

MARCH 18, 2021 | EVENTS

## Update about the Chemical Safety Board [Webinar Recording]

On March 16, 2021, [Eric J. Conn](#), [Micah Smith](#) and [Beeta B. Lashkari](#) presented a webinar regarding “[Update about the Chemical Safety Board](#).”

For a small agency, a lot happened at the U.S. Chemical Safety and Hazard Investigation Board (the CSB) last year – and not all related to the COVID-19 pandemic. For example, the CSB promulgated an accidental release reporting rule, requiring employers to report certain chemical incidents to the CSB. Although the rule went into effect last Spring, the CSB set a 1-year enforcement “grace period” to allow time for the regulated community to become familiar with the rule,

and for the Agency to develop guidance about the new rule. With the grace period ending later this month, on March 23, 2021, it is critical for employers to understand their new compliance obligations.

In addition, with expired terms, early departures, and the swearing in of a new Chairperson (but no other Board members), the CSB’s Board became a “quorum of one” for the first time, begging questions about its authority to vote on mission-critical work product, such as investigation reports, and its ability to conduct the agency’s business. Although Pres. Biden will likely nominate new Board Members, the Senate confirmation process can be a slog, meaning the CSB may maintain a quorum of one for an extended period.

Participants in this webinar learned about:

- The CSB’s Accidental Release Reporting Rule requirements



- Board governance with a quorum of one
- Impact of new Biden-appointed Board member nominees
- Status of staffing & hiring efforts
- New investigations, case studies & other work product

We are pleased to share these links to [a copy of the slides](#), [a recording of the webinar](#), and a [written Q&A document](#) to address your questions throughout the webinar.

This was the 5th regularly scheduled webinar event in Conn Maciel Carey's [2021 OSHA Webinar Series](#). Click [here](#) to view our full schedule, detailed program descriptions for all of the webinars in the [2021 OSHA Webinar Series](#). If you missed any of our past webinars in our annual OSHA Webinar Series, [click here to subscribe to our YouTube channel](#) and view our webinar archive.



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For resources on issues related to COVID-19, please visit Conn Maciel Carey's [COVID-19 Resource Page](#) for an [extensive index of frequently asked questions](#) with our answers about HR, employment law, and OSHA regulatory developments and guidance, as well as COVID-19 recordkeeping and reporting flow charts. Likewise, subscribe to our [Employer Defense Report](#) blog and [OSHA Defense Report](#) blog for regular updates about the Labor and Employment Law or OSHA implications of COVID-19 in the workplace. Conn Maciel Carey's COVID-19 Task Force is monitoring federal, state, and local developments closely and is continuously updating these blogs and the FAQ page with the latest news and resources for employers.