

KAREN "MISSY" E. MINEHAN

SHAREHOLDER



AREAS OF PRACTICE

Health Care Liability
Long-Term Care Liability

CONTACT INFO

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ADMISSIONS

Pennsylvania
1996

U.S. District Court Eastern District
of Pennsylvania
1999

U.S. District Court Middle District
of Pennsylvania
1999

U.S. District Court Western District
of Pennsylvania
2018

EDUCATION

University of Pittsburgh School of
Law (J.D., 1996)

University of Pittsburgh, Graduate
School of Public and International
Affairs (M.A., 1996)

Wellesley College (B.A., 1991)

HONORS & AWARDS

AV® Preeminent™ by Martindale-
Hubbell®

Pennsylvania Super Lawyer Rising
Star
2006-2007

OVERVIEW

Missy is a member of the Health Care Department where she focuses her practice on the defense of professional medical negligence and premises liability claims, as well as medical licensing matters before licensing boards such as the Pennsylvania Boards of Medicine, Osteopathic Medicine, Nursing, and Psychology. Her individual clients include physicians, nurses, Patient Care Technicians (PCTs), Certified Nurses Aides (CNAs), therapists, mental health professionals, and other health care providers. Missy's institutional clients include acute and rehabilitation hospitals, long-term and skilled nursing facilities, correctional medicine providers, and outpatient dialysis facilities.

Missy has handled matters encompassing a wide range of medical issues, including retained foreign objects, ob/gyn, wound care, patient falls, and neurological injuries. She has significant jury trial, arbitration, mediation, appellate, and administrative law experience.

After receiving her undergraduate degree from Wellesley College, where she played intercollegiate soccer and spent her junior year in Paris, France and Yaounde, Cameroon, Missy graduated from the University of Pittsburgh School of Law and the Graduate School of Public and International Affairs with a J.D. and a Master's Degree in International Affairs.

Missy's bar admissions include the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania and U.S. District Court for the Western, Middle, and Eastern Districts of Pennsylvania. She is a member of the Pennsylvania Bar Association. She is frequently called upon to lecture on a wide array of topics in the field of health care litigation.

Outside of her professional career, Missy is an active volunteer in her local community. She served as a Girl Scout leader to a troop that advanced from Brownie to Ambassador. She interviewed prospective high school students for admission to Wellesley College as an alumna volunteer and served as the President and Vice President of the Southeastern Pennsylvania Wellesley College Club. She worked as a puppy sitter for the Susquehanna Service Dog. An avid skier, Missy co-founded and continues to lead the Camp Hill Middle and High School Ski & Snowboard Club. In addition, Missy is currently a Member and the Secretary of the Cleve J. Fredricksen Library Board of Trustees.

ASSOCIATIONS & MEMBERSHIPS

Pennsylvania Bar Association

Cleve J. Fredricksen Library Board of Trustees, Member and Secretary

Girl Scouts in the Heart of Pennsylvania, former Troop Leader

Southeastern Pennsylvania Wellesley Club, Member, former President, former Vice President

YEAR JOINED

2015

THOUGHT LEADERSHIP

The New and Broadened Law Governing Venue in Pennsylvania Medical Malpractice Cases

**Harrisburg
Health Care Liability
March 1, 2023**

Defense Digest, Vol. 29, No.

Marshall Dennehey Announces 2022 New Shareholder Class - - With 10 women and 7 men, the class has one of the highest percentages of women in the firm's 60-year history

January 3, 2022

Marshall Dennehey Warner Coleman & Goggin is pleased to announce that 17 attorneys, 10 women and 7 men, have been elevated to shareholder, effective January 1, 2022.

[Read More](#)

CLASSES/SEMINARS TAUGHT

Mitigating and Responding to a Professional Liability Claim: Documentation, Discovery, and Depositions, Skilled Nursing Development Institute's Administrator Appreciation Event, August 6, 2025

Arbitration Agreements: Hot Topics and Best Practices, client webinar, March 19, 2025

Trends, Tips, and Tricks in the Defense of Long-Term Care Facilities, PACHRM/PDI Conference, July 14, 2023

From Arbitrations to Schedule Zs: Trends, Tips and Tricks to Navigate the Written Discovery Process in Long-Term Care Civil Litigation, Marshall Dennehey Trends in Health Care and Health Law Seminar, May 5, 2022

Reduce Your Risk: Understanding the Emergency Medical Treatment and Active Labor Act (EMTALA), February 18, 2021

Pitfalls of Social Media and Nursing, May 8, 2018

ED Documentation: Are You Writing Enough?, April 2018

Event Management, Documentation and Disclosure: Trends, Dangers and Best Practices, March 2015

Understanding Advance Health Care Directives in Pennsylvania, March 2015

General Liability, Professional Liability and Other Interesting Litigation Issues, February 26, 2015

The Medical Licensing System in Pennsylvania, 2012

Expert Retention, Review, and Testimony: From Start to Finish, October 8, 2007

Defensive Documentation, co-presenter, April 2007

Medical Records Law in Pennsylvania as it Pertains to Litigation Issues, co-presenter, Lorman Education Services, August 2006

A Statutory Tour Through the Peer Review Protection Act, MCARE Act and the Patient Quality Improvement Act of 2005, co-presenter, October 2005

Avoiding Lawsuits and Facing the Ones You Cannot Avoid: Documentation, Event Review, Deposition and Trial Testimony, co-presenter, May 2005

An Overview of Pennsylvania Law as it Relates to HMA Medical Malpractice, co-presenter, January 2005

Best Practices for Hospital Investigation of Patient Care, October 2004

PUBLISHED WORKS

"The New and Broadened Law Governing Venue in Pennsylvania Medical Malpractice Cases," *Defense Digest*, *JDSupra*, March 2023

"The Public Policy Exception to the Enforcement of Foreign Judgments: Necessary or Nemesis?," 18 Loy. L.A. Int'l & Comp. L. J. 795 (1996)

RESULTS

Defense Award Obtained in a Contested Wound Case

Long-Term Care Liability March 7, 2025

We secured a defense award on behalf of a skilled nursing facility in a hotly contested "wound" case after a two-day arbitration. The 93-year-old plaintiff had been a resident at the nursing facility for over three years without having suffered any pressure injuries, despite a plethora of risk factors. In August 2019, she was transferred emergently to an acute care hospital where she was diagnosed with a myocardial infarction (MI) and cardiogenic shock.

Defense Verdict in Ohio Medical Malpractice Case

Health Care Liability January 27, 2025

We obtained a medical malpractice defense verdict on behalf of a skilled nursing facility in the Cuyahoga County Common Pleas Court in Cleveland, Ohio. The children of an 82-year-old skilled nursing resident brought a lawsuit after their mother developed shingles and associated meningitis and passed away. They claimed the facility had inadequate infection control and failed to identify signs/symptoms of developing changes in their mother's condition.

SIGNIFICANT REPRESENTATIVE MATTERS

Obtained a defense award on behalf of a skilled nursing facility in a wound case after a two-day arbitration.