



## Medical Negligence & Healthcare

Pretzel & Stouffer is and has been committed to protecting medical professionals and institutions in the courtroom. We take more cases to a jury verdict than any other Illinois firm of comparable size, and our attorneys routinely prevail in complex, multimillion-dollar cases.

When the volume of healthcare-related litigation ballooned in the 1970s, we were one of the first firms to establish an elite practice dedicated to defending medical practitioners against malpractice and negligence lawsuits. Today, healthcare organizations of every kind rely on us to secure the best possible outcome for their most challenging cases.

As highly experienced trial lawyers, we built a track record that encourages many opponents to voluntarily dismiss cases of dubious liability. As a result, our reputation allows us to negotiate settlements from a position of strength. We analyze each case from the mindset of a trial lawyer, utilizing our extensive courtroom experience to make practical assessments of potential liability and exposure related to claims against our clients.

We have successfully defended high-profile lawsuits against hospitals and virtually every type of healthcare organization, including surgical centers, medical corporations, freestanding medical centers, and clinics. Clients frequently retain our firm to take their cases to trial, particularly when other law firms lack the skill and aggressive nature to do so.

As a premier trial firm, our attorneys have successfully defended hundreds of physicians, surgeons and physician groups practicing in all areas of medical specialty involving every type of liability theory under the law. We have secured jury verdicts for nurses and physician assistants in claims arising from medical treatment received in operating rooms, emergency departments, neonatal intensive care units, and other specialty areas. We are also regularly called upon to defend dentists, endodontists, oral surgeons, and other dental professionals.

Our trial and defense experience extends to complex issues involving psychiatrists, psychologists, social workers, and counselors in cases involving suicide, the side effects of prescribed medication, psychoanalytic malpractice, dissociation, transference/countertransference, and other issues. We routinely advise clients on compliance and disclosure issues involving the Illinois Mental Health and Developmental Disabilities Confidentiality Act (IMHDDCA).

We also have considerable experience representing medical professionals before licensing boards and we are well-versed on the investigatory and disciplinary procedures of the Illinois Department of Financial and Professional Regulation (IDFPR) and the National Practitioner Data Bank.

Our reputation in the field of medical and healthcare negligence is exceptional. With this distinction and given our extraordinary skills, we consistently deliver positive results for clients faced with potentially damaging claims.