

Toxic & Environmental Torts

King & Spalding lawyers have successfully litigated, tried, and resolved toxic tort and environmental cases in state and federal courts throughout the United States, including in the most plaintiff-friendly jurisdictions. We have handled vast and overlapping discovery obligations, navigated thorny legal theories, defeated class certification, tackled complex technical and scientific issues, and managed difficult facts.

We provide comprehensive resolution options for clients facing complex cases asserting myriad claims due to alleged contamination or toxic exposures. Our lawyers are at the forefront of many of the high-exposure and high-profile environmental cases in the country including cases related to alleged exposure to naturally occurring substances and solvents such as:

- Trichloroethylene (TCE)
- Perchloroethylene (PCE)
- Trichloroacetic acid (TCA)
- Paraquat
- Ethylene Oxide
- Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS)
- Asbestos
- Talc
- MTBE
- Other claimed toxins

We understand our clients' business objectives, assess their challenges, identify litigation and resolution options, and develop and implement strategies to resolve individual cases or litigation dockets – whether through trial, arbitration, mediation, or settlement. We partner with our clients to address litigation in a cost-effective manner that meets our clients' strategic goals.

We are nationally recognized by leading industry publications such as *Legal 500*, where we are ranked in Tier 1 for toxic tort work, and *Chambers & Partners* where we

Capability Lawyers



John P. Hooper
New York



Alexander Calfo
Los Angeles



Bruce Hurley
Houston



Tracie J. Renfroe
Houston



Matthew J. Blaschke (Matt)
San Francisco



Carmen R. Toledo
Atlanta

Recognition

Band 1 for Nationwide Product Liability & Mass Torts: The Elite

CHAMBERS USA, 2022-2024

Tier 1 firm for Product Liability, Mass Tort and Class Action – Defense: Toxic Tort, Automotive/Transport and

are ranked as an “Elite” firm for product liability and mass torts work; and our team has achieved favorable outcomes for clients in a wide range of industries.

Experience. Our lawyers handle individual, class and mass joinder cases brought by all types of plaintiffs, from property owners to water districts to consumers. We are well-versed on the claims in these cases, including personal injury, fear, increased risk of disease, medical monitoring, property damage, and business losses.

Technical Understanding. We have strong technical backgrounds. Our understanding of the scientific, medical, and technical issues in toxic tort and environmental cases is built on decades of practice, having presented and cross-examined hundreds of experts in diverse scientific disciplines. Our lawyers can translate complex environmental and scientific issues into language that judges and juries can understand.

Relationships. We have a network of local counsel, including trial-tested veterans in the most difficult, plaintiff-friendly jurisdictions in the country, and we are supported by experienced appellate counsel.

Trial. We have a deep bench of first-chair trial lawyers. We try high-exposure cases and win.

Class Actions. We have achieved success in every facet of class action litigation, defeating class certification in virtually every state and against every conceivable theory of recovery.

Cases & Deals

June 6, 2025

King & Spalding Secures Complete Defense Victory for Caesarstone in Hard-Fought Product Liability Trial

March 14, 2025

King & Spalding Secures Complete Defense Verdict for Terumo in Bellwether Ethylene Oxide Case

January 7, 2025

King & Spalding Secures Defense Jury Verdict for Johnson & Johnson in Cosmetic Talcum Powder Litigation

[VIEW ALL](#)

Insights

CLIENT ALERT

November 20, 2025

EPA and Corps of Engineers Release a Proposed New Definition of “Waters of the United States,” Limiting Federal Jurisdiction

CLIENT ALERT

Pharmaceuticals and Medical Devices

LEGAL 500 US, 2022-2024

Environmental Practice Group of the Year

LAW360 2010, 2012, 2015, 2016 AND 2018

Band 1 for Nationwide Product Liability & Mass Torts: The Elite

CHAMBERS USA, 2022-2024

Band 1 for Nationwide Product Liability & Mass Torts: Toxic Torts

CHAMBERS USA, 2023-2024

Tier 1 for Product Liability, Mass Tort and Class Actions: Defense – Pharmaceuticals and Medical Devices

LEGAL 500, 2020-2024

Tier 1 for Product Liability, Mass Tort and Class Actions: Defense – Automotive/Transport

LEGAL 500, 2020-2024

Tier 1 for Product Liability, Mass Tort and Class Actions: Defense – Consumer Products

LEGAL 500, 2023-2024

November 14, 2025

High Court finds in favour of victims of the Mariana Dam disaster

ARTICLE

July 31, 2025

Cactus Water Services v. COG Operating: Decision potentially invites further litigation over produced water

[VIEW ALL](#)

Events

SPEAKING ENGAGEMENT

September 12, 2025

Julia Zousmer to Speak at the American Law Institute's MDL in Motion: Evolving Practices, Emerging Leaders, and Reform program

SPEAKING ENGAGEMENT

April 4, 2025

Peter Hsiao to Speak at the 2025 Los Angeles County Bar Association Environmental Spring Symposium

SPEAKING ENGAGEMENT

December 9, 2024

Nicholas Howell to Speak at the 2024 Georgia Industry Environmental Coalition Annual Meeting

[VIEW ALL](#)

News

IN THE NEWS

December 2, 2025

Former Home Depot Associate General Counsel Will Barnette joins the firm's Business Litigation practice group as a partner in the Atlanta office

PRESS RELEASE

December 2, 2025

Former Home Depot Associate General Counsel Will Barnette Joins King & Spalding in Atlanta

IN THE NEWS

Paul Alessio Mezzina, Nicholas Mecsas-Faxon, Doug Henderson and Nicholas Howell counsel Terumo before a Colorado appeals court, which affirmed the dismissal of a proposed class action by a man living near a Terumo BCT sterilization facility

[VIEW ALL](#)
