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Introduction

Welcome to the first edition of Kennedys' health and safety enforcement guide.

This guide covers the criminal aspects of health and safety law. It is a strange area for a claims handler in that, because decisions have to be made by the insured company, the claims handler can feel as if they have little control over the claim despite the fact that defence costs can be extremely significant.

In addition, claims for criminal investigations, whether they be by the police, Health and Safety Executive (HSE), Environment Agency (EA) or some other organisation, will not come before the claims handler as commonly as civil claims for which they will be responsible for themselves.

However, given the increasingly detailed nature of criminal investigations and the potential for large claims for defence costs, it is important to have an overview and understanding of criminal investigations and criminal court procedure.



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