

2023 Perkins Coie Product Liability Case Study and Workshop

THURSDAY, MAY 18, 2023—SEATTLE, WASHINGTON

Experience has taught us that few manufacturers have a comprehensive or effective program to manage their product liability exposure. Many employees do not understand the breadth and severity of product liability laws or the risks and costs of product liability lawsuits. They often may not understand the important role each individual plays in managing the company's product liability risks. Frequently, they do not fully appreciate the legal consequences of their actions and receive no training to help them realize the implications of what they write and say.

This workshop is based on a case study that traces the entire life cycle of a product—from design and testing to marketing and post-market problems—and requires the workshop participants to decide, as the facts and events develop, what steps the company should take to protect itself from liability.

TOPICS:

The workshop covers the basics of product liability law before turning to the case study and exploring various legal topics as they arise. Topics include:

- Warnings and instructions
- Federal agency and other regulatory reporting requirements
- Recalls
- The litigation process and pitfalls, including electronic discovery (e-discovery), spoliation of evidence, and sanctions
- Defenses such as misuse, causation, federal preemption, and the government contractor defense
- Attorney-client privilege
- How to manage risk through contracts: warranties, disclaimers, and indemnification
- Product liability prevention
- Compensatory and punitive damages

The program concludes with a mock trial in which participants serve as a jury and learn how a company's actions and documents significantly influence a jury's decision-making process.

WHO SHOULD ATTEND?

This program is beneficial for managers and employees whose jobs require them to make decisions that could result in product liability risk, including those who make design decisions, draft instructions or warnings, supervise quality or customer complaints, or decide how to respond to emerging issues. The workshop is also intended for risk managers, in-house counsel, and accident investigators.

SCHEDULE:

8:00 a.m. – 8:30 a.m.	Continental Breakfast and Registration
8:30 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.	Morning Session
12:15 p.m. – 1:00 p.m.	Afternoon Session
4:30 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.	Cocktail Reception

WORKSHOP LOCATION AND ACCOMMODATIONS

The 2023 workshop will be held in the Seattle office of Perkins Coie at 1201 Third Avenue, 49th Floor, Seattle, WA 98101. The central location of our downtown Seattle office provides workshop participants with numerous hotel options at varying price points. Overnight hotel accommodations are the responsibility of workshop attendees.

REGISTRATION FEE

We are offering registration to this year's workshop free of charge.

Please note: In the event that demand surpasses capacity, preference will be given to current Perkins Coie clients. Demand may also require us to limit the number of attendees from any one company.

The workshop includes a continental breakfast, lunch, cocktail reception, and handout materials. Attendees are responsible for any transportation or parking costs. The closest garage is in our building at 1201 Third Avenue.

PREVIOUS ATTENDEE COMMENTS:

"The most helpful seminar I have ever attended."

"Excellent speakers, not afraid to refocus people."

"The case study approach is outstanding. One of the best classes I've ever attended."

"The instructors made a dry subject very interesting. Their mix of quick humor and competence in their field made my learning experience a positive one."