

Benesch Partner J. Erik Connolly Featured in L.A. Times How To Manage Litigation Roundtable

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Litigation Managing Chair [J. Erik Connolly](#) was featured in the L.A. Times **How To Manage Litigation Roundtable** exploring the evolving landscape of litigation management for businesses.

The discussion covers how trial law has changed in recent years, the impact of technology and regulatory shifts, and increasing contentiousness in courtrooms, while emphasizing the importance of strategic, ROI-based decision-making, proactive risk mitigation and clear communication throughout the litigation process. Panelists also discuss actionable insights on balancing litigation costs with business benefits, identifying and mitigating litigation triggers, deciding when to fight or settle, managing public relations during lawsuits, and leveraging insurance for risk management.

Erik highlights the increased contentiousness in litigation and stresses the need for lawyers to balance assertive advocacy with professionalism and integrity, noting *"Polarization in the broader political climate is finding its way into the courtroom, and at times, that heightened intensity can test the boundaries of candor and professionalism."*

Additionally, Erik advocates for treating litigation as a business decision, balancing risk management and innovation. *"Agile compliance processes-clear policies, rapid escalation channels and practical training-along with open lines of communication with outside counsel will enable businesses to innovate confidently while protecting long-term stability and reputation. Attorneys are naturally risk-averse, but the goal should be helping clients get to a "yes" with minimal exposure, not blocking progress and innovation."*

Read the full discussion in the [L.A. Times](#).