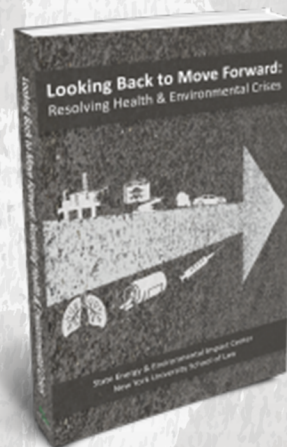


Looking Back to Move Forward: Resolving Health & Environmental Crises

The U.S. legal system was built to address predictable health and environmental injuries, but it can seize up when health or environmental crises combine legally-confounding fact patterns with huge humanitarian and financial stakes. Because these crises present serious societal challenges, however, they must be addressed and resolved in an open, fair, and equitable fashion.

Looking Back to Move Forward: Resolving Health & Environmental Crises, released by the State Energy & Environmental Impact Center at the New York University School of Law, describes the tools that advocates, judges, legislators, and policymakers have applied to address and resolve—with varying levels of success—seven major health and environmental crises of our time.



From Diethylstilbestrol to Dieselgate, the seven defining moments provide a rich source of insights that can inform and guide how the legal system responds to future health and environmental crises—including some already on our doorstep, such as the opioid epidemic and our rapidly changing climate.

For more information, visit:
www.law.nyu.edu/centers/state-impact/settlements-project



State Energy &
Environmental
Impact Center
NYU SCHOOL OF LAW

“Essential reading in understanding the policy implications of health and environmental tragedies. A cogent study of when our Courts work effectively—and when they don’t. What are the competing alternatives? You’ll find the answers here.”

Kenneth R. Feinberg, Administrator of the September 11 Victim Compensation Fund & the BP Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill Fund



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CHAPTERS

**Synthesizing Lessons
Learned From Seven
Major Crises**

**Diethylstilbestrol
and the Birth of
Market-Share Liability**

**A Complex
Achievement:
The Tobacco Master
Settlement Agreement**

**Response to Vaccine
Immunity: The National
Childhood Vaccine
Injury Act and Its
Consequences**

**Courts as Policymakers:
The Uneven Justice of
Asbestos Mass Tort
Litigation**

**Superfund at 40:
Unfulfilled Expectations**

Deepwater Horizon

**The Volkswagen
“Dieselgate” Clean Air
Act Settlement**

“Looking Back to Move Forward: Resolving Health & Environmental Crises offers a timely master class on the strategies and tools used by advocates, judges, legislators, and policymakers to resolve some of the most high-profile—and vexing—health and environmental challenges of our time, from tobacco exposure to VW’s diesel deception. Packed with detail, *Looking Back* distills key guiding principles, replicable models and pitfalls to avoid. As we continue to confront complex crises, like the existential threat of climate change and the epidemic of opioid addiction—both fueled by corporate deception and denial—we can draw on these crisply rendered lessons learned to protect the health of our communities and environment and hold accountable those who violate the law.”

Massachusetts Attorney General Maura Healey

“Sweeping in scope yet exquisite in detail, Looking Back to Move Forward chronicles the most serious health and environmental crises of the past century. By tallying what our courts and policymakers got wrong and right, the volume is an essential resource for those confronting today’s challenges—and those who will address calamities to come.”

Professor Nora Freeman Engstrom, Stanford Law School

“When the health and environmental threats of the 21st century feel unsurmountable, this book reminds us that our judicial system can help meet enormous challenges, as prosecutors and lawyers showed with tobacco. By focusing on past approaches to major settlements, the State Impact Center illustrates how the law helps confront pressing issues, like climate change, when other branches are captive to industry influence.”

U.S. Senator Sheldon Whitehouse (Rhode Island)

“Health and environmental disasters test our resolve as a society to achieve justice. The State Energy & Environmental Impact Center has put together an extraordinary collection of clear, well-written essays addressing how past health and environmental disasters have been handled, emphasizing the lessons learned from lawyers, courts, and policy makers that will aid in responding to future disasters. This book delivers powerful and insightful information that goes beyond the typical superficial treatment of managing the consequences of a natural disaster.”

Allen Kanner, Kanner & Whitely L.L.C., Lead Counsel for the State of Louisiana in the Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill Litigation