

CONFERENCE CHAIRS:

Ervin Gonzalez, Esq., Ervin Gonzalez, Esq., Colson Hicks Eidson, Coral Gables, FL

Defense chair to be announced.

Tuesday, July 28, 2009

Chair Biographies

7:30 Continental Breakfast & Morning Registration

8:15 Chinese Drywall Litigation Update

- What is the difference between Chinese drywall and domestic drywall?
- Who faces potential liability for the Chinese drywall installation?
- Remediation costs and health related expenses
- Where was the Chinese drywall used?
- Status of the MDL and other class actions
- What kind of experts you will need for your cases?

Arnold Levin, Esq., Levin, Fishbein, Sedran & Berman, Philadelphia

John Mullen, Esq., Nelson Levine de Luca & Horst, Blue Bell, PA

9:15 Health Damages Caused By Chinese Drywall

- What is toxicity: the dose that makes the poison, public risk vs. personal risk; and the distinction between regulatory and human toxicology
- What needs to be proven, in order to establish toxicity and distinguishing hazard perception from toxicity
- What is known today: the levels of hydrogen sulfide/strontium and other toxic emissions from Chinese drywall that are known concerns today
- Does Chinese drywall pose health concerns for homeowners and to what extent?

- Unique issues for certain class parties

- The level of severity of the health risks

- What is unknown about tomorrow: possible longer term effects of these emissions, where does the medical research stand today and what is planned tomorrow?
- How is Chinese drywall more dangerous than domestic drywall and how do you know if your case involves dangerous drywall?
- The medical damages: the potential costs for medical care and analysis/projection of medical damages defendants face

Barbara Manis, MD, Chief Medical Officer, Building Health Sciences, a division of The NMAS Group, Rockville, MD

Additional speaker to be announced.

10:15 Morning Break

10:30 The Property Damage Caused by Chinese Drywall

- Identifying the problem: confounding factors, product identification issues and the required tests
- Building damage: what Chinese drywall is doing to the construction it was used in
- Property damage: what Chinese drywall is doing to other home appliances
- The detailed analysis of remediation:
 - Determining what to remove, project scope and avoiding unnecessary costs
- The cost to remove Chinese drywall

• Assessing the potential costs nationwide: damages projections for construction remediation and rebuilds in the 13 confirmed states

• What other dangerous substances may be hidden in Chinese drywall that you should be aware of?

Eric Winegar, PhD, QEP, Principal, Applied Measurement Science, Fair Oaks, CA

Additional speakers to be announced.

11:30 Chinese Drywall-Insurance Coverage Nightmare

- The big coverage disputes, trigger issues, endorsements and exclusions to come into play
 - The kinds of policies providing coverage for both first and third party claims
 - Additional insured issues
 - Subrogation opportunities
- Matt Jacobs, Esq., Jenner & Block LLP, Washington, DC
- Additional speaker to be announced.

12:30 Adjourn

Ervin Gonzalez is a partner at Colson Hicks Eidson, and has more than 20 years of experience practicing products liability, class action, business litigation, medical malpractice and personal injury litigation. Mr. Gonzalez has 21 jury trial verdicts that meet or exceed \$1 million and numerous settlements that meet or exceed \$1 million. Mr. Gonzalez is board certified as a specialist in civil trial law (both in personal injury and wrongful death cases) and business litigation law by The Florida Bar and The National Board of Trial Advocacy. A member of the Florida Bar Board of Governors, Mr. Gonzalez has served on the board's Executive Committee. He is also a member of the National Board of Trustees for the National Institute of Trial Advocacy. He is former President of the Dade County Bar Association and Dade County Trial Lawyers Association, and past Director of the Academy of Florida Trial Lawyers. In addition, Mr. Gonzalez is an adjunct professor at the University of Miami School of Law for the trial skills litigation program. Some of his published works include FasTrain: Florida Civil Trial Preparation, The Florida Bar, 5 Volume Book and Practice Guide: Florida Civil Procedure, LexisNexis: 5 Volume Book. Mr. Gonzalez has also authored numerous articles published in The Florida Bar Journal, the Dade County Trial Lawyers Advanced Trial Handbook and the monthly column "Trial Tips," published in the Dade County Bar Bulletin and the Daily Business Review. Furthermore, Mr. Gonzalez was recently named in the prestigious Best Lawyers in America, a "who's who" of the legal profession's top practitioners as evaluated and selected by their professional peers. He was also selected as one of the Best Lawyers in Florida by Florida Trend Magazine and in the nation by Leading American Attorney. Mr. Gonzalez graduated cum laude from the University of Miami School of Law with a juris doctorate (1985).