The Case for MDL Rulemaking:
Current Practices and Future Procedure

Wednesday, January 23, 2019
12:00 - 1:00 p.m. CST

Dear IADC Member:

Please join us for a complimentary Webinar (Web-based seminar produced through Adobe Connect) sponsored by the IADC Drug, Device and Biotechnology Committee on Wednesday, January 23, 2019 for (1) hour beginning at:

10:00 AM PST / 11:00 AM MST / 12:00 PM Noon CST / 1:00 PM EST

HOW TO REGISTER:

ONLINE REGISTRATION! Although there is no fee to attend, you must register so that the IADC can plan accordingly for the number of interested participants. Click here to register online. You must be logged in with your IADC username and password in order to register. If you are registering multiple participants from the same firm, please register each participant individually.

We hope that you will join us for this exciting and informative program. If you have any questions, please contact **Melisa Maisel Vanis, Assistant Director of Meetings and Professional Development**, at mmaisel@iadclaw.org or by telephone at 312.368.1494.

THE PRESENTATION:

The Case for MDL Rulemaking: Current Practices and Future Procedure

Current litigants cannot reliably predict the procedure that will govern their cases once they become part of an MDL. Judges and parties have struggled to respond to their unique procedural challenges, which has resulted in ad hoc and unclear rules that vary from one MDL to another. As cases in MDLs gain a dominant share of the federal docket, there is an ever-growing call to create a consistent set of MDL rules that would work in tandem with the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure. This program will discuss pending legislation, recent publications, and the arguments being made in favor of adopting rules and what those rules should be.

THE MODERATOR:

Jason C. Rose (jcrose@venable.com)
Venable LLP, Baltimore, MD

Jason Rose is a co-chair of Venable's Product Liability and Mass Torts practice group where he focuses on pharmaceutical and medical device litigation, particularly MDLs and other mass torts. Jason has represented clients in several consolidated actions and MDLs and is currently serving as deputy co-national counsel to a major pharmaceutical company in MDL and consolidated state court litigation involving proton pump inhibitor drugs. From this work, he has gained significant experience with MDL rulemaking as well as expert witness development; briefing substantive and *Daubert* issues; company story development; fact and expert depositions; and trial proceedings. Jason is a member of the International Association of Defense Counsel and serves as Chair of the Drug, Device and Biotechnology Committee.

THE PRESENTER:

Melinda L. Fithen (mlfithen@venable.com)
Venable LLP, Baltimore, MD

Melinda Fithen is an associate in Venable's Product Liability and Mass Torts Practice Group where she has been involved in several MDLs and other consolidated actions on behalf of pharmaceutical companies. Her current work in this area includes company case development and coordinating overall strategy for an MDL and consolidated state court litigation involving proton pump inhibitor drugs, as well as expert witness development for another MDL and consolidated state court litigation involving an anticoagulant drug. In the past, she served on the briefing team in a consolidated action involving an antiepileptic drug, bringing several successful pretrial and dispositive motions that resulted in defense verdicts or settlement. Melinda is a member of Defense Research Institute and its Drug and Medical Device Committee.

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