

HALL BOOTH SMITH, P.C.



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Partner

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Biography

Ryan M. Donihue is a Partner in the Atlanta office, and he has decades of experience in defending clients all over the country in complex litigation such as medical malpractice, birth trauma, catastrophic injury, and other high-exposure medical claims.

Ryan represents insurers, hospitals, physician groups, laboratories, and other health care organizations on a wide variety of both litigation and health care related matters. In addition to working with health care organizations, he also represents doctors, nurses, obstetricians, midwives, labor and delivery nurses, neonatologists, psychologists, psychiatrists, podiatrists, and health care professionals in complex medical malpractice actions and related issues.

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Ryan has significant experience handling medical malpractice class actions and batch claims. Specifically, he is at the forefront of defending these types of specialty actions and claims having extensively litigated them across the United States.

As a co-leader of the [Dental](#) practice group at HBS, Ryan has a

Services

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specialty practice in representing dentists, hygienists, oral and maxillofacial surgeons, orthodontists, and other dental providers in the wide variety of claims they may face.

Ryan's work with health care providers goes far beyond litigation defense. He also represents professionals across the entire health care spectrum in disciplinary proceedings, licensing issues, internal investigations, contracts and employment issues, and other day-to-day needs.

A sought-after lecturer throughout the country, Ryan is often invited to speak to professionals, health care institutions, and insurance companies on how to effectively defend complex medical and dental malpractice actions. He frequently publishes articles about a wide range of medical malpractice and health care issues.

Before joining HBS, Ryan was a Partner with Martin Clearwater & Bell, LLP, which was the oldest medical malpractice defense and health care firm in the state of New York. Earlier in his career, he was an Assistant Corporation Counsel with the New York City Law Department, where he represented hospitals and health care providers in the Medical Malpractice Unit of the Office of the Corporation Counsel.

Ryan earned a Juris Doctor with a focus on health law from New York Law School, and he received a Bachelor of Arts from the University of Puget Sound.

Experience

Coronavirus

Ryan Donihue is a member of the [Coronavirus Strategic Team](#), which is a dedicated team of experienced attorneys that help businesses, governments, schools, and individuals develop best practices for closures, re-openings, and other complex legal and operational issues that arise during the unprecedented global pandemic. Our team includes attorneys who specialize in medical malpractice, aging services, liability, employment, insurance,

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regulatory matters, and other areas most impacted by the novel coronavirus.

Dental

Ryan is a co-leader of the [Dental](#) practice group. He specializes in the representation and defense of oral and maxillofacial surgeons, periodontists, orthodontists, endodontists, general dentists, pediatric dentists, hygienists, and their practices and staff members in malpractice actions. Additionally, he has extensively represented dentists at professional licensing matters before the state board. Ryan has also published articles and lectured on the developing trends in dental malpractice and affirmative steps to take in order to avoid professional discipline by the state board.

Medical Malpractice

Ryan focuses his practice on the defense of hospitals, physicians, midwives, nurses, and institutional employees in birth trauma and catastrophic injury cases. He also represents and defends health care institutions, private practices, physicians, psychologists, nurses, physician assistants, medical students, and medical practice staff members in complex medical malpractice actions from inception through trial.

Ryan has extensive experience representing health care professionals before state Boards in licensing and disciplinary matters. Finally, he has lectured at hospital grand rounds, discussing the increasing trends in malpractice actions, state investigations and professional discipline cases.

Credentials

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Admitted

State Courts:

- Arkansas
- Colorado
- Connecticut
- Georgia
- Missouri
- Montana
- New York
- North Carolina
- Oklahoma
- Texas
- West Virginia
- Wyoming

Education

- J.D., New York Law School
- B.A., University of Puget Sound

Memberships

- American Bar Association
- American Society For Cytotechnology
- Connecticut State Bar Association, Healthcare Committee
- Defense Research Institute (DRI)

More +

- Georgia State Bar Association
- National Institute, Trial Lawyers Association
- New York State Bar Association, Healthcare Committee
- North Carolina State Bar Association
- Physician Insurers Association of America

Presentations

- **A Simulated Dental Malpractice Trial: as Real as it Gets Without Being in Court**
Rocky Mountain Dental Convention; January 19, 2024
- **Public Quality Data 101: Understanding Institutional Aging**
Annual Long Term Care Insurance ExecuSummit; September 12, 2023
- **Taking Back the Defense**
National Pediatric Risk Managers Meeting; March 2, 2023
- **Simulated Malpractice Mock Trial: COVID-19 Lawsuit**
2020 ADA FDC Virtual Connect Conference, October 2020

More +

- **A Simulated Dental Practice Court Case Presented Live - Oral Cancer Misdiagnosis**
Rocky Mountain Dental Convention, January 2018
- **Can Your Dental Team Help Defend You in a Malpractice Lawsuit?**
American Dental Association Meeting, October 2017
- **Informed Consent: Why, Where and How to Make it Work**
American Dental Association Meeting, October 2017
- **Dental Mock Trial**
Southwest Dental Conference, September 2017
- **Rising Tide of Civil Litigation: Defense of Dentists & Battling Expert Testimony**
Georgia Dental Association's Annual Meeting at Amelia Island, July 2017
- **A Simulated Dental Malpractice Trial Presentation**
California Dental Association, May 2017
- **Discover the Lost Tribes: Physician Malpractice Panel**
Panel discussion, Crittenden Medical Insurance Conference in Miami, FL, April 2017
- **A Simulated Dental Malpractice Trial Presentation**
Annual Hinman Dental Meeting at the Georgia World Congress Center and Omni Hotel, March 2017
- **A Simulated Dental Malpractice Trial Presentation**
American Dental Association Annual Meeting in Denver,

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Colorado, October 2016

- **CNA Dental Professional Liability**
Risk Management seminar, October 2016
- **Ethics, Jurisprudence and Dentistry**
Georgia Regents University, March 2016
- **A Simulated Dental Malpractice Trial Presentation**
American Dental Association's 156th ADA Annual Session,
November 11, 2015
- **Nurse Practitioners and Physician Assistants: Liability
Issues and Scope of Practice**
Invited Speaker, American Conference Institute
- **Elopement and Related Issues**
Invited Speaker, Grand Rounds, Flushing Hospital Medical
Center, Department of Pediatrics
- **Documentation and Disclosure of Protected Pediatric
Patient Information**
Invited Speaker, Grand Rounds, Flushing Hospital Medical
Center, Department of Pediatrics
- **Rising Malpractice Trends in Oral and Maxillofacial
Surgery**
Invited Speaker, Grand Rounds, New York Medical College,
Department of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery
- **Defensive Practice Techniques by Healthcare Workers**
Invited Speaker, City University of New York Department of
Health Sciences
- **Step-by-Step Approach to Defending Malpractice
Actions and Relate Healthcare Issues**
Invited Speaker, City University of New York Department of
Health Sciences
- **Successful Approach to Mediation and Alternative
Dispute Resolution**
Invited Speaker, City University of New York Department of
Health Sciences
- **Legal Perspective: Maintaining Ethics and Other
Aspects of Your Practice**
American Psychological Association (APA) Conference,
August 2021

Publications

- **Qualified Settlement Fund: An often overlooked and underutilized tool to ensure final resolution and client protection from third-party lien holders**
HBS Catastrophic Injury Litigation Blog; July 19, 2021
- **ACOG Provides Guidance To Healthcare Practitioners Whose Patients Are “At-Risk” For Coronavirus Disease-2019**
HBS Coronavirus Litigation Blog; March 20, 2020
- **The Impact Of The National Opioid Epidemic On Obstetric, Maternal-Fetal, Neonatal & Pediatric Medicine**
HBS Opioid Task Force Blog, April 2018
- **Demystifying the Office of Professional Discipline and its Investigative Process**
Martin Clearwater & Bell Defense Practice Update, October 2014

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- **Defending a Lack of Informed Consent Claim in Mini-Dental Implant Surgery**
Medical Liability Mutual Insurance Company Dental Dateline, Fall 2011
- **The Responsibilities of the General Dentist to Screen Patients for Oral Cancers**
Martin Clearwater & Bell LLP Bulletin, Summer 2011

In the Press

Qualified Settlement Fund: An often overlooked and underutilized tool to ensure final

resolution and client protection from third-party lien holders

July 19, 2021

Written by: Ryan M. Donihue, Esq. Defense attorneys in medical malpractice or catastrophic injury cases often overlook and do not utilize the important and available tool of a Qualified Settlement Fund in order to ensure full protection for a client when there is a third-party lien holder, and the Plaintiff is threatening to walk away

[Read More](#)

ACOG Provides Guidance to Healthcare Practitioners Whose Patients Are “At-Risk” For Coronavirus Disease-2019

March 20, 2020

Written by: Ryan Donihue, Esq. With the focus of the global pandemic principally on older adults and those who have serious underlying medical conditions (e.g., heart disease, diabetes, asthma and lung disease), another significant group of individuals have essentially been left out of the discussion who are at an even higher risk for developing severe

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HBS Welcomes Ryan Donihue as Of Counsel and Sean Cox as an Associate to the Atlanta Office

July 31, 2015

HBS is pleased to welcome Ryan M. Donihue as Of Counsel and Sean Cox as an Associate to its Atlanta office. Mr. Donihue focuses his practice on the defense of dentists, podiatrists, physicians, hospitals, and laboratories in medical malpractice and other health care issues. He also represents health care

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professionals in professional disciplinary proceedings. Before
joining HBS, Mr.

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