



## **Shook Taps Three Top Trial Lawyers to Head Product Liability Practice**

**Miami/Kansas City (August 10, 2022)** Preeminent trial firm Shook, Hardy & Bacon has selected two noted trial lawyers to join partner [Hildy Sastre](#) in leading the firm’s powerhouse Product Liability Litigation Practice, which she has co-chaired since last year. Partner and firm Executive Committee member [Katie Gates Calderon](#) and former Miami office Managing Partner [Bill Geraghty](#) bring extensive trial and firm leadership experience to their new roles as co-chairs of the practice group, which has earned [elite Band 1 status](#) in nationwide Chambers rankings and been noted as the [busiest Product Liability defense firm](#) in the country.

“These practice chairs reflect the incredible depth of our product liability team,” said Shook Chair Madeleine McDonough. “We’re proud of our long history of winning complex product liability cases, and we are excited about these leaders guiding us into our next chapters.”

Shook has represented some of some of the largest pharmaceutical and medical device companies in the world, with client relationships dating back many decades. Businesses look to the firm to handle their most complex and contentious product liability cases, from MDLs, class actions, mass actions and multi-jurisdiction onslaughts of individual cases, as well as challenging individual cases. The sector is increasingly competitive as litigation financing has driven a rise in MDLs and other filings by plaintiffs’ firms.

Calderon has litigated cases in state and federal courts throughout the country, including those involving asbestos products, pharmaceuticals and tobacco. She also advises clients regarding FDA, USDA and FTC compliance. A lifelong competitor and accomplished athlete, she was, as an undergraduate, the captain of Harvard’s women’s basketball team.

Geraghty is an accomplished trial lawyer who has tried dozens of jury trials in high-stakes cases involving tens of millions of dollars in compensatory and punitive

damages. He has had tremendous success in the courtroom, winning six straight jury trials over a two-year period from 2013 to 2015, and earning defense verdicts throughout the state of Florida, including Miami, Fort Lauderdale, St. Petersburg, and Jacksonville. Geraghty and Sastre have a long professional history together, from law school at Georgetown to trying cases together, joining Shook in 1998, and co-managing the firm's Miami office.

"I'm thrilled to have Katie and Bill joining me as co-chairs," said Sastre. "Together, we'll be leading a team that spans 18 cities and serves clients doing business around the globe in an incredible range of industries."

The new Product Liability Litigation practice leadership team reflects Shook's commitment to promoting women in the workplace. Both Sastre and Calderon serve on Shook's Executive Committee which is composed of 45% women lawyers. Women make up 22% of office leadership, and 44% of practice group leadership are women at Shook.

To speak to a Shook attorney, contact Shook Media Relations Director Heather McMichael, 816.389.0419, [hmc michael@shb.com](mailto:hmc michael@shb.com).

### **About Shook, Hardy & Bacon**

Founded in 1889, Shook, Hardy & Bacon L.L.P. has 18 offices in the United States and London, with attorneys and professional staff serving clients in the health, science and technology sectors in areas ranging from product liability defense and business litigation to intellectual property prosecution and litigation, environmental and toxic tort, privacy and data security and regulatory counseling.