



JOHN P. WYATT, M.D.

Environment and Health Symposium

April 04, 2024, 9 am - 2 pm (Zoom option is available)
Rosenberg College of Law Grand Courtroom

Public Health in Action Panel | Facilitated Discussion with Keynote Speaker | Poster Session



Keynote Speaker

Arthur Frank, MD, PhD

Director Professor and Chair Emeritus, Department of Environmental and Occupational Health at the Dornsife School of Public Health at Drexel University and Professor of Medicine

Minerals, Plants, and Policy: Public Health in Action

Coal and Asbestos, Agriculture Work, and Policy Implications including Legal Activities

In Partnership with the University of Kentucky Office of the Vice President for Research and Universities and Organizations across the Commonwealth.



PANEL

“PUBLIC HEALTH IN ACTION”

THE SYMPOSIUM WILL INCLUDE A PANEL OF COMMITTED LEADERS FOCUSING ON SIGNIFICANT PUBLIC HEALTH ISSUES THAT IMPACT MANY KENTUCKIANS.



PANELIST: CHERYL WITT, PHD, RN

UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY, AGRICULTURE EXTENSION SPECIALIST SENIOR AT THE MARTIN-GATTON COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE, FOOD, AND ENVIRONMENT

“ADDRESSING THE TOTAL WORKER HEALTH OF FARMERS”

Dr. Witt is an Ag Extension Specialist Senior at the Martin-Gatton College of Agriculture, Food, and Environment; otherwise known as the Ag Nurse. She uses her 30-year plus nursing experience and love for farm families to pursue her research interest of improving the health and safety of farmers and farm families.

Dr. Witt, along with the Kentucky Department of Agriculture, initiated a collaborative group of key stakeholders from across the state to address the levels of stress, depressive symptoms, and suicide among our farmers as well as to promote the physical health and safety in our farmers. She uses outreach, research, collaboration, education and mainly a boots-on-the-ground approach to provide the farmers and farm families what they need where they need it.



PANELIST: JESSICA DEAN, ESQ.

LAW OFFICES OF DEAN OMAR BRANHAM SHIRLEY

“ASBESTOS AND TALC – HOW THE LEGAL PROFESSION IS PART OF PUBLIC HEALTH”

One of the highlights of my career is working with public health professionals who teach me about their field to prepare me to best represent my client. This collaborative effort is a vital check in our system to stop actions that harm health and promote changes to industry actions in a way that demands consideration to the health consequences of corporate conduct.

Jessica Dean is a trial attorney with over ten years of experience representing injured workers in a variety of cases including mesothelioma, medical malpractice, and employment law cases. Jessica was born and raised in St. Louis, Missouri. She is one of eight children. She is the first in her family to graduate college. She went to undergrad in Boston, law school in Austin and now has a firm in Dallas.



PANELIST: THOMAS C. TUCKER, PHD, MPH

UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY, PROFESSOR IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EPIDEMIOLOGY AND ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH, AND SENIOR DIRECTOR FOR CANCER SURVEILLANCE AT THE MARKEY CANCER CENTER

“REDUCING THE BURDEN OF CANCER IN KENTUCKY”

This presentation will focus on the major cancers (Lung and colorectal cancer) that impact Kentuckians, the impressive progress we have made reducing the burden of these cancers, and the environmental exposures that continue to drive high incidence rates of these cancers.

Thomas C. Tucker, PhD, MPH, was the founding chair of the Department of Epidemiology at the University of Kentucky’s College of Public Health and is currently a Professor in the Department of Epidemiology and Environmental Health. He is also the Senior Director for Cancer Surveillance at the University of Kentucky’s Markey Cancer Center. He is an internationally recognized population scientist with more than 45 years of experience in cancer surveillance and cancer control research. Dr. Tucker’s research is focused on disparities in the burden of lung, colorectal, breast and cervical cancer with an emphasis on rural and Appalachian populations. More recently he has been engaged in research using the population-based cancer registry as a Virtual Tissue Repository.