

## Explosion & Industrial Casualty



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King & Spalding's Explosion & Industrial Casualty Practice group wins high-stakes personal injury and property damage cases around the world involving plant explosions, fires, chemical releases, equipment failures and other industrial casualties. With a unique blend of exceptional trial skill and engineering/technical aptitude, we are both capable and willing to try the most difficult cases in the most difficult venues, and have a proven record of success. Juries understand us and adversaries respect us.

### Experienced Litigators

We find resourceful, creative solutions whenever possible and have resolved numerous industrial accident claims without the need for trial or arbitration. Our team is well-equipped to investigate and litigate a wide range of industrial accidents and catastrophic events, from relatively minor, single-injury incidents to more substantial, multiple-injury and property damage occurrences. Our vast experience in trying these types of cases frames our entire approach to litigation. Not all casualty events make it to trial or even to litigation. But when they do, our adversaries know that we have the skills, resources, track record and eagerness to successfully defend even the most dangerous cases.

### Market Leaders

Our team has earned numerous regional and national accolades. Multiple King & Spalding lawyers have been inducted into the American College of Trial Lawyers and the American Board of Trial Advocates. Numerous King & Spalding litigators have received rankings and recognition by Chambers USA, Legal 500, Who's Who Legal, Best Lawyers in America, Texas Super Lawyers and Houston's Top Lawyers in H Magazine. In 2015, Legal 500 ranked King & Spalding as tier one for Energy Litigation.

### Representative Clients

- KBR
- Halliburton Energy Services, Inc.
- Dresser Industries
- LS Power
- Shell Oil Company
- Exterran Energy Solutions LP
- Weir SPM
- Sandy Creek Energy Associates
- Motiva Enterprises LLC
- Chevron USA Inc.



## Proven Success

- Represented KBR in the defense of engineering defect claims brought by a group of plaintiffs who were severely burned in a plastics plant explosion and fire in Pasadena, Texas. Plaintiffs sought nearly \$130 million, but the jury returned a complete defense verdict after a six-week trial.
- Represented the owners of a power plant against the general contractor in connection with extensive construction delays and associated costs resulting from a boiler overheating event during commissioning. Obtained award of nearly \$100 million following arbitration.
- Represented Motiva Enterprises LLC in an alleged class action lawsuit for alleged personal injuries and property damages associated with the operation of a refinery in Port Arthur, Texas. The case was dismissed with the client paying nothing.
- Represented KBR in the defense of engineering defect claims brought by a chemical plant owner following the explosion of a phenol plant in Alabama. Plaintiffs sought nearly \$20 million in damages. The case was arbitrated for a week in London under ICC rules, after which the case was dismissed with the client paying nothing.
- Represented a valve manufacturer defending against allegations that a defective valve caused the rupture of a high-pressure steam line in a power plant that resulted in two deaths, one serious burn injury and \$15 million in property damage. The case was tried before a jury in Platte County, Missouri, and resulted in a favorable verdict.
- Represented a government services contractor in a wrongful death lawsuit brought by the surviving family members of a United States Army soldier who was electrocuted while serving in Iraq. The case was dismissed before trial.
- Represented KBR in the defense of engineering defect claims brought by plaintiffs claiming to have suffered personal injuries during an ethylene plant explosion in Point Comfort, Texas. After a four-week trial in Calhoun County, Texas, the jury returned a complete defense verdict.
- Representing Exterran Energy Solutions in two wrongful death lawsuits in Ohio County, West Virginia, arising from a flash fire at a natural gas pipeline pig receiving and launching station.
- Successfully represented government services contractor in federal court action in Houston, Texas, arising out of fatal insurgent attacks on fuel convoys driven by its employees in Iraq. The case was dismissed on summary judgment.
- Representing a drilling and oilfield service company in a wrongful death and survival action in La Salle County, Texas, arising from a fatal accident during a hydraulic fracturing operation.
- Represented a major oil field services company against personal injury and property damage claims arising out of hydraulic fracturing activities in the Barnett Shale area. The case was successfully resolved on summary judgment.

### Contacts

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