in the aspects of resiliency, climate adaptation and mitigation. In 2017, she was elected to the USGBC NJ Board of Directors. Mónika has presented at numerous venues on the value of resilience, adaptation, sustainable design and construction. She constantly collaborates with folks in the design, engineering, construction, litigation, risk and insurance industries as she believes in the power of partnerships to move the needle towards a vital world.

Friday, April 21

Panel Topic (8:15-9:00 AM):

The Long and Winding Road(map): The Fab 4 PFAS Topics on the Insurance Radar Screen



James Hogan, President & CEO at The Environmental Liability & Asset Management Group (ELAM), Noblesville, IN

M. Claire Juliana, Esq., Director Environmental Claims Advocacy, Aon, New York, NY

Claire is the Director of Environmental Claims Advocacy for Aon Risk Solutions' Environmental practice. Claire has expertise in environmental claims, environmental risk management, and emerging insurance issues.

Aon's Environmental Practice is responsible for working with Aon offices around the world to assist clients in managing their environmental risk.

Claire serves as a client advocate to help resolve challenges associated with complex or difficult claims, offers advice on policy wording, and monitors and advises clients on emerging insurance, legal and environmental developments.

Claire joined Aon in September 2011 and has more than twenty years of environmental insurance and law firm experience. Prior to joining Aon, Claire served as Risk Management Counsel for Zurich Environmental. Prior to Zurich, Claire was Division Counsel for various carriers including Quanta, Chubb and AIG. Claire began her insurance career at AIG Environmental Claims first adjusting claims and then managing a group of claim analysts specialized in pollution insurance coverage. She also spent several years in private practice in New Jersey and Colorado.

Paul Pytlik, Esq., Kopka Pinkus Dolin, Milwaukee, WI

William Silverstein, PE, LSRP, GEI Consultants, Inc., Mount Laurel, NJ

Mr. Silverstein is a Senior Consultant with GEI Consultants, Inc. of Mount Laurel, NJ. Bill holds a degree in Chemical Engineering from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute and is a New Jersey Licensed Site Remediation Professional (LSRP) as well as a licensed Professional Engineer in multiple states. Bill has over 35 years of experience in environmental consulting to industry, the legal community, insurance carriers, and property developers. Technical specialties include chemical and environmental engineering; solid and hazardous waste and remediation project management; remediation systems design, permitting and construction management; underground storage tank management; cost allocation, compliance management, and litigation support. Mr. Silverstein has served as a testifying expert in a variety of environmental matters and has assisted clients with PFAS-related issues in both a remediation and litigation context. Recently, Bill has spoken on Emerging Contaminants to the New Jersey State Bar Association Annual Review of Environmental Law and participated in PFAS-related panel discussions organized by the Southern New Jersey Development Council, and the 2022 EECMA and FETTI insurance conferences.

Panel Topic (9:00-9:45 AM):

Social Inflation, Litigation Funding, Crisis Communication and Litigation Support

Eric C. Andrus, EVP, JCI Worldwide Inc., Santa Monica, CA

Andrew Frank, Founder & President, KARV Communications, NY, NY

Rudy Perrino, Esq., Kutak Rock, Los Angeles, CA

Panel Topic (9:45-10:30 AM):

AFFF Use Complicates Pollution Claims: Regulations, Forensics, Clean-up Costs

Steve Barnett, Esq., PE, CIH, MSPH, Connell Foley, LLP, Roseland, NJ

Steve Barnett has more than 25 years of experience representing Connell Foley LLP clients concerned with health, safety and environment, in transactions; asbestos, toxic tort, site cleanup and other environmental court proceedings; and regulatory permitting and compliance matters. Prior to his legal career, Mr. Barnett practiced as a licensed Professional Engineer and Certified Industrial Hygienist and obtained a Master of Science in Public Health, Industrial Hygiene Emphasis. He also proudly served as Captain, United States Air Force, Bioenvironmental Engineer. Mr. Barnett is admitted to practice law in California, New Jersey and New York.

Melody Curry, Esq., Claims Manager Chubb Environmental, Jersey City, NJ

Melody Curry is the Vice President and Environmental Claims Leader at Chubb North American Claims. Melody leads the Environmental claims teams within the Severity Discipline and serves as the point of contact for coordination and collaboration with her internal partners. Ms. Curry has over 15 years of experience in a broad range of insurance, including professional, environmental, toxic tort claims and general liability. Melody began her Chubb career in 2008 in the Environmental Claims Group. In 2013, Melody was promoted to AVP, Claims Manager leading a team within Environmental claims where she has consistently exhibited strong technical expertise and effective leadership. Prior to claims, Melody was an insurance defense attorney with St. Pauls Travelers. In addition to her role as VP at Chubb, Melody is an active member of the Chubb Start Mentorship Program. Melody attended the University of Michigan, earning a Bachelor of Arts degree in Political Science and City University of New York of Law, where she received a Juris Doctor degree.

Scott Green, P.G. First Environment, Butler, NJ

Scott Green is the Director of First Environment's environmental insurance service group and has more than 32 years of experience, including 13 years managing an in-house consulting group at AIG. In this role he evaluated pollution claims across the U.S. with regard to technical review of environmental conditions, cause and origin, cost allocation and whether incurred pollution costs were reasonable and customary as well as whether work performed was required by environmental law assisting the insurer with technical information to support coverage decisions to specific pollution policies. A professional geologist, Scott also provides expert testimony for UST and PFAS matters. He is also a member of ASTM's D18 soil and rock subcommittee.

Elisa Rombach, AVP, Philadelphia Insurance Companies, Ewing, NJ

Elisa R. Rombach is the Assistant Vice President- Claims, Environmental, with Philadelphia Insurance Companies since 2016. Her current responsibilities include managing a team that handles claims under the Contractor Environmental, Contractor Environmental and Professional, Premise Environmental, Storage Tank Environmental, and E-PAC policies.

Prior to her tenure at Philadelphia Insurance Companies, Rombach was a senior claims analyst with AIG for nine years in their Environmental Specialty Claims Department. Rombach handled environmental claims for large commercial and residential real estate developers and owners; chemical manufacture and distributors; municipalities and cities; contractors; small business owners; manufacturers; gas station owners; environmental consultants; hotel owners; and redevelopers. Prior to handling environmental claims, Rombach was an insurance defense and insurance coverage attorney in New Jersey. She directly represented insureds in matters and represented insurance companies in bad faith and declaratory judgement actions. Rombach earned her bachelor's degree from Lafayette College and a Juris Doctorate degree from Villanova University School of Law.

Panel Topic (10:45-11:35 AM):

Walk the Line: Avoiding Ethical Pitfalls in Environmental Contamination Cases

Lisa Armon, Esq., Legal Counsel, CHUBB, Philadelphia, PA

Lisa Armon is a Senior Litigation Counsel at the Chubb Companies working with the Brandywine Group of Insurance and Reinsurance division. She has dedicated the last 32 years of her career to working on long-term exposure claims. The majority of Lisa's time is spent on environmental issues, working on emerging risks such as climate change and PFAS. She also spends a significant amount of time on large sediment sites around the country.

Farheena A. Habib, Esq., Edlin Gallagher Huie + Blum, San Francisco, CA

Farheena A. Habib is an Equity Partner with Edlin Gallagher Huie + Blum who practices primarily in the areas of environmental and toxic tort litigation. As part of her environmental litigation practice, Farheena has represented clients in both state and federal courts, including numerous cases involving CERCLA and RCRA claims. She has managed matters through all phases of litigation and has extensive experience with client counseling, deposition and motion practice, mediation, and settlement. Farheena obtained her J.D. from Boston University School of Law and her B.S. in psychology from the University of California at Davis. She is a member of the South Asian Bar Association of Northern California, the Bar Association of San Francisco, and Queens Bench.

Erin K. Poppler, Esq., Edlin Gallagher Huie + Blum, San Francisco, CA

Erin K. Poppler is an Equity Partner at Edlin Gallagher Huie + Blum with an environmental litigation practice that includes formidable courtroom experience as lead counsel in high-stakes multi-party suits involving CERCLA, HSAA, RCRA, the Clean Air Act, the Clean Water Act, and Proposition 65. She serves the National Association of Women Lawyers as Co-Chair of its Environmental & Energy Law Affinity Group and is a member of the Federation of Defense & Corporate Counsel. Erin graduated with honors from UC Berkeley with a B.A. in rhetoric and political science and earned her J.D. from UC Hastings College of the Law.

Sara Redding, Senior Hydrogeologist, LSRP, ROUX Associates, Logan Twp., NJ

Sara Redding is a Senior Hydrogeologist at Roux Associates, Inc. who is experienced in Site investigation and remediation with a focus on the New Jersey (SRRA - ISRA, Spill Act) and Pennsylvania (Act 2) regulatory programs. Ms. Redding is a Licensed Site Remediation Professional (LSRP) in New Jersey and Pennsylvania Professional Geologist (PG). She is experienced in characterization and remediation of petroleum, chlorinated solvents, PAHs, and metals, as well as assessment of emerging contaminants (i.e., PFAS, 1,4-dioxane). Mrs. Redding specializes in navigating the ISRA process, management of Sites with complex hydrogeologic settings including multi-aquifer systems and fractured bedrock, and management of Sites with complex data management and data evaluation needs. Her experience additionally includes environmental forensics, fingerprinting, apportionment, cost-to-closure estimates and third-party review.

Robert Scofield, GSI Environmental Inc., Beverly Hills, CA

Dr. Scofield is a Principal Toxicologist and Vice President with GSI Environmental, Inc. and has more than 40 years of experience directing and conducting health risk assessments for product safety as well as environmental remediation and due diligence projects for contaminated land and groundwater sites; and air toxics emissions in the United States and internationally. He also has extensive experience teaching risk assessment, providing risk communication services, and serving as a third-party, neutral reviewer of risk assessments for various government and private parties. He has performed more than 500 exposure estimates in support of Proposition 65 compliance evaluations. Dr. Scofield earned a D. Env. in Environmental Science and Engineering and M.P.H. in Environmental Health Management from UCLA. He was a post-doctoral researcher in the Department of Toxicology at UC Davis.

Panel Topic (11:35-12:20 PM):

When It Rains, It Pours...Mold, Stormwater and Sediment Runoff Claims During Construction

Moderator: Sandra Gaurin, VP, The Vertex Companies, Morristown, NJ

Sandra Gaurin has 25 years of experience assisting real estate, development, and institutional clients in managing their environmental risk with a focus on loss control services and environmental claims support. Her everyday duties include national insurance carriers' accounts management (sales and BD), client services for large remediation/redevelopment projects, marketing and BD support in the real estate, construction and remediation fields. Her responsibilities include the coordination of teams of experts to provide technical support for the identification and quantification of complex environmental issues. Sandra has also managed projects for commercial/industrial as well as municipal/state clients involving site investigation and remediation activities such as underground storage tank removal, impacted soil excavation and disposal, ground water and soil vapor investigation and remediation, and in-situ bioremediation treatment.

Robin Kelliher, Esq., USI, Inc., Philadelphia, PA

As Group Counsel of the USI Environmental Solutions, Robin is responsible for delivery of technical and strategic consulting services designed to assist our clients in managing environmental risk and claims. This includes senior level advocacy and consulting on high severity or otherwise critical claims, including exposure analysis disposition strategy and coverage dispute resolution. Robin has assisted clients in maximizing outcomes on a variety of complex environmental claims – not only within the environmental product line, but also finding coverage within standard general liability and property policies. Understanding that insurance companies often attempt to limit exposure by narrowly interpreting its policies, Robin collaborates closely with brokers and policyholders to develop and negotiate policy language to enhance coverage and address any potential gaps. In addition to developing “best practice” policy language, Robin also assists clients in preparing, modifying, and negotiating insurance and indemnification language in master service agreements, leases, and other contracts. Robin actively speaks at various industry conferences and events, such as those for the American Bar Association, Perrin Conferences, CLM, New Jersey Institute for Continuing Legal Education, and others.

Robin began her insurance career as a client manager in a large regional insurance brokerage. After several years in client management, Robin became a producer – focusing on New Jersey based environmental service firms. Prior to joining USI, Robin spent 25 years at global insurance brokerage firm – most recently as the National Environmental Claim Director, leading a team of environmental claim advocates. Robin earned her Juris Doctorate from Rutgers School of Law – Newark, and graduated Phi Beta Kappa from Rutgers College. Robin is admitted to practice law in New York and New Jersey; and maintains insurance licenses in all 50 states.

Brian Margolies, Esq., Kaufman Boorgeest, Hawthorne, NY

Brian Margolies is a partner in Kaufman Borgeest & Ryan, LLP's Insurance Coverage group. His practice is devoted exclusively to insurance-related matters, primarily involving pollution, professional and general liability policies. He regularly counsels insurance carriers on coverage, regulatory and bad faith issues, and has represented clients in coverage litigation throughout the country.

Trish Shippee, Esq., Environmental Division AVP, Great American Insurance Group. Exton, PA

Trish Shippee is a Divisional Assistant Vice President of Claims with Great American's Environmental Division, providing technical expertise and specialized claim service to sophisticated environmental clients within the insurance industry. Trish has handled high exposure pollution, professional and contracting liability claims and is often called upon to provide training to her claim colleagues as well as the underwriting department. Trish received her Bachelor of Science in chemical engineering from University of Connecticut and her J.D. from Villanova University School of Law. She is based out of Great American's Exton, Pennsylvania main office.

Panel Topic (12:30-1:15 PM):

All Roads Lead to the Boardroom; Sharing D&O and other Perspectives on ESG

Andrew Doherty, Partner and Practice Leader, USI, NY, NY

Andrew Doherty, a Partner and Practice Leader at USI, has been an insurance professional for 30 years. As the Executive and Professional Risk Solutions Practice Leader at USI, Andrew leads a team of professionals providing clients with expertise and solutions in the areas of management and professional liability, fiduciary liability, cyber risk, and transactional risk.

Ben Hansen, VP, Antea Group, Novi, MI

Ben Hansen, a Vice President at Antea Group, is an experienced consultant within the environmental, health and safety, and corporate sustainability consulting industry. He currently leads Antea Group's Global Risk and Financial Services Segment focusing on enhancing the EHS and ESG business risk mitigation and opportunity recognition strategies for Insurance, Legal, and Private Equity/Banking clients.

Erika Spanton, Esq, Beveridge and Diamond, Seattle, WA

Erika Spanton, a Principal at Beveridge and Diamond, is the deputy leader of B&D's Water practice and co-founder of B&D's Fisheries & Aquaculture practice and has deep regulatory expertise with federal and state stormwater and wastewater requirements. She maintains a robust mixed practice of litigation, regulatory, and white-collar defense work focused on water quality matters.

Leah A. Spivey, CPCU, Head of Claims Runoff Solutions, Munich Re America Services, Inc., Princeton, NJ

Leah Spivey, a Senior Vice President at Munich Re America, has over twenty-five years of experience in the insurance industry. Leah is the Head of Claims Runoff Solutions for Munich Re American and leads a team of multidisciplinary professionals at who work together to understand the impact of the company's legacy liabilities and to develop optimal exit solutions for those liabilities.