

Study Aims to Gauge Litigant Satisfaction in Women's Health MDLs

University of Georgia School of Law professor Elizabeth Chamblee Burch is performing a study focusing on women's health MDLs, including the pelvic mesh litigation, the talc litigation and the litigations involving birth control drugs, like Yasmin/Yaz.

By [Max Mitchell](/author/profile/Max-Mitchell/) | December 17, 2018 at 02:39 PM



<https://images.law.com/contrib/content/uploads/sites/292/2018/12/survey-Article-201812171934.jpg> Photo: Shutterstock

Many law review articles have been written about the procedural challenges for lawyers and judges when it comes to handling multidistrict litigation, but few studies have focused on what hurdles litigants may face when their cases are part of large consolidated actions.

One law professor is looking to change that with a study she is **undertaking** (<https://www.elizabethchambleeburch.com/womens-mdls>) that seeks to hear from litigants who have brought a claim through the MDL process.

University of Georgia School of Law professor Elizabeth Chamblee Burch is performing a study focusing on women's health MDLs, including the **pelvic mesh** (<https://www.law.com/thelegalintelligencer/2018/12/04/pelvic-mesh-mdl-leadership-defends-settlement-record-as-infighting-ramps-up/>) litigation, the **talc litigation** (<https://www.law.com/thelegalintelligencer/2018/11/02/plaintiffs-lawyers-fight-to-keep-4-7b-talc-verdict-citing-jjs-perfect-storm-of-misconduct/>) and the litigations involving birth control drugs, like **Yasmin/Yaz** (<https://www.law.com/thelegalintelligencer/almID/1202733834634/bayer-agrees-to-569m-settlement-program-for-yaz-claims/>). The study consists of a

Trending Stories

- 1 [Lawyer Identified as Attacker in New York Subway Incident](https://www.law.com/2018/12/1/identified-as-attacker-in-new-york-subway-incident/)**
(<https://www.law.com/2018/12/1/identified-as-attacker-in-new-york-subway-incident/>)
THE AMERICAN LAWYER
(/AMERICANLAWYER/)
- 2 [Backlash Mounts Against Attorney Whose Racist Rant Went Viral](https://www.law.com/2018/05/1/mounts-against-attorney-whose-racist-rant-went-viral/)**
(<https://www.law.com/2018/05/1/mounts-against-attorney-whose-racist-rant-went-viral/>)
THE AMERICAN LAWYER
(/AMERICANLAWYER/)
- 3 [Manhattan Attorney Decried as Racist Apologizes on Twitter](https://www.law.com/newyork/attorney-decried-as-racist-apologizes-on-twitter/)**
(<https://www.law.com/newyork/attorney-decried-as-racist-apologizes-on-twitter/>)
NEW YORK LAW JOURNAL
(/NEWYORKLAWJOURNAL/)
- 4 [Slideshow: A Roundup of Memorable Images From Justice Carol Hunstein's Career](https://www.law.com/dailyreport/a-roundup-of-memorable-images-from-justice-carol-hunstein's-career/)**
(<https://www.law.com/dailyreport/a-roundup-of-memorable-images-from-justice-carol-hunstein's-career/>)
DAILY REPORT ONLINE
(/DAILYREPORTONLINE/)
- 5 [Wife's Dying Word Pushed DA to Seek Tex McIver Murder Charge](https://www.law.com/2018/08/1/dying-word-pushed-da-to-seek-tex-mciver-murder-charge/)**
(<https://www.law.com/2018/08/1/dying-word-pushed-da-to-seek-tex-mciver-murder-charge/>)
DAILY REPORT ONLINE
(/DAILYREPORTONLINE/)

Although many complaints express dissatisfaction with the system as a whole, Burch said she hopes the study will help tease out exactly where the problem areas might be.

With more than 100,000 women involved at its peak, the pelvic mesh MDL was one of the largest consolidated actions ever, according to mass tort attorneys. It is far from the first large-scale litigation where claimants have been openly frustrated with the system—in particular, the \$1 billion class settlement the NFL reached regarding former players with concussion-related injuries has also recently **come under scrutiny** (<https://www.si.com/nfl/2018/10/23/NFL-players-brain-trauma-settlements-receive-little>).

When asked whether dissatisfaction typically always increases the larger the litigation is, or whether dissatisfaction appears to be increasing on the whole, Burch said she can't say for sure, but the study may help provide an answer in the future.

"We don't have a baseline," Burch said. "We don't know how happy people used to be."

[f SHARE ON FACEBOOK](#)

[t SHARE ON TWITTER](#)

Max Mitchell

Max Mitchell is a reporter with The Legal Intelligencer, focusing on litigation in Pennsylvania with a specific emphasis on Philadelphia courts. Follow him on Twitter @MMitchellTLI.



[./author/profile/Max-Mitchell/](/author/profile/Max-Mitchell/)

[More from this author → ./author/profile/Max-Mitchell/](/author/profile/Max-Mitchell/)

Dig Deeper

[Mass Torts \(/topics/mass-torts/\)](/topics/mass-torts/)

[Legal Services \(/topics/legal-services/\)](/topics/legal-services/)

Recommended Stories

[THE AMERICAN LAWYER \(HTTPS://WWW.LAW.COM/AMERICANLAWYER/\)](https://www.law.com/americanlawyer/)

Law Firms 'Innovate for Show,' Says Ex-SeyfarthLean CEO
(https://www.law.com/2018/12/17/law-firms-innovate-for-show-says-ex-seyfarthlean-ceo/)

[ROY STROM \(/AMERICANLAWYER/AUTHOR/PROFILE/ROY-STROM/\)](/AMERICANLAWYER/AUTHOR/PROFILE/ROY-STROM/)
| DECEMBER 17, 2018

Too many law firms fail to measure the results of their innovation efforts, says a former leader of a well-known Big Law innovation department.



[\(https://www.law.com/2018/12/17/law-firms-innovate-for-show-says-ex-seyfarthlean-ceo/\)](https://www.law.com/2018/12/17/law-firms-innovate-for-show-says-ex-seyfarthlean-ceo/)

Featured Firms

Law Offices of Mark E. Salomone

2 OLIVER ST #608
BOSTON, MA 02109
857-444-6468www.marksalomone.com

Gary Martin Hays & Associates P.C.

235 PEACHTREE ST NE #400
ATLANTA, GA 30303
800-898-4297www.garymartinhays.com

Smith & Hassler

225 N LOOP W #525

Lawyers Duel Over \$503M Fee Award in Syngenta Corn Settlement **(<https://www.law.com/2018/12/17/lawyers-duel-over-503m-fee-award-in-syngenta-corn-settlement/>)**

AMANDA BRONSTAD (/AUTHOR/PROFILE/AMANDA-BRONSTAD/) | DECEMBER 17, 2018

Lawyers from 15 law firms, including Texas plaintiffs attorney Mikal Watts, tussled in court Monday over who should get what in the GMO corn settlement with Syngenta.



(<https://www.law.com/2018/12/17/lawyers-duel-over-503m-fee-award-in-syngenta-corn-settlement/>)

HOUSTON, TX 77008
(877) 777-1529www.smithandhassler.com

Presented by BigVoodoc

THE AMERICAN LAWYER
([HTTPS://WWW.LAW.COM/AMERICANLAWYER/](https://www.law.com/2018/12/14/lawyer-identified-as-attacker-in-new-york-subway-incident/))

Lawyer Identified as Attacker in New York Subway Incident **(<https://www.law.com/2018/12/14/lawyer-identified-as-attacker-in-new-york-subway-incident/>)**

SCOTT FLAHERTY (/AMERICANLAWYER/AUTHOR/PROFILE/SCOTT-FLAHERTY/) | DECEMBER 14, 2018

Viral videos in 2018 have captured not one, but two, New York City lawyers directing racially charged comments at bystanders.



(<https://www.law.com/2018/12/14/lawyer-identified-as-attacker-in-new-york-subway-incident/>)

More from ALM

Corporate Announcements



Strategies for Preventing and Responding to a Data Breach **(http://americanlawyer.tradepub.com/free/w_r)**

FROM EPIQ

Learn proactive strategies to protect your firm from a data breach, your obligations in responding to an incident, and the risks you face if a breach occurs.

Download Now >
(http://americanlawyer.tradepub.com/free/w_r)



How In-House Counsel can Take Law Firm Selection to the Next Level **(http://corpcounsel.tradepub.com/free/w_r)**

FROM LEX MACHINA

Technological innovations are changing how In-house counsel are comparing, and ultimately selecting law firm counsel. Learn what's possible and how your organization's bottom line can benefit.

Download Now >
(http://corpcounsel.tradepub.com/free/w_r)



2018 Ethics & Compliance Third-Party Risk Management Benchmark Report **(http://corpcounsel.tradepub.com/free/w_r)**

FROM NAVEX GLOBAL

Use this report to assess your third-party program maturity, gain organizational buy-in and understand the value of a comprehensive third-party due diligence program.

Download Now >
(http://corpcounsel.tradepub.com/free/w_r)

ALM Legal Publication Newsletters

Sign Up Today and Never Miss Another Story.

As part of your digital membership, you can sign up for an unlimited number of a wide range of complimentary newsletters. Visit your [My Account \(https://store.law.com/Registration/myAccount.aspx?promoCode=PAR#/EmailPref\)](https://store.law.com/Registration/myAccount.aspx?promoCode=PAR#/EmailPref) page to make your selections. Get the timely legal news and critical analysis you cannot afford to miss. Tailored just for you. In your inbox. Every day.

Subscribe Now

(<https://store.law.com/Registration/myAccount?promoCode=PAR#/EmailPref>)
[Privacy Policy - Updated](#)
(<https://www.alm.com/privacy-policy-new/>)

FOLLOW US



<https://www.facebook.com/LawdotcomALM/>



<https://twitter.com/lawdotcom>



<https://plus.google.com/105568464779205123032/posts>



<https://www.linkedin.com/company/25021727/>



<http://feeds.feedblitz.com/law/legal-news/>

Publications

[The American Lawyer \(/americanlawyer/\)](/americanlawyer/)
[Corporate Counsel \(/corpcounsel/\)](/corpcounsel/)
[National Law Journal \(/nationallawjournal/\)](/nationallawjournal/)
[New York Law Journal \(/newyorklawjournal/\)](/newyorklawjournal/)
[New Jersey Law Journal \(/njlawjournal/\)](/njlawjournal/)
[The Recorder \(/therecorder/\)](/therecorder/)
[More Publications > \(/publications/\)](/publications/)

Law Topics

[Litigation \(/topics/litigation/\)](/topics/litigation/)
[Deals and Transactions \(/topics/deals-and-transactions/\)](/topics/deals-and-transactions/)
[Law Firm Management \(/topics/law-firm-management/\)](/topics/law-firm-management/)
[Legal Practice Management \(/topics/legal-practice-management/\)](/topics/legal-practice-management/)
[Cybersecurity \(/topics/cybersecurity/\)](/topics/cybersecurity/)
[Intellectual Property \(/topics/intellectual-property/\)](/topics/intellectual-property/)
[More Law Topics > \(/topics/\)](/topics/)

Rankings

[Am Law 100 \(/americanlawyer/rankings/the-2018-am-law-100-1/\)](/americanlawyer/rankings/the-2018-am-law-100-1/)
[Am Law 200 \(/americanlawyer/rankings/the-2018-am-law-200--the-american-lawyer/\)](/americanlawyer/rankings/the-2018-am-law-200--the-american-lawyer/)
[Global 100 \(/americanlawyer/rankings/global-100/\)](/americanlawyer/rankings/global-100/)
[National Law Journal 500 \(/nationallawjournal/rankings/the-nlj-500/\)](/nationallawjournal/rankings/the-nlj-500/)
[Pro Bono Scorecard \(/americanlawyer/rankings/pro-bono/\)](/americanlawyer/rankings/pro-bono/)
[The A-List \(/americanlawyer/rankings/a-list/\)](/americanlawyer/rankings/a-list/)
[More Rankings > \(/rankings/\)](/rankings/)

More

[Events \(/events/\)](/events/)
[Legal Compass \(https://www.alm.com/intelligence/solutions-we-provide/business-of-law-solutions/legal-compass/\)](https://www.alm.com/intelligence/solutions-we-provide/business-of-law-solutions/legal-compass/)
[Editorial Calendar \(/editorial-calendar/\)](/editorial-calendar/)
[Briefings \(/static/briefings/\)](/static/briefings/)
[Legal Dictionary \(https://dictionary.law.com/\)](https://dictionary.law.com/)
[Lawjobs.com \(http://lawjobs.com/\)](http://lawjobs.com/)
[Law Firms \(/law-firms/\)](/law-firms/)
[Law Schools \(/topics/legal-education/\)](/topics/legal-education/)

Law.com

[About Us \(/static/about-us/\)](/static/about-us/)
[Contact Us \(/static/contact-us/\)](/static/contact-us/)
[Site Map \(/sitemap/\)](/sitemap/)
[Advertise With Us \(/static/advertise-with-us/\)](/static/advertise-with-us/)
[Customer Support \(https://www.alm.com/contact-us/\)](https://www.alm.com/contact-us/)
[Terms of Service \(https://www.alm.com/terms-of-use/\)](https://www.alm.com/terms-of-use/)
[FAQ](#)
[FAQ \(/sites/almstaff/2017/10/20/frequently-asked-questions/\)](/sites/almstaff/2017/10/20/frequently-asked-questions/)
[Privacy Policy - Updated \(https://www.alm.com/privacy-policy-new/\)](https://www.alm.com/privacy-policy-new/)

