

## HEALTH CARE / MEDICAL MALPRACTICE DEFENSE

The defense of medical malpractice cases involving hospitals, nursing homes, health care institutions and long-term care facilities has been a cornerstone of Johnson & Bell's practice since our founding in 1975. Our attorneys have successfully defended thousands of malpractice cases, trying hundreds to verdict in courts throughout the country. This level of experience allows us to deliver efficient, insightful and effective legal services that accomplish our clients' objectives. The Health Care group at Johnson & Bell, has more than 30 attorneys, and is one of the largest practices in the firm.

Our Health Care group has handled cases arising out of both acute care hospital and outpatient settings involving every medical specialty:

- Obstetrics and Gynecology
- Surgery, including neurosurgery, orthopedic, transplant, cardiovascular, plastic and reconstructive
- Family and Internal Medicine, as well as its subspecialties such as oncology, cardiology, pulmonary, gastrointestinal, neurology, infectious disease, ophthalmology, and radiology
- Psychiatry, psychology, and mental health treatment
- Surgical error
- Anesthetic complication
- Informed consent
- Pressure ulcers, patient falls, and other nursing care issues
- Dental and Oral Surgery

We have an active and successful trial practice, and have earned a reputation for successfully defending high-exposure lawsuits against top trial attorneys from the plaintiffs' bar.

Our medical malpractice capabilities include:

- Defending physicians, surgeons, nurses and ancillary health care professionals in lawsuits involving prenatal care through geriatric medicine. In addition, our attorneys have successfully defended hospitals, nursing homes and other care facilities in cases alleging negligent credentialing, medication errors, improper supervision and training, improper use of restraints, patient abuse, and a myriad of other issues.
- Litigating cases involving alleged violations of the Illinois Nursing Home Care Act, EMTALA, and the Division of Specialized Care for Children Guidelines. Our attorneys have also successfully defended hospitals, physicians and other health care providers through Indiana's Medical Review Panel Process and through verdict at trial.
- Counseling clients in the areas of medical peer review, health care staff credentialing, accreditation compliance, and related matters.
- Defending clients on licensing issues before administrative agencies such as the Illinois Department of Financial and Professional Regulation.
- Advising clients on risk management and risk reduction issues, including advice on consent forms, policy and procedure, and documentation issues.

In addition, Johnson & Bell's trial practice is supported by a very strong and successful Appellate practice, so that we can offer effective service at all levels of litigation.

---

### CONTACT

[Sammi L. Renken](#)  
[Gregory E. Schiller](#)  
[Sharon L. Stanzione](#)

[JohnsonAndBell.com](http://JohnsonAndBell.com)

## HEALTH CARE LAW ATTORNEYS

[Karla Neninger](#)

[Michael B. Fitzpatrick](#)

[Margaret K. Burnett](#)

[Kaitlyn M. McCaskill](#)

[Jesse M.L. Gleason](#)

[Kathleen G. Lowry](#)

[Georgia A. Arvanitis](#)

[Zachary A. Woodruff](#)

[Khushbu Patel](#)

[Dane P. Spencer](#)

[Conor M. Craddock](#)

[Joshua D. Jenkins](#)

[Sarah J. Lynam](#)

[Marc R. Daou](#)

[Adam J. Sedia](#)

[Kelsie M. Farris](#)

[Matthew L. Johnson](#)

[Gregory E. Schiller](#)

[Sharon L. Stanzione](#)

[Matthew P. D'Avanzo](#)

[Susan M. Hannigan](#)

[Christopher J. Grabarek](#)

[David J. Thompson](#)

[Joel Brenord](#)

[Michael A. Sarafin](#)

[Caroline K. Vickrey](#)

[Daniel M. Yukich](#)

[Margaret A. Connery](#)

[Nicholas A. Sandowski](#)

[Stacey A. Cischke](#)

[Scott A. Mueller](#)

[Sammi L. Renken](#)

## CLIENT RESULTS

[Breitweiser-Hurst and Farris Obtain Summary Judgment Win for Indiana Hospital Client](#)

[Johnson and Lynam Successfully Defend Will County IL Spine Surgeon in \\$4.5M Medical Malpractice Trial](#)

[Vickrey, Sandowski, and Macksey Secure Crucial Defense Verdict](#)  
[Stacey Cischke Secures Defense Verdict for Chicagoland Hospital](#)  
[Johnson & Bell Secures Directed Verdict in Indiana Hospital Fall Suit, Plaintiff Appeal Turned Down](#)  
[Cischke and Bender Obtain Defense Verdict in Health Care Agency Matter](#)  
[Schiller, Vickrey Secure Defense Verdict in Favor of Hospital: Plaintiff Sought \\$2.4M](#)  
[Cischke, Connery Secure Defense Verdict for Hospital in MRI Dispute Seeking \\$11.6M](#)  
[Hearn, Stanzione and Mueller Obtain Defense Verdict in Dispute Seeking \\$4.9M from Physician Assistant](#)  
[Hannigan, Kennedy Secure Defense Verdict in Favor of Hospital in Will County Case. Plaintiff Sought \\$17.5M.](#)  
[Stanzione, Bolde Obtain Summary Judgment in Medical Malpractice Claim](#)  
[Schiller, Vickrey Secure Defense Verdict for Hospital in MedMal Dispute Seeking \\$17.5M](#)  
[J&B's Indiana Office Secures Appellate Reversal of Plaintiff's Verdict: New Trial Awaits](#)  
[Plaintiff Seeks \\$1.9M Plus Fees and Costs, But Jury Decides for Nursing Home](#)  
[Swing, Sarafin Secure Defense Verdict in Hospital Dispute](#)  
[Google Maps to the Rescue! Plaintiff's Attempt to Keep Nursing Home Case in Cook County Reversed on Appeal](#)  
[Plaintiff Demands \\$1M for Fall at Hospital: Court Grants Directed Verdict in Favor of Defendant, Throws out Plaintiff's Case](#)  
[Johnson Secures Summary Judgment for Hospital in Spine Injury Case Seeking Millions in Damages](#)  
[Schiller, Vickrey Secure Defense Verdict in \\$9M Wrongful Death Case Against Hospital](#)  
[Schiller, Reid Secure Defense Verdict in \\$2M Wrongful Death Endoscopic Procedure Case](#)  
[Plaintiff Seeks \\$1M for Post-Op Fall; Jury Awards Less Than \\$200K](#)  
[Schiller, Connery Secure Defense Verdict for Hospital in DuPage County: Plaintiff Sought \\$10M](#)  
[Cischke, Yukich Secure Dismissal for Indiana Hospital in Jurisdictional Dispute](#)  
[Cischke, Yukich Secure Dismissal with Prejudice in Breach of Privacy Dispute](#)  
[Vickrey Obtains Dismissal with Prejudice in Mental Health Confidentiality Act Lawsuit](#)  
[Swing, Farris Secure Defense Verdict in Premises Liability Case Seeking \\$700K in Damages](#)  
[Cischke, Yukich Secure Defense Verdict in Cardiac Surgery Dispute Seeking \\$5.8M in Damages](#)  
[Johnson, Connery Secure Defense Verdict in Favor of Physician and Hospital in Negligent Hospital Discharge Case](#)  
[Hearn Secures Defense Verdict in Indiana Dispute Seeking \\$3M in Damages](#)  
[Plaintiff's Attempt to Enlarge "Damages Pie" Gets Nixed by Court](#)  
[Ellenbecker Secures Defense Verdict in Favor of Chiropractor](#)  
[Schneiderman, Vickrey Secure Summary Judgment in Hospital Premises Liability Dispute](#)  
[Kovarik, D'Avanzo Secure Defense Verdict in \\$1.85M Nursing Home Care Act Dispute](#)  
[Cischke, Connery Secure Defense Verdict in Scoliosis Diagnosis Dispute Seeking \\$4M in Damages](#)  
[Cischke, Jasinski Secure Defense Verdict for Dermatologist in Dispute Seeking \\$3.6M in Damages](#)  
[Hannigan Secures Defense Verdict for Cardiologist in Wrongful Death Dispute](#)  
[Johnson, Vickrey Secure Verdict for Defense. Plaintiff Sought \\$800K for Post-Op Hospital Fall](#)  
[In Wrongful Death Case, Stanzione Secures Directed Verdict in Favor of Hospital](#)  
[Carlos Secures Defense Verdict in Employment Dispute](#)  
[A Case of Forum Non Conveniens: Nursing Home Operator Can Move Case Out of Cook County.](#)

[Cischke Secures Defense Verdict in \\$14M Dispute](#)

[Hearn, Stanzione Secure Directed Verdict in Favor of Hospital in Negligent Credentialing Dispute](#)

[Reid, Macksey Secure Appellate Ruling to Uphold Arbitration Agreement in Nursing Home Dispute](#)

[Hearn, Stanzione Secure Jury Verdict for the Defense in Medical Malpractice Dispute. Plaintiff Sought \\$3M.](#)

[Schneiderman Pours Cold Water on Plaintiff's Theory in Premises Liability Case](#)

[Judge Dismisses Hospital with Prejudice from Ladder Lawsuit](#)

[Thompson Secures Defense Verdict in \\$1.5M Hospital Negligence Case](#)

[Stanzione Secures Defense Verdict in Wrongful Death Case Against Indiana Hospital](#)

[Renken Secures Defense Verdict in \\$2.75M Wrongful Death Lawsuit Against Hospital](#)

[Appellate Court Rules Hospital's Internal Quality Control Documents Privileged](#)

[Schiller Receives Directed Verdict for the Defense in \\$20M Med Mal Case](#)

[Renken Secures Hospital's Dismissal with Prejudice and No Payment in Pressure Ulcer Case](#)

[Johnson Secures Defense Verdict in \\$5M Wrongful Death Case Against Physician and Medical Group](#)

[Cischke Obtains Favorable Verdict in MedMal Case](#)

[Appellate Court Affirms Defense Verdict in \\$3.4 Million Compartment Syndrome Case](#)

[Renken Secures Defense Verdict for Nursing Home](#)

[Marconi, Ryndak Defeat \\$1.7M Finder's Fee Claim](#)

[Cischke Obtains Defense Verdict in Fetal-Demise Case](#)

[Johnson Secures Defense Verdict in \\$1M Medical Malpractice Case Brought by Former Pro Tennis Player  
Premises Liability Case](#)

[With Plaintiff Seeking \\$5M in Damages, Schiller, Kovarik Deliver Defense Verdict](#)

[Reid Secures Defense Verdict for Nursing Home Charged with Negligence](#)

[Hospital Dismissed in Wrongful Death Case Involving Alleged Failure to Search for Weapon of Emergency Room Patient](#)

[Hospital Sued Under Doctrine of Res Ipsa Loquitur When Patient Developed Compartment Syndrome While Hospitalized](#)

[Stanzione Awarded Defense Verdict in Medical Negligence Case](#)

[Stanzione Successfully Defends Indiana Hospital Against Charges of Medical Negligence](#)

[Johnson and Johnson Obtain Defense Verdict for Hospital in HIV Transplant Case – Plaintiff Sought \\$45 Million](#)

[Stanzione Successfully Defends Hospital in Wrongful Death Case - Plaintiff Sought \\$2.6 Million](#)

[Matthew L. Johnson Obtains Defense Verdict for Ob/Gyn in Medical Malpractice Case](#)

[Johnson and Renken Obtain Defense Verdict in Birth Injury Case -- \\$65 Million Sought](#)

[William V. Johnson Obtains Verdict in Favor of Chicago Medical Center, Obstetrician in Birth Injury Case](#)

[Lagestee v. Edward Chien, M.D., No. 1-04-0837 \(1st Dist. 2008\)](#)

[Bredelhoeft v. Loretto Hospital, No. 1- 06-2647 \(1st Dist. 2007\)](#)

## **NOTABLE CASES**

[Breitweiser-Hurst and Farris Obtain Summary Judgment Win for Indiana Hospital Client](#)

[Johnson and Lynam Successfully Defend Will County IL Spine Surgeon in \\$4.5M Medical Malpractice Trial](#)

[Stacey Cischke Secures Defense Verdict for Chicagoland Hospital](#)

[Johnson Secures Summary Judgment for Hospital in Spine Injury Case Seeking Millions in Damages](#)

[Schiller, Vickrey Secure Defense Verdict in \\$9M Wrongful Death Case Against Hospital](#)

[Schiller, Connery Secure Defense Verdict for Hospital in DuPage County: Plaintiff Sought \\$10M](#)

[Cischke, Yukich Secure Defense Verdict in Cardiac Surgery Dispute Seeking \\$5.8M in Damages](#)

[Johnson and Johnson Obtain Defense Verdict for Hospital in HIV Transplant Case – Plaintiff Sought \\$45 Million](#)

[Johnson and Renken Obtain Defense Verdict in Birth Injury Case -- \\$65 Million Sought](#)

[William V. Johnson Obtains Verdict in Favor of Chicago Medical Center, Obstetrician in Birth Injury Case](#)

## **PUBLICATIONS**

[Illinois Supreme Court Recognizes Broad Statutory Immunity to Health Care Facilities Invoked by COVID-19 Executive Order](#)

[David Warnick Co-Authors IDC Quarterly Monograph on the State of Proximate Cause in Illinois](#)

[Case Law Overview: Wrongful Death Act Allows Plaintiffs to Pursue Medical Malpractice Claim Against Other Physicians](#)

[The Illinois Mental Health and Developmental Disabilities Confidentiality Act: Sword or Shield](#)

[Attorney Client Privilege Under Attack: Disclosing Defendant Physicians as 213\(f\)\(3\) Witnesses](#)

[Internal Quality Control Documents Granted Privilege in Med Mal Dispute](#)

[Genetics - The Future is Now](#)

[Know Your Adversary: Rules for Claims Against Federally Funded Health Centers](#)

[New Procedure for Setting Trial Dates in Cook County Circuit Court Law Division Cases, Including Construction Injury Cases](#)

[Discovery Depositions Are Not Available for Media Use During Pending Litigation](#)

[Rapid Response to Data Breach Required to Avoid Liability](#)

[Hospital Hit for \\$300K for Firing Employee After Leave of Absence](#)

[Physician Group's Non-Compete Clause Fails](#)

[Hospitals' Liabilities and Responsibilities When Responding to Law Enforcement's Request for Information](#)

[The Illinois Supreme Court Clarifies the Application of Arbitration Agreements in Nursing Home Contracts](#)

["Bad Faith": What Does It Mean? An Overview of Bad Faith/Failure to Settle Third-Party Actions Under Illinois Law](#)

[Pressure Ulcers -- Avoidable or Not?](#)

[Nursing Home's Health Care Arbitration Agreement Held Invalid...](#)

[Health Professional Reports Under 735 ILCS 5/2-622: First District Appellate Court Decision Further Clarifies Statutory Requirements in Christmas v Dr. Donald W. Hugar, Ltd., Et Al.](#)