

PRACTICE AREA

Medical Malpractice

Dedicated defense of healthcare providers in medical malpractice claims, protecting practices, reputations, and patient trust.

When healthcare professionals are confronted with a medical malpractice claim, they need counsel who understand both the medicine and the stakes. At Friday, Eldredge & Clark, our Medical Malpractice Group is devoted to defending healthcare providers and institutions in malpractice litigation, offering ethical, efficient, and highly skilled representation. We focus on guiding clients through every stage of a claim—from investigation and expert analysis to trial and appeal—with a clear strategy designed to protect both their legal interests and professional standing.

We represent the full spectrum of healthcare providers, including physicians, nurses, dentists, therapists, hospitals, home health agencies, physician practice groups, and drug and medical device manufacturers. Our attorneys focus 100% of their practice on litigation, with a strong emphasis on medical malpractice defense, and are consistently recognized by organizations such as the American College of Trial Lawyers, the American Board of Trial Advocates, The Best Lawyers in America, Chambers USA, and Mid-South Super Lawyers.


Key Contacts



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PARTNER

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Areas of Focus

Physician and Provider Defense

We represent individual physicians, nurses, dentists, and other healthcare professionals in medical malpractice claims of every kind—from misdiagnosis and surgical complications to allegations involving patient consent or treatment errors. Our attorneys work closely with clients to understand the medical facts, develop a defensible narrative, and protect both their legal and professional reputations.

Hospital and Healthcare Institution Defense

Hospitals, clinics, and healthcare systems across Arkansas rely on our firm for comprehensive malpractice defense. We provide experienced counsel to in-house legal teams and administrators, handling high-stakes claims, credentialing and privileging disputes, and risk management issues with the goal of mitigating exposure and maintaining quality patient care standards.

SUMMARY

- **Focused on Healthcare Defense:** Representing physicians, hospitals, nurses, practice groups, and other providers in medical malpractice claims of all types and complexity.
- **Reputation & Practice Protection:** Defending not only against liability and damages, but also safeguarding professional reputations, licenses, and relationships with patients and peers.
- **Litigation-Only Trial Team:** Providing access to attorneys who devote 100% of their practice to litigation, with deep experience in trying and resolving malpractice cases.
- **Nationally Recognized Trial Lawyers:** Leveraging the skills of attorneys honored by the American College of Trial Lawyers, ABOTA, The Best Lawyers in America, Chambers USA, and Mid-South Super Lawyers.
- **Efficient, Ethical Representation:** Offering cost-conscious, strategic defense that is grounded in professionalism, clear communication, and client-centered advocacy.

Related Practice Areas

[Alternative Dispute Resolution](#)

[Appellate Law](#)

[Commercial Litigation & Regulatory](#)

[Health Law](#)

[Insurance Defense](#)

Drug and Medical Device Litigation

Our attorneys have extensive experience defending pharmaceutical companies and medical device manufacturers in claims alleging product defects or failure to warn. Whether handling single-plaintiff cases or complex, multi-district litigation, we bring deep trial experience and regulatory insight to every case.

Risk Management and Early Case Evaluation

Prevention and preparation are key. Our team partners with healthcare providers and insurers to conduct internal reviews, evaluate potential exposure, and advise on documentation, peer review, and compliance best practices to reduce the risk of future litigation. When a claim does arise, we move quickly to secure records, engage experts, and position the matter for a strong defense.

Meet the Team

Michelle Ator

Donald H. Bacon

William Mell Griffin III

Laura H. Smith

Taryn E. Bewley

Melody Pruitt Guffey

Tyler D. Bone

Clifford W. Plunkett

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