



Catherine M. Ballard

Partner



Catherine Ballard works with clients in the areas of hospital/medical staff integration, medical staff and hospital-employed physician integration, quality assessment and performance improvement, and related peer review matters. She develops medical staff/advanced practice provider governing documents and also provides advice on Medicare conditions of participation and private accreditation, provider scope of practice, physician recruitment/employment and general patient care. Additionally, she provides fair hearing officer services.

From 1985–1987, Catherine served as a law clerk to Judge John D. Holschuh of the Federal District Court for the Southern District of Ohio. She is a regular speaker at national forums where she speaks on a variety of health care issues, such as health care quality management, credentialing and peer review, medical staff governance, fair hearings, ethics and related patient care issues.

CONTACT INFORMATION

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Bar Admissions & Activities

- Admitted, State of Ohio, 1985

Education

- The Ohio State University College of Law (J.D., *summa cum laude*), 1985
- University of Louisville (B.A.), 1975

Awards & Recognition

- Recognized, *ChambersUSA*, Health Care with a Band 3 ranking, 2020; Band 2 ranking, 2014–2019
- Listed, *Best Lawyers in America* (Health Care Law), 1995–2020
- Listed, *Ohio Super Lawyers* (Health Care), 2004–2018
- Listed, Top 25 Women Columbus, *Ohio Super Lawyers*, 2010–2016
- Listed, Top 50 Women, *Ohio Super Lawyers*, 2004–2006, 2009–2014
- Listed, Top 50 Columbus, *Super Lawyers*, 2010, 2013–2014
- Listed, Top 100, *Ohio Super Lawyers*, 2013
- Ranked as AV Preeminent by Martindale-Hubbell

INDUSTRIES & PRACTICES

Health Care Law
Health Care Industry

Catherine Ballard lives medical staff issues daily and that experience cannot be overestimated. She handles such disputes in a cost-effective and professional manner. I would recommend her as 'the best' in this area in all of Ohio.

Bricker client as quoted in Best Lawyers, 2019



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Presentations & Published Works

- Panelist, "Credentialing/Quality Open Forum," Ohio Association of Medical Staff Services Conference, November 2019
- Speaker, "Triaging Practitioner Occurrences: Who Gets What When You Have a Practitioner Issue," Ohio Association of Medical Staff Services Conference, November 2019
- Speaker, "Balancing the Quality Roles of the Medical Staff and the Service Lines," Ohio Association of Medical Staff Services Conference, November 2019
- Speaker, "Balancing the Quality Roles of the Medical Staff and the Service Lines," 43rd NAMSS Educational Conference, October 2019
- Speaker, "Who Gets What When You Have a Practitioner Issue?," Indiana Association of Medical Staff Services, October 2019
- Speaker, "Who Gets What and Why: The Case of the Three-Legged Stool," Iowa Hospital Association Annual Meeting, October 2019
- Speaker, "Preparation and Pitfalls for a Fair Hearing," Ohio Hospital Association Annual Meeting, June 2019
- Speaker, "#MeToo and Your Medical Staff: Handling Allegations of Misconduct," Ohio Hospital Association Annual Meeting, June 2019
- Speaker, "Medical Staff Appointment & Privileging Options—Knowing What to Use When," Ohio Hospital Association Annual Meeting, June 2018
- Speaker, "Who Gets What and Why," Ohio Hospital Association Annual Meeting, June 2018
- Author, "You Just Can't Make This Stuff Up" NAMSS *Synergy* Professional Journal, January/February 2018
- Speaker, "Is Your Medical Staff Looking at Medical Necessity?," NAMSS, October 2017
- Speaker, "You Just Can't Make This Stuff Up: Strange Credentialing Scenarios," NAMSS, October 2017
- Speaker, "Colliding World: Medical Necessity v. Medical Quality Review," ASHRM, October 2017
- Speaker, "Risk Management Webinar - Peer Review in Today's World," Premier, Inc., October 2017
- Speaker, "Are You Sure Your Incident Reports Are Protected?," OSHRM/SOHA Fall Conference, September 2017
- Speaker, "Negligent Credentialing Claims in Ohio - Active and Under Attack," Ohio Hospital Association Annual Meeting, June 2017
- Speaker, "Telemedicine: Who, What & Why," Ohio Hospital Association Annual Meeting, June 2017
- Speaker, "The Value of a Practitioner Effectiveness Committee," Ohio Hospital Association Annual Meeting, June 2017
- Speaker, "What makes a good external review and why do you care?" Ohio Association of Healthcare Quality Annual Conference, May 2017
- Speaker, "The Patient Safety Quality Improvement Act and Ohio's Peer Review Privilege," Webinar by Bricker & Eckler, 2016



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- Speaker, "Colliding Worlds—Medical Necessity v. Medical Staff Review," Webinar for National Association of Medical Staff Services, 2016
- Speaker, "How to Prepare & Prevail at a Fair Hearing," numerous meetings across the country for several years
- Speaker, "Medical Staff Leadership 4 Part Webinar," annual Webinar by Bricker & Eckler
- Speaker, "The Peer Review Process and Conflicts of Interest," Alaska Association of Medical Staff Professionals, 2016
- Speaker, "Peer Review Importance and What is Effective," Kentucky Association of Medical Staff Services, 2016
- Speaker, "Telemedicine—Who, What, Where & Why," Massachusetts Association of Medical Staff Services, 2016
- Speaker, "Quality Oversight of Advanced Practice Providers," Michigan Association of Medical Staff Services, 2016
- Speaker, "Recognizing the Importance of and Distinguishing Between Informal Remediation & Corrective Action," Nebraska Association of Medical Staff Services, 2016
- Speaker, "What Does It Mean To Be Ethical?" National Association of Medical Staff Service, 2016
- Speaker, "Negligent Credentialing," Ohio Association of Medical Staff Services, 2016
- Speaker, "A Second Look At Corrective Action – Understanding Available Options," Ohio Hospital Association Annual Meeting, 2015
- Speaker, "CMS CoPs: Unified Medical Staffs? Optometrist Appointments? Lots of Options," Ohio Hospital Association Annual Meeting, 2015
- Speaker, "The National Practitioner Data Bank and Its Guidebook," Arizona Association of Medical Staff Services, 2015

Professional & Community Activities

- Member, American Health Lawyers Association and Society of Ohio Healthcare Attorneys
- Member, National Association of Medical Staff Services (Ethics Committee)
- Member, Medical Staff Legislation, Regulation, & Accreditation Board for the HC Pro Credentialing Resource Center

Experience

Medical staff

Developed a template for medical staff bylaws for the Ohio Hospital Association and individual medical staff governing documents for hospitals and for systems with more than one hospital to assure compliance with federal, state and private regulations as well as best practices.



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Peer review process

Developed a peer review process for physicians employed by hospital-affiliated entities and created documents that permitted the sharing of peer review information between the hospital and the affiliated entity.

Peer review consultant to a hospital pursuant to a corporate integrity agreement.

HCQIA

Represented hospitals in suits by practitioners contesting termination of appointment/privileges and prevailed on motions for summary judgment whereby the court granted immunity from damages under HCQIA to all defendants.