



Medmarc Risk Management Webinar Series

Webinar Summary

Life Sciences Claims 2023: Making Sense of an Evolving Landscape

Presenters: [Sonia Valdes](#) & [Andy Hall](#) | Medmarc Claims Department
Guest [Katie Stricklin](#) Partner with Walsworth WFBM, LLP

In this on-demand webinar recorded live on December 13, 2023, Sonia Valdes and Andy Hall from Medmarc, along with special guest Katie Stricklin from Walsworth, discussed the claims environment in 2023. Katie started the conversation by discussing various mass tort litigation cases across federal district courts in the U.S. and later continued with the concept of personal jurisdiction, focusing on the U.S. Supreme Court case “Mallory versus Norfolk Southern Railway.” Sonia focused on the growth of third-party litigation funding due to increasing litigation costs and limited traditional funding. Andy went over jury behavior factors as they pertain to conspiracy theories and safety-ism and ended the session with an FDA update, including draft guidance on off-label communications, the 510K guidance, and cybersecurity guidance. The panel concluded that the industry faces a challenging environment due to all the factors discussed.

Full On-demand Recording

On-demand Chapters:

- [00:00](#) – Introduction of the Presenters
- [02:25](#) – Litigation updates - Katie Stricklin
- [13:07](#) – Conspiracy theories and safety-ism - Andy Hall
- [23:22](#) – Litigation funding - Sonia Valdes
- [32:37](#) – Personal jurisdiction - Katie Stricklin
- [47:45](#) – What’s happening at the FDA? - Andy Hall
- [54:00](#) – Questions



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KATIE STRICKLIN, ESQ.

Partner | Walsworth WFBM, LLP

Katie Stricklin concentrates her practice on all aspects of complex civil litigation, including life sciences, product liability, and general liability defense matters. Katie has been involved in the representation of a wide variety of clients, including premises owners, manufacturers, suppliers, and retailers. She practices in both state and federal courts and has experience with multiple-party and class-action litigation. Katie has participated in the successful resolution of these types of claims through dispositive motions, mediations, settlement conferences, and trials.

SONIA VALDES, ESQ.

Vice President for Claims | Medmarc

Sonia Valdes is Vice President for Claims at Medmarc. She is responsible for managing a team of dedicated claims professionals as well as overseeing technical and administrative issues within Medmarc's Claims Department. Her responsibilities include directing mass tort litigation, training and developing staff, assisting with policy development, advising underwriters on risk management, and expanding Medmarc's litigation management services.

ANDY HALL, ESQ.

Executive Claims Specialist | Medmarc

Andy Hall, Esq. joined Medmarc in 2017 as a Senior Claims Examiner and recently was promoted to Executive Claims Specialist. He is responsible for claims investigation, coverage analysis, managing reserves, negotiating settlements, monitoring defense counsel activities, and maintaining good client relations. Mr. Hall came to Medmarc from Wilson, Elser, Moskowitz, Edelman, and Dicker LLP where he was Of Counsel since 2016 and an Associate since 2008. His experience there was with drafting coverage opinions and interpreting insurance policies. Andy also works on the product development team where he assists with drafting language for our new products.