

# HART | KING



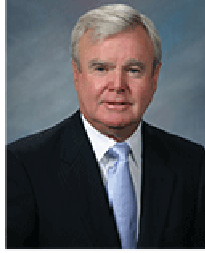
## Asbestos Ruling DECEMBER 7, 2016

On Thursday, December 1, 2016 the California Supreme Court issued a 7-0 decision concerning potential employer and property owner liability for exposure of individuals to asbestos in the workplace or on their property. As a result, both of those classes of persons/entities may now be held liable for harm caused by secondary exposure to asbestos. The decision continues a long line of tort liability cases in California stretching back decades.

It is of particular note that the decision was 7-0. Because the decision is unanimous, it is clear that the highest court in California has strongly concluded that the same policy issues that came into play for adopting comparative negligence, and other far-reaching tort liability decisions in the past, now apply to asbestos exposure. What the practical impact of this decision will be remains unknown. Asbestos, of course, has not been a common material used in residential construction for many years.

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Mobile Home Practice Group



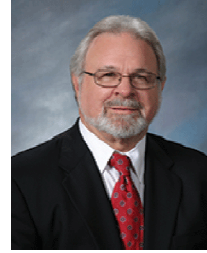
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