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Companies face increasingly well-coordinated attacks in jurisdictions across the country. These assaults are becoming more complex and costly as plaintiffs' counsel pursue novel theories and claims to keep asbestos litigation thriving. Husch Blackwell's team has experience in numerous jurisdictions throughout 37 states. Our attorneys can help you navigate the intricate web of plaintiffs' firms, changing laws, evolving science and anti-defendant courts.

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New Developments

Illinois Governor Signs Law Creating Exception to Illinois Workers' Compensation Exclusivity for Latent Injuries

By [Andrew German](#)

On May 17, 2019, Illinois Governor Pritzker signed legislation eliminating the state's 25-year statute of repose under the Workers' Compensation Act for latent diseases, overturning the prominent Supreme Court decision in *Folta v. Ferro Engineering*, which established clear precedent that an employee's exclusive remedy lies under either the Workers' Compensation or Occupational Diseases Act. Under the old law, an employee did not have a civil tort cause of action against their employer. This new law now creates an exception to the traditional exclusive remedy provision that has been part of the Illinois Workers' Compensation system for over 80 years. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

Illinois Asserts Personal Jurisdiction Based On National Advertising and Ongoing Relationship With Several In-State Customers

By [Lauren Waxler](#)

The First District recently held that the district court had personal jurisdiction over a Texas-based company because of that company's national advertising scheme and small repeat customer base in Illinois. In *Schaefer v. Synergy Flight Center*, Plaintiffs alleged that Defendant RAM Aircraft, L.P., negligently overhauled, repaired, and tested an aircraft's left engine and other parts, and that the negligent repair caused the aircraft to crash in Illinois, killing its seven passengers. RAM was a Texas-based limited partnership that predominately made its income by overhauling aircraft engines. RAM performed its work in Texas and had no office or property in Illinois. RAM did, however, advertise in a nationally distributed magazine and Illinois customers historically accounted for 1-2.5% of its revenues. The particular engine in question was overhauled by RAM in Texas, who shipped it to a company in Indiana, who then shipped it to an Illinois flight center for installation. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

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