

**NAME OF EVENT:** Corporate Conduct in the COVID-19 Crisis

(This event has been approved for 1 hour of California MCLE credit.)

**DATE | TIME | LOCATION:** May 19, 2020 | 1:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m. ET | Briefing Call

**BRIEF DESCRIPTION:** As states across the country begin to relax stay-at-home orders [despite public health experts' serious concerns](#), corporate America is poised to be one of the most important players in the pandemic. At-risk industries like grocery stores, meatpacking and poultry plants, transportation services, and warehouses, such as Amazon fulfillment centers, have been criticized for not taking adequate steps to protect their workers. And as non-essential businesses take the first steps to bring employees and customers back, some companies have retaliated against whistleblowers and aligned with congressional leaders to advocate for legislation that would protect [businesses from liability](#) for behavior that may unnecessarily expose employees and consumers to the risk of COVID-19 infection. Meanwhile, neither the CDC nor OSHA have issued mandates that employers implement any protective measures. Join ACS for a discussion of what employees and consumers can and should expect from corporate America during a public health crisis.

**SPEAKERS' NAMES AND BIOS:**

[Russ Feingold](#), President, American Constitution Society

[Rebecca Dixon](#), Executive Director, National Employment Law Project

[Heidi Li Feldman](#), Professor of Law, Georgetown University Law Center

[Deepak Gupta](#), Principal, Gupta Wessler PLLC

Christopher Wright Durocher, Senior Director of Policy and Program, ACS, *Moderator*

**AGENDA OF CONFERENCE CALL:**

5 minutes introduction

35 minutes speakers' presentations

20 minutes Q&A

5 minutes conclusion

**MATERIALS FOR CALL:**

*Examining Liability During the COVID-19 Pandemic: Hearing Before the S. Comm. on the Judiciary, 116th Cong. (2020)* ([statement of Rebecca Dixon](#), Executive Director, National Employment Law Project).

*Examining Liability During the COVID-19 Pandemic: Hearing Before the S. Comm. on the Judiciary*, 116th Cong. (2020) ([statement of David Vladeck](#), A.B. Chettle Chair in Civil Procedure, Georgetown University Law Center).

Heidi Li Feldman, [We Need to Provide Resources for COVID-19 Victims, Not Tort Immunity for Businesses](#), ACS EXPERT FORUM (May 11, 2020).

[Letter](#) from Hon. Elizabeth Warren, U.S. Senator, et al., to Jeff Bezos, President, Chief Executive Officer, and Chairman, Amazon.com, Inc. (May 6, 2020).

Kate Conger, [Senators Want to Know if Amazon Retaliated Against Whistle-Blowers](#), N.Y. TIMES (May 7, 2020).

Tim Bray, [Bye, Amazon](#), ONGOING (May 4, 2020).

[Letter](#) from 202 Worker Rights, Public Health, and Consumer Advocacy Orgs. to Members of the U.S. Cong. Regarding the COVID-19 Every Worker Protection Act of 2020 (Apr. 29, 2020).

Press Release, Public Justice, [Smithfield Workers Ask Court to Force Company to Protect Them From COVID-19](#) (April 24, 2020).

[Complaint](#), Rural Comty. Workers All. v. Smithfield Food, Inc., No. 5:20-cv-06063-DGK (W.D. Mo. Apr. 23, 2020).

Liz Crampton, [Court Orders Meat Company to Protect Workers at Missouri Plant](#), POLITICO (Apr. 27, 2020).

CTRS. FOR DISEASE CONTROL AND PREVENTION & OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY AND HEALTH ADMIN., U.S. DEP'T OF LABOR, [INTERIM GUIDANCE FOR MANUFACTURING WORKERS AND EMPLOYERS](#) (May 12, 2020).

CTRS. FOR DISEASE CONTROL AND PREVENTION & OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY AND HEALTH ADMIN., U.S. DEP'T OF LABOR, [INTERIM GUIDANCE FOR MEAT AND POULTRY PROCESSING WORKERS AND EMPLOYERS](#) (MAY 12, 2020).

CTRS. FOR DISEASE CONTROL AND PREVENTION, [INTERIM GUIDANCE FOR BUSINESSES AND EMPLOYERS RESPONDING TO CORONAVIRUS DISEASE 2019 \(COVID-19\)](#) (May 6, 2020).

OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY AND HEALTH ADMIN., U.S. DEP'T OF LABOR, [GUIDANCE ON PREPARING WORKPLACES FOR COVID-19](#) (2020).