

ANNUAL CONFERENCE

prop.65clearinghouse

MONDAY, AUGUST 31, 2026

JULIA MORGAN BALLROOM

Breakout Session

4:00 to 5:00

Proposition 65 Compliance in Practice: Supply Chain, Testing, and Real-World Challenges

Moderator: **Peg Toledo**, Mediator, Signature Resolution

Panel: **Bernard Beckerman**, Principal Scientist, RETRA LLC

Greg Berlin, Partner, Alston & Bird

Kimberly Gates Johnson, Partner, Seven Hills LLP

Judith Praitis, Partner, Faegre Drinker Biddle & Reath

Proposition 65 Compliance in Practice

Bios

Peg Toledo

Mediator, Signature Resolution

Peg Toledo is a mediator on Signature Resolution's panel of neutrals. She mediates complex civil disputes across appellate, employment, environmental, commercial, class action, consumer protection, personal injury, and Proposition 65 matters, among others.

Peg brings more than 30 years of experience handling complex civil litigation, appellate matters, and high-stakes business disputes. A former Certified Appellate Specialist, Peg built her career across private practice, government service, and Big Law, including roles as Counsel at Orrick and Arnold & Porter Kaye Scholer, Deputy Attorney General for the State of California, and co-founder of the women-owned litigation firm Toledo Don LLP.

Prior to becoming a mediator, Peg defended and counseled manufacturers, distributors, and retailers dealing with issues arising from California's Proposition 65. Peg has provided Proposition 65 compliance advice and litigation defense to numerous Fortune 500 companies. She has also litigated Proposition 65 cases against the California Attorney General, as well as private prosecutors.

Bernard Beckerman

Principal Scientist, RETRA LLC

Dr. Bernard Beckerman is a Principal Scientist and the managing member of RETRA LLC,

an environmental health sciences consulting firm specializing in exposure assessment, toxicology, epidemiology, product safety, statistical analysis, and regulatory risk assessment. He has worked as a consulting scientist for more than 20 years, assisting manufacturers, attorneys, insurers, and other organizations in evaluating complex environmental, occupational, and consumer-product chemical exposures.

A principal focus of Dr. Beckerman's practice is California's Proposition 65. He has conducted exposure and risk evaluations for foods, consumer products, personal care products, and products used in occupational and industrial settings. His work includes evaluating product formulations and reasonably anticipated use patterns, developing testing strategies and interpreting laboratory results, reconstructing potential doses, and comparing estimated exposures with Proposition 65 Safe Harbor Levels. He has also evaluated naturally occurring chemical exemptions, developed cancer and reproductive/developmental warning levels where the state has not established them, and determined relevant exposure-averaging periods for chemicals associated with reproductive or developmental harm. These analyses assist clients in evaluating warning obligations, documenting exemptions due to minimal exposure or no significant risk, and formulating scientifically supported positions for compliance and litigation issues. He has supported both proactive compliance programs and matters arising from Proposition 65 notices and litigation.

In addition to Proposition 65, Dr. Beckerman has conducted food and product evaluations under regulatory frameworks administered by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration, the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission, and various state agencies. He has also provided expert opinions in litigation and insurance matters involving a range of environmental and occupational exposures, including PFAS, ethylene oxide, chlorinated solvents, oil and gas emissions, and wildfire smoke and residue.

His broader consulting experience includes assessments of the Aliso Canyon natural gas release, oil and gas operations near residential communities, industrial fires, and community air-quality programs. He also participated in a multi-year project for the Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board evaluating potential health hazards from the use of treated produced water for food-crop irrigation.

Dr. Beckerman has authored or co-authored more than 30 peer-reviewed publications and government reports. His work has informed the scientific basis for the development of the United States National Ambient Air Quality Standards. He earned his Ph.D. in Environmental Health Sciences from the University of California, Berkeley.

Greg Berlin

Partner, Alston & Bird

Greg Berlin represents well known corporations in high-stakes environmental, chemical, and product litigation. Clients rely on Greg's courtroom experience and creative litigation strategies when dealing with NGOs, bounty hunters, plaintiffs' lawyers, and regulators. He has been involved in trials and precedent-setting cases affecting the way highly regulated industries do business in California.

Greg's environmental practice spans nearly every major environmental statute, and includes counseling on issues concerning contaminated properties, climate change, water quality, listed species, and environmental review under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). His experience includes citizen suit defense, Administrative Procedure Act challenges, toxic tort defense, and claims brought by and against federal and state agencies.

In his chemical and product practice, Greg advises and defends companies in hundreds of matters regarding Proposition 65. He has handled Proposition 65 private enforcement actions brought by nearly every bounty hunter and has defended cases involving a broad array of chemicals. Greg also counsels clients on California's Green Chemistry Law and Safer Consumer Products Regulations, and issues concerning emerging contaminants, including PFAS and microplastics.

Kimberly Gates Johnson

Partner, Seven Hills LLP

Kimberly Gates Johnson is Partner at Seven Hills LLP. She is a general civil litigation attorney, with significant experience in Proposition 65, representing both plaintiffs and defendants alike since 2012. Prior to entering the law, Ms. Johnson worked for 15 years in radio, print and digital advertising and media. She received her Bachelor of Journalism from the University of Texas at Austin and her J.D. from Santa Clara University School of Law with an Intellectual Property law certificate.

Judith Praitis

Partner, Faegre Drinker Biddle & Reath

Judith Praitis counsels clients on environmental transactional issues and on air, water and waste management permitting, compliance, release reporting and enforcement issues under California and federal law. With decades of experience in environmental law, Judith is a trusted source of legal and business guidance for clients working to develop and implement environmental management systems, audit compliance protocols, and anticipate and adapt to emerging regulatory environments. Judith has particular experience managing complex environmental matters for distressed entities, or those with material legacy environmental liabilities, to orchestrate a controlled resolution of such obligations. She is particularly adept at crafting novel settlements with governmental regulators and prosecutors. Judith advises clients on compliance with and, if necessary, litigation of, Proposition 65 matters, particularly those involving the food and supplement industries and other consumer products. She assists clients with compliance under many of California's product- and chemical-specific regulatory regimes, including the Green Chemistry Initiative.

Judith's Proposition 65 representations include some of the most significant and complex matters involving the legislation, including several prosecuted by the Office of the Attorney General of the State of California. Her Proposition 65 work includes cases involving:

- Bottled water
- Chocolate
- Ginseng
- Progesterone creams
- Brass fixtures
- Children's vitamins
- Dietary supplements
- Supplements containing alcohol
- Meal replacement bars
- Textiles
- Glassware
- Electrical cords
- Plastic and vinyl products
- Alleged exposures at hotels

Education

Harvard Law School

J.D. in Law, cum laude (1988)

University of Chicago

A.B. in Political Science, with honors, Phi Beta Kappa (1985)

Professional Associations

Environmental Law Institute — Leadership Council Member

American Bar Foundation — Fellow

Proposition 65 Advisory Board

Annual California Cliff Conference — Co-chair

2016 Proposition 65 Clearinghouse Annual Conference — Chair