

WLF Webinar Series

Speakers' Biographies

Richard Faulk is a Counsel with Davis Wright Tremaine LLP in the firm's Washington, DC office. He is a seasoned litigator with over three decades of trial and appellate experience in environmental and toxic torts, including air and water pollution class actions, international water pollution claims, mass tort cases, CERCLA cost recovery claims, and defense of toxic tort cases arising from occupational exposures at refineries and petrochemical manufacturing facilities. Mr. Faulk has significant federal and state appellate experience, including arguments before the U.S. Supreme Court, and *en banc* Courts of Appeals, especially in environmental and mass tort cases. He has written extensively on public-nuisance litigation, including a co-authored 2014 paper for Washington Legal Foundation that won a Burton Award for Distinguished Legal Writing.

Neil Merkl is a Partner with Kelley Drye & Warren LLP in the firm's New York, NY office. He is a commercial lawyer, litigator and trial attorney with more than thirty years of experience in contract, commercial law and civil litigation. Mr. Merkl represents innovative businesses that are facing unprecedented and unpredictable exposure to extreme litigation risk because their disputes arise from new products, new methods, new technologies, and complex subject matters unfamiliar to judges and jurors. He serves on the Commercial Division Advisory Council, which is charged with advising on matters concerning the Commercial Division of the Supreme Court of the State of New York.