

MEGAN J. NELSON

ASSOCIATE



ADMISSIONS

Florida
2019

EDUCATION

Nova Southeastern University
Shepard Broad College of Law
(J.D., cum laude, 2019)

Texas A&M University-Corpus
Christi (B.S., 2014)

Del Mar College (ADN, 2009)

ASSOCIATIONS & MEMBERSHIPS

Central Florida Medical
Malpractice Claims Council

Florida State Guardianship
Association

Orange County Bar Association

YEAR JOINED

2020

AREAS OF PRACTICE

Health Care Liability
Long-Term Care Liability
Premises & Retail Liability

CONTACT INFO

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Landmark Center One
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Orlando, FL 32801

OVERVIEW

Megan devotes her practice to representing hospitals, physicians, nurses, long-term care facilities, skilled nursing facilities, and other healthcare providers in the defense of medical malpractice and negligence claims, along with premises and general liability claims.

Megan also represents nurses and other medical providers who are facing administrative or regulatory discipline by their governing medical licensing boards.

In addition to health care defense, Megan assists hospitals, long-term care facilities, and skilled nursing facilities with the initiation of petitions for determination of incapacity and the appointment of plenary guardians for patients who are unable to make their own medical and financial decisions. Megan also assists hospitals, long-term care facilities, and skilled nursing facilities with patients and family who "stay against medical advice."

Megan began her career as a firefighter for her hometown volunteer fire department and has utilized her knowledge as a firefighter to represent fire academies in lawsuits.

Megan has been a Registered Nurse since 2010. Before becoming a lawyer, she worked as a neonatal and pediatric critical care nurse in various settings, including the neonatal intensive care unit, pediatric intensive care unit, pediatric cardiac intensive care unit, and pediatric emergency room. She received The Daisy Award For Extraordinary Nurses in August 2013. Her experience also included patients on ECMO (extracorporeal membrane oxygenation) and cardiac bypass. Megan's background in nursing helps to bridge the gap between medicine and the law.

Megan is a frequent lecturer on medical and nursing topics, including incident reporting, guardianships, and AI (artificial intelligence). She is a member of the Florida State Guardianship Association, Central Florida Medical Malpractice Claims Council, and the Orange County Bar Association.

Megan graduated from Del Mar College with an Associate's Degree in Nursing and Texas A&M University Corpus Christi with a Bachelor of Science in Nursing. Megan graduated cum laude from Nova Southeastern University Shepard Broad College of Law with a Juris Doctor.

When she is not working, Megan volunteers her time at The Sanctuary at Lakota Farms, where she helps care for horses that have been rescued.

CERTIFICATIONS

Florida Nursing License

THOUGHT LEADERSHIP

Claims for a Hospital's Negligent Credentialing Must Be Addressed With Sufficient Facts in a Corroborating Expert Affidavit During the Presuit Investigation Period

Orlando
Health Care Liability
October 1, 2025

The Third District Court of Appeal affirmed a motion to dismiss related to a negligent credentialing claim on the basis that the presuit corroborating expert affidavit was deficient.

Duty Owed to Substance Abuse and Suicidal Patients: New Court Ruling Lays Out a Duty Providers Have to a Patient Prior to Discharge Related to Treatments After Discharge

Orlando
Behavioral Health Risk & Liability
October 1, 2025

The Third District Court of Appeal reversed an order granting summary judgment in favor of an addiction treatment facility, holding the facility did not have a duty to prevent the decedent's suicide after discharge, but it did have a duty to attempt.

LEGAL ROUNDUP – Florida

Orlando
Health Care Liability
August 1, 2025

Duty Owed to Substance Abuse and Suicidal Patients: New Court Ruling Lays Out a Duty Providers Have to a Patient Prior to Discharge Related to Treatments After Discharge Claims for a Hospital's Negligent Credentialing Must Be Addressed with Sufficient Facts in a Corroborating Expert Affidavit During the Presuit Investigation Period The Quarterly Dose – August 2025, has been prepared for our readers by Marshall Dennehey.

New Rules, New Risks: Florida's Latest Health Care Legislation Explained

Orlando
Health Care Liability
Long-Term Care Liability
Miscellaneous Professional Liability
Behavioral Health Risk & Liability
Birth & Catastrophic Injury Litigation
August 1, 2025

On July 1, 2025, the following laws were enacted and may affect health care providers in Florida. These legislative changes introduce updates to regulatory compliance, patient care protocols and provider responsibilities. The Quarterly Dose – August 2025, has been prepared for our readers by Marshall Dennehey.

Florida Tort Reform: The Impact of House Bill 837 on Health Care Litigation

Orlando
Health Care Liability
May 1, 2024

On March 24, 2023, Florida Governor Ron DeSantis signed House Bill 837 into law. The Quarterly Dose – May 2024, has been prepared for our readers.

CLASSES/SEMINARS TAUGHT

The Latest on Medical AI Innovation, Legal Liability and Claims Florida Society for Healthcare Risk Management & Patient Safety Annual Meeting & Education Conference, Orlando, FL, August 14, 2025

Tort Reform: Where Do We Go From Here?, Florida Society for Healthcare Risk Management & Patient Safety Annual Meeting & Education Conference, Orlando, FL, August 16, 2024

Adversity in the World of Adverse Incident Reporting: A Panel Discussion on Reporting Requirements and Addressing Related Discovery, Florida Society for Healthcare Risk Management & Patient Safety Annual Meeting & Education Conference, Orlando, FL, August 13, 2021

PUBLISHED WORKS

"Am I Getting Fired? How to Handle Meetings With Your Facility's Attorney," *Orlando Medical News* (page 12), September 2021

"COVID-19 and Florida's Health Care Provider Liability Protection," *Defense Digest*, June 2021, Vol. 27, No. 3

RESULTS

Summary Judgment for Daycare Center in Wrongful Death Case.

General Liability

May 7, 2021

We prevailed on a motion for summary judgment related to the duty owed to a minor business invitee in an alleged wrongful death. The plaintiff, the personal representative of the estate of a minor, filed a wrongful death claim alleging the defendant daycare center breached its duty to exercise the reasonable care owed to the minor while he was under the care and supervision of the center.

SIGNIFICANT REPRESENTATIVE MATTERS

Was successful in having a Florida Rule 5.900 Petition for Expedited Judicial Intervention Concerning Medical Treatment Procedure granted. The alleged incapacitated person had been medically cleared for discharge to a skilled nursing facility. However, his brother, who had been appointed as the health care surrogate and power of attorney, had refused to consent to his brother's transfer to any skilled nursing facility. After numerous unsuccessful attempts by the hospital case management team to transfer the patient, Megan was retained to file a Florida Rule 5.900 Petition for Expedited Judicial Intervention Concerning Medical Treatment Procedures. After the emergency evidentiary hearing, the court granted the petition and ordered the brother to consent to the transfer of the patient to a skilled nursing facility.