



# The Champlain Tower Collapse: Analysis and Lessons Learned for Professional Design Firms

From viewing the webinar, you have learned about professional and legal impacts as well as the architect's responsibility to the public based upon this analysis of the events that occurred before and after the tragic collapse of the Champlain Towers in Surfside, Florida. The AIA Trust is pleased to provide AIA members with the opportunity to earn 1.5 AIA HSW Continuing Education System learning units (LUs) by answering the following 10 questions.

After viewing the webinar, write your name and member number on the completed test, scan, and email it to [AIATrust@aia.org](mailto:AIATrust@aia.org). After reviewing your test, you will be emailed the correct responses to any incorrect answers and the learning credit will be added to your online transcript.

1. Which of the following does not describe the Champlain Tower South?
  - a. Had a below-grade parking garage
  - b. Steel framed building with concrete floors
  - c. 12 Story residential building
  - d. Was undergoing a \$15M rehab in 2020
  
2. The initial collapse was observed by resident witnesses to occur in what portion of the building?
  - a. The west tower
  - b. The east tower
  - c. The pool deck/garage
  - d. None of the above
  
3. Why did the west tower remain standing following the total collapse of the east tower?
  - a. The west tower had a more robust structure
  - b. The shear wall between the west and east towers supported the west tower
  - c. Neither
  - d. Both
  
4. The authority in charge of determining the technical cause of the collapse is
  - a. NIST
  - b. NTSB
  - c. ASCE
  - d. ASTM

5. The pool deck collapsed into the lower garage level through what type of structural failure?
  - a. A punching shear of the slab
  - b. A slab shear failure
  - c. None of the above
  - d. Both
  
6. What are some of the leading items that are part of the investigators focus?
  - a. Overstressed pool deck
  - b. Structural design of the deck
  - c. Rebar corrosion
  - d. All of the above
  
7. Why weren't the original contractors and designers sued because of this collapse?
  - a. No evidence of any inadequacy in design or construction
  - b. Barred by statute of repose
  - c. Neither
  - d. Both
  
8. Why was Morabito Consultants retained by the Champlain Towers Condo Association in 2018?
  - a. Evaluated building for 40-year re-certification
  - b. Limited restoration work
  - c. Neither
  - d. Both
  
9. What recommendations have been made to the Florida legislature by the Surfside Working Group?
  - a. Twenty-year re-certification program
  - b. More frequent inspection if buildings near saltwater
  - c. Both
  - d. Neither
  
10. Why was the ownership, design and construction team of Eighty-Seven Park sued?
  - a. Adjacent construction caused damaging vibration
  - b. Adjacent construction undermined Champlain Towers South by inappropriate dewatering
  - c. Neither
  - d. Both