



As a health system general counsel, I successfully managed the most challenging legal matters with lawyers I respect and trust. Today, I am proud we are partners.

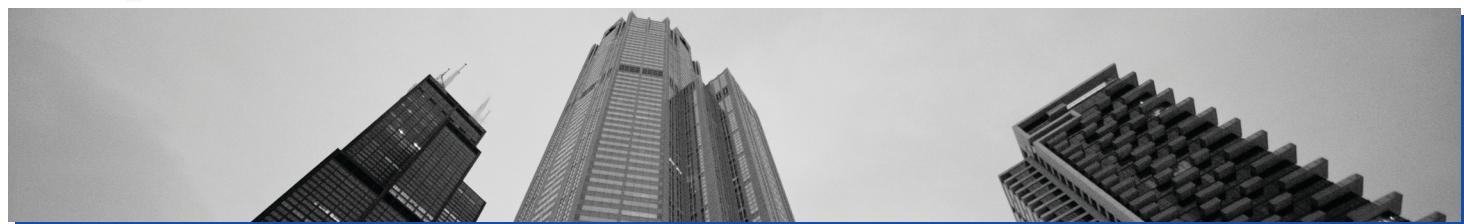
UNIQUE EXPERIENCE IN HEALTHCARE

My health law experience includes representing an academic medical center, a 450-member faculty practice corporation, several community hospitals, Cayman captive insurers, medical staffs, an LTACH, and joint ventures and affiliations among hospitals and physicians.

MEDICAL LITIGATION

In nearly 40 years of practice as a general counsel and a trial and appellate lawyer, I:

- specialized in complex, high-exposure litigation. For example, I obtained a defense verdict (with a seven-figure settlement offer) in a birth injury case involving maternal lupus and testified in the legal malpractice case the plaintiffs brought against their lawyer.
- briefed and argued a case in the Illinois Supreme Court affirming a hospital's right to implied indemnity after a contracted medical group settled short with the plaintiff leaving the hospital alone in the case as the "deep pocket."
- organized and led the successful constitutional defense in the Illinois Supreme Court of Hospital Licensing Act amendments permitting hospitals to talk with their employees in malpractice litigation (Petrillo doctrine).
- briefed in the Illinois Supreme Court the social justice and access to care aspects of the Illinois damage caps constitutional challenge.
- tried peer review cases before medical staff hearing panels and advised chiefs of staff, medical executive committees, and boards of directors on physician conduct issues.
- successfully managed employment matters including defending state and federal litigation by physicians, nurses, residents, and staff.
- managed internal investigations and defended compliance litigation including the Cardiac Devices *qui tam* case, loss of CMS deemed status following a catastrophic patient safety event and inquiries by the Illinois Attorney General.
- created a system-wide quality improvement program to prevent adverse clinical outcomes, including Sentinel Events, in a collegial, protected environment. The Illinois Appellate Court affirmed that this committee's work was protected from discovery in malpractice litigation by the Medical Studies Act.



PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION

Our experience in courtrooms, boardrooms, classrooms, C-suites, and medical staff offices gives us a unique perspective. I am a frequent national speaker on health law, medical staff affairs, governance, and risk prevention. I teach courses at the Vanderbilt University School of Medicine, linking professionalism with increased patient safety and decreased litigation, and publish in peer-reviewed journals.

ABOUT REITER BURNS LLP

Founded by long-time colleagues, Chuck Reiter and Terry Burns, our three generations of lawyers provide a broad range of experience in healthcare defense, civil rights defense, health law, business and contract, election law, and labor and employment law.

Reiter Burns LLP is located in downtown Chicago.



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