

Mark Hurt Law Firm Calls Attention to Rising Number of Serious Chemical Accidents in the U.S.

New accident data raises concerns about industrial safety, aging facilities, and the risks facing workers and nearby communities.

ABINGDON, VA, UNITED STATES, August 24, 2026 /EINPresswire.com/ -- [Mark Hurt Law Firm](#) is calling attention to a rise in serious chemical accidents across the United States and the risks these incidents may pose to workers, families, and communities near industrial facilities.

According to a Wall Street Journal analysis of data reported to the U.S. Chemical Safety and Hazard Investigation Board, 131 serious chemical accidents were reported in 2025, up 20% from 2024. Eighty-nine of those incidents involved at least one death or serious injury. Chemical accidents resulted in 48 deaths and 142 serious injuries during the year.

The increase is particularly significant for workers in industries that rely on hazardous chemicals, including manufacturing, paper production, refining, transportation, warehousing, and other industrial operations. It also raises concerns for people who live or work near facilities where a chemical release, fire, or explosion could affect the surrounding area.

“Workers should be able to go to work without facing preventable dangers caused by unsafe equipment or neglected safety measures,” said attorney Mark Hurt. “When a serious industrial accident happens, it is important to determine why it happened, whether warning signs were missed, and whether reasonable steps could have reduced the risk.”

The Wall Street Journal reported that former government officials and industry safety professionals have raised concerns about aging facilities and deferred maintenance. Investigations into serious chemical incidents have identified issues that may include deteriorating equipment, corroded piping, mechanical failures, and inadequate safety protections.

Determining what caused an industrial chemical accident can be difficult because several companies or contractors may be involved in operating or maintaining a facility. Plant operators may work alongside equipment suppliers, maintenance contractors, transportation providers, and other businesses with separate responsibilities.

For an injured worker or family, understanding what happened may require reviewing records that are not immediately available after the incident. Maintenance histories, inspection reports, safety procedures, training records, equipment information, and witness accounts may become important as investigators examine the cause of an accident.

Chemical incidents can also affect people outside the facility. Nearby residents may be ordered to evacuate or shelter in place, and symptoms from some chemical exposures may not appear immediately.

Mark Hurt Law Firm encourages workers and families affected by a serious chemical incident to take potential health concerns seriously, follow instructions from emergency officials, and preserve records related to their injuries and losses.

Depending on the circumstances, an injured person may have questions involving workers' compensation, third-party liability, defective equipment, or other legal issues. The options available depend on the facts of the incident and the parties involved.

Mark Hurt Law Firm represents injured individuals and families in Virginia and assists clients with serious workplace injury, [personal injury](#), and wrongful death matters. The firm can review the circumstances of an accident and explain what legal options may be available.

About The Mark Hurt Law Firm

With offices throughout Virginia, Tennessee, and West Virginia, The Mark Hurt Law Firm brings more than 30 years of legal experience to clients facing personal injury, motor vehicle accidents, workplace injuries, black lung claims, and wrongful death matters. The firm is committed to providing compassionate, results-driven representation and helping injured individuals and families move forward with confidence. For more information about the firm's personal injury practice or to schedule a free consultation, visit: <https://www.markhurtlawfirm.com>.

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