ATTORNEY REFERRAL INFORMATION

The ACR Legal Department provides referrals to attorneys for those radiologists and radiation oncologists who do not have representation, or who have an attorney but would like to consult with a specialist in a particular area of the law, such as medical staff bylaws. We also may provide general information on specific issues, such as contracts, with this referral sheet. Some of the information may be in sample format. Please be advised that any materials we provide are for informational purposes only and not meant to substitute for legal counsel.

While it is not essential that you have local counsel to represent you, your attorney should be familiar with your state law and administrative regulations pertaining to medical practice. Of course, it is important that you and the attorneys discuss fee arrangements, as well as the time they expect to spend on the matter, before retaining any of them to represent you.

Thank you for contacting the ACR Legal Department. If you need further assistance or have questions about the Business Practice Issues section of the web site, please call 1-800-227-5463 and ask for Elizabeth Rathburn or you may email her at erathburn@acr.org or legal@acr.org.

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Mike Burke is a shareholder of Sansweet, Dearden and Burke, Ltd. He focuses his practice on representing physicians and physician groups, dentists and other health care providers in various transactional matters, including but not limited to analyzing, negotiating and drafting employment agreements and co-ownership documents such as shareholders’ agreements and operating agreements, examining Medicare fraud and abuse issues (Stark, Anti-Kickback), representing physicians in negotiating arrangements with hospitals and health systems, analyzing reimbursement issues, and analyzing and structuring joint venture arrangements. Mike is a Summa Cum Laude graduate of both the University of Miami School of Law and Temple University. He graduated 2nd in his class at the University of Miami, was a member of the University of Miami Law Review and was inducted into the Order of the Coif. Mike has been practicing law in the health care field since his graduation in 1991, and is licensed to practice in both Pennsylvania and New Jersey. He has authored numerous articles for both local and national publications and speaks on various topics related to health care law on a local and national basis.
Mr. Cassidy’s practice as a health law attorney includes the fundamental entities, including PCs, LLCs, non-profit corporations, partnerships, and reimbursement, managed care contracting, fraud and abuse, medical staff and credentialing issues, corporate compliance, and tax exempt organization issues. Mike’s healthcare experience also includes HIPAA privacy and transaction issues. Mike was named to the list of Best Lawyers in America® for Health Care Law in 2009, as well as one Pennsylvania’s Super Lawyers® for Health Care Law in 2005, 2006, 2007, 2008. He received the Pennsylvania Bar Association’s “Excellence in Health Care Law Award” for 2003. Mike is the publisher of the Med Law Blog (www.medlawblog.com), the firm’s health law blog. Mike is licensed to practice in Pennsylvania and West Virginia and is admitted to the U.S. Supreme Court, the U.S. Tax Court, the Pennsylvania Supreme Court and various federal courts. He received his B.A. from Brown University and his J.D. from the University of Pittsburgh School of Law. He has an AV rating for legal ability and ethical standards awarded by this national directory of lawyers.

Ms. Dermody, a partner in the Pittsburgh office, has experience with antitrust matters in the health care industry, and also focuses her practice in litigation and counseling in a variety of anti-trust matters, including mergers, joint ventures, distributor relations, and price-fixing.

Mr. Giles has almost 29 years of trial judge experience, having handled a docket spanning the wide spectrum of civil and criminal cases typical of a busy metropolitan district. He was appointed by the Multi-Litigation Panel to manage for trial readiness, and attempt to settle, significant MDL cases, among them In re Asbestos Products Liability Litigation, which now involves more than 13 million claims and was first presided over by the Honorable Charles R. Weiner, and In re Air Crash near Peggy’s Cove, which involved a Swiss Air crash over international waters near Nova Scotia in September 1998.
Ms. Gosfield addresses matters that are typically those about which radiologists are concerned and on a national level. These issues include Medicare reimbursement, managed care contracting, clinical practice guidelines and quality issues, utilization review concerns, contracting with hospitals and other facilities, structuring relationships for fraud and abuse and Medicare reimbursement compliance, and employment relations among physicians. Ms. Gosfield DOES NOT DO antitrust opinion litigation, malpractice advice, or general corporate work.

Jean C. Hemphill is a partner in the firm’s Business and Finance Department and the chair of the firm’s multidisciplinary Health Care Practice Group. Ballard attorneys counsel health care industry clients on health law regulatory, transactional, compliance and government investigations, tax exempt and general financing, employee benefits and compensation, and labor and employment matters. For over ten years, Ms. Hemphill has represented a large radiology practice in connection with business transactions, exclusive hospital-based service agreements, payer contracts and the like. She also represents academic medical center components, clinics and other health care providers and facilities. She is a co-author of the 2010 Employer’s Guide to Health Care Reform, published by Wolters Kluwer.
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Bill Kalogredis is Chairman of Lamb McErlane’s Health Law Department. Bill has been exclusively practicing Health Law and Health Care consulting for over 45 years, representing physicians, dentists, veterinarians, chiropractors, podiatrists, group practices, other health care professionals and health care-related entities. Bill has significant experience representing many medical and dental groups and thousands of individual physicians and dentists. He drafts, reviews and negotiates co-ownership documents (such as: shareholder agreements, operating agreements and partnership agreements), employment contracts, non-competition clauses and separation agreements. He also analyzes and negotiates physician arrangements with hospitals and other organizations (including exclusive contracts, medical directorships, employment agreements, management arrangements and joint ventures. In addition, Bill assists health care providers with practice sales, service line co-management arrangements, mergers and joint ventures. He also negotiates buy-ins and buy-outs of “Partnership interests” in medical and dental practices, as well as other healthcare entities. Bill advises clients on the tax and practical implications of proposed transactions as well. Bill also advises doctors and their practices relative to compensation arrangements, personnel, financing and office and equipment leases. Bill also advises health care professionals on their career steps, from residents and fellows coming out of training to doctors nearing retirement.

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Bill is a partner in the firm’s Health Law Practice and has extensive experience in regulatory health care law, particularly in Medicare and Medicaid compliance, the Stark physician self referral law, the Medicare Anti-Kickback law, the False Claims Act, CLIA, HIPAA, EMTALA and other federal and state regulatory requirements. He also counsels clients on: the formation of corporations, LLCs and other business entities; contractual relationships and compliance with federal and state regulations; credentialing and medical staff matters; reimbursement and payor disputes; professional licensure; fraud and abuse; and practice separations/ Bill is a frequent speaker on health care topics at national and regional conferences and is frequently contributing to, or being quoted by, national and regional health care publications.
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In her law practice, Martha assumes responsibility for major client matters and accounts. She concentrates her practice on employment law matters of all kinds, with a particular concentration on representation of higher education and other nonprofit clients as well as a diverse group of traditional business clients. She is a litigator and trial lawyer, having litigated hundreds of cases at both the trial and appellate levels in federal and state courts and administrative agencies.

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Ernest D. Palmarella is a founding partner of the firm. His practice primarily focuses on advising and representing the owners of closely-held corporate, limited liability company and partnership businesses in providing tax, business, estate and succession planning services. In addition to tax planning and drafting of sophisticated estate planning documents, Mr. Palmarella's areas of concentration include the negotiation and drafting of business agreements and financing documents for mergers, stock purchases and redemptions, asset acquisitions, reorganizations and other business transactions. He also advises clients on their pension, disability, employee benefits law and related matters and health care law issues. In addition to representing owners of closely-held companies, Mr. Palmarella has represented entities of all sizes, both privately and publicly-held, domestic and foreign, for-profit and non-profit, in structuring, tax and corporate transactions. His multi-disciplined background enables him to handle all aspects of his business client's general business needs. Mr. Palmarella frequently lectures in the areas of employment law, health care law, business entity structuring and estate planning. Mr. Palmarella was named Top Tax Lawyer for 2009 by Main Line Today Magazine. Mr. Palmarella is licensed in PA and NJ.
Sonal Parekh is an associate in Lamb McErlane’s Health Law Department. Sonal’s practice is focused on healthcare transactional matters and a range of healthcare regulatory-related issues on behalf of healthcare systems, physicians, dentists and other healthcare providers. Sonal has experience in drafting, reviewing, and negotiating healthcare related contracts, including employment and service agreements, confidentiality disclosure agreements, shareholder agreements, partnership agreements, collaborative practice agreements, and clinical study agreements. She also drafts and reviews various agreements and governance documentation related to mergers, acquisitions, joint ventures, strategic transactions, corporate restructuring, and general corporate matters, as well as filing applications and certificates relating to Licensure, Recognition of Tax Exemption under Sections 501(c)(3) and 501(c)(4) of the IRC, Medicare and Medicaid Enrollment, Provider-Based Attestations, and Tax Clearance Certificates. Sonal is a member of the American Bar Association, Young Lawyers Division (YLD) where she serves as Chair of the Health Law Committee, a Liaison for the Health Law Section and an Early Career Representative for the Life Sciences Interest Group. She is also a member of the Pennsylvania Bar Association, Chester County Bar Association, Philadelphia Bar Association, South Asian Bar Association, and American Health Lawyers Association.

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Pam practices in the area of health care law, representing health care providers and physician groups in a wide range of matters, including joint ventures transactions, reorganizations, negotiating and preparing employment and buy-sell agreements for physician groups and dental practices, HIPAA compliance, Medicare issues and various fraud and abuse matters, and mergers and acquisitions of medical and dental practices. Pam also represents start up and privately-held businesses with general business and real estate matters including choice of entity, corporate governance, mergers and acquisitions, leasing, real estate transactions, financing, and negotiating and preparing various commercial agreements.
Mr. Raspanti specializes in False Claims Act civil litigation and represents *qui tam* plaintiffs.

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Al is a partner in the firm’s Health Law Practice and concentrates his practice in representing physicians, health care institutions and ambulatory surgery centers. Al assists his physician clients with: the formation of large, single specialty and multi-specialty groups; technical aspects of billing and reimbursement; the sale, reacquisition, and reestablishment of private practices; retaining and recruiting associates; and advice related to the business of medicine.

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Todd serves as Co-Chair of the firm’s Health Law Practice. He is a regulatory and transactional health care attorney with a focus on fraud and abuse counseling, Medicare Part B reimbursement, physician representation, managed care and corporate and contracting issues. Todd has extensive experience representing physicians in all aspects of medical practice including: practice mergers and acquisitions, contract negotiation and drafting, and consulting on operational and business planning issues.
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David is Co-Chair of the firm’s Health Law Practice and concentrates his practice in regulatory and transactional matters including: fraud and abuse, physician self-referral and false claims; health care compliance programs and regulatory compliance; internal investigations; governmental and third-party payor audits and investigation; health care affiliations, joint governance issues; hospital-physician relations; tax-exempt organizations; provider and facility licensing; reimbursement and payment issues; Medicare and Medicaid; certificate of need and health planning; and medical records, privacy and confidentiality issues (HIPAA). David previously served as director of the Pennsylvania Society of Healthcare Attorneys, as well as on its Physician Self-Referral, Physician Hospital Organization and Integrated Delivery System Task Forces.

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Mr. Thallner is a partner in the Philadelphia office and head of the Philadelphia Health Care Law practice. He has substantial experience in structuring, negotiating and documenting a variety of business transactions involving proprietary and charitable health industry clients, including mergers and acquisitions, physicians network development, financing, securities offerings, joint ventures and contractual relationships among providers and with third-party payers.
Mr. Werner is a zealous advocate for his clients, both in and out of the courtroom. He has a varied litigation practice, representing physicians and other healthcare providers and organizations in civil litigation, criminal investigations and prosecutions, and professional licensing actions. In that capacity, Mr. Werner regularly handles matters related to post-payment audits, overpayment disputes and litigation, insurance fraud investigations and prosecutions, benefit disputes, and allegations of professional misconduct. Mr. Werner’s post-payment audit practice places special emphasis on the unique and complicated audits conducted by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services and its contractors. Mr. Werner is licensed in New Jersey, New York and Pennsylvania.

Michael is a partner in the firm's Health Law Practice and in its Corporate Department. His practice involves representation of a broad range of entrepreneurs and small businesses, focusing on physicians and professional practices, in particular the formation and management of their business endeavors. Michael concentrates in the field of health care where he has worked closely with more than 100 medical practices and physicians and helps them anticipate issues and set the groundwork for smooth operations and the resolution of disputes. Michael also has a strong background in business law, and serves as de facto general counsel for closely held and small businesses, coordinating all of their legal matters from formation and growth periods to maturity stages and exit strategies. Michael has given many presentations to medical groups on topics addressing the issues and challenges they face. Martindale-Hubbell "AV" rated, Michael has been quoted in the Pittsburgh Tribune-Review on year-end tax tips and has authored an article in Smart Business/Pittsburgh on "Avoiding Hiring Headaches."