



Jennifer Gannon Crisera

Shareholder, Vice President and Corporate Secretary

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Jennifer is a trial attorney focusing on the defense of medical malpractice claims against hospitals, physicians, and other health care providers. She specializes in birth injury litigation. In addition to medical malpractice lawsuits, Jennifer represents healthcare providers in arbitrations, private trials, and before administrative and disciplinary boards, and advises health care systems on quality improvement and credentialing matters. She has further experience working on product liability claims, including drug and medical device lawsuits, asbestos-related matters, and multi-district litigation of pharmaceutical claims. Jennifer practices in state and federal court. She has been selected to Washington *Super Lawyers*® from 2016 to 2023, the *Super Lawyers*' Top 50 Women Lawyers list from 2021-2023, the *Super Lawyers*' Top 100 Lawyers in Washington list in 2022 and 2023, and selected for inclusion in *The Best Lawyers in America*® from 2019 to 2023.

REPRESENTATIVE CASES

- Successfully defended an emergency general surgeon in a three-week trial regarding claimed medical negligence for failure to properly repair obstetrical tear.
- Successfully defended an emergency medicine physician in a three-week trial regarding claimed medical negligence for failure to diagnose a rare stroke.
- Successfully defended a gynecologist in a three-week trial regarding claimed medical negligence for a venous injury sustained during a hysterectomy.
- Successfully defended a pediatrician in a four-week trial regarding claimed medical negligence in caring for an infant who developed hyperbilirubinemia.
- Successfully defended an obstetrician in a five-week trial regarding claimed medical negligence while managing a prolapsed cord during a labor and delivery.
- Secured dismissal of claims by a donor against a plasma company for claimed negligence at the trial court and appellate level.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

- Shareholder, Bennett Bigelow & Leedom, P.S., 2015–present
- Associate, Bennett Bigelow & Leedom, P.S., 2010–2014
- Associate, Williams Kastner & Gibbs PLLC, 2004–2010
- Summer Associate, Williams Kastner & Gibbs PLLC, 2003
- Legal Intern, Demco Law Firm P.S., 2002–2003
- Summer Intern, Khattar Wong & Partners, Singapore, 2002

AWARDS AND RECOGNITION

- Selected for inclusion in *The Best Lawyers in America*, 2019 – 2023
Medical Malpractice Law – Defendants
- Selected to the Washington *Super Lawyers*® list, 2016 – 2023
- Selected to the Washington Super Lawyers® Top 100 Lawyers list, 2022-2023
- Selected to the Washington *Super Lawyers*® Top 50 Women Lawyers list, 2021 - 2023
- Selected to the Washington *Super Lawyers Rising Stars*® list, 2010 - 2012

PROFESSIONAL AND COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

- Defense Research Institute (DRI), Young Lawyers Committee, Steering Committee Member, 2005–2012
- Federation of Defense & Corporate Counsel (FDCC)
- Washington Defense Trial Lawyers (WDTL)
- Washington Health Care Risk Management Society (WHCRM)
- American Society of Healthcare Risk Management (ASHRM)
- Mother Attorneys Mentoring Association of Seattle (“MAMA Seattle”)
- Mock Trial Coach, Lakeside School, 2018-present
- Adjunct Professor, HLTH-420 Medical Liability, Seattle University School of Law
- Parent Volunteer, Holy Rosary School, 2018-present
- International Association of Defense Counsel Trial Academy, Participant, 2007
- Parent Volunteer, St. Joseph School, 2014-2018
- Ladder Down Seattle, Graduate, 2016

PUBLICATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

- Presenter, “Capacity, Competency and Consent”, Skagit Regional Health, December 2020
- Co-Presenter, “Informed Consent and Shared Decision Making”, The Vancouver Clinic, November 2020
- Presenter, “Applying Flyte to the COVID-19 pandemic”, Washington Health Care Risk Management Society, June 2020
- Presenter, “Caring for Mental/Behavioral Health Patients in the ED”, Ocean Beach Hospital, March 2020
- Presenter, “Clear as Mud: An Overview of Healthcare QI/QA, Peer Review & Credentialing in Washington”, Washington State Bar Association, Health Law Section, March 2019
- Co-Presenter, “Risk Management Tips for OB Nurses”, Association of Women’s Health, Obstetric & Neonatal Nurses’ Washington Fall Conference, October 2018
- Co-Presenter, “Risk Management Implications & Considerations Ricky’s Law”, WHCRMS Education Session, April 2018
- Presenter, “Myth-Busting from the Legal Perspective”, Washington State Medical Association’s *Improving Value in Health Care: The Choosing Wisely® Summit*, October 2017
- Co-Presenter, “Medical Records Law”, NBI Seminar, May 2017
- Co-Presenter, “Tips on How to Protect Yourself from Malpractice”, American College of Physicians - Washington Chapter, April 2011
- Co-Author, “Client Alert: Court of Appeals’ Decision Requires Hospital to Search its Quality Assurance Database to Respond to Discovery Requests,” January 31, 2011.
- Author, “*Poliner v. Texas Health Systems*: Confirming Peer Review Immunity,” *Washington Healthcare News*, May 2009.
- Author, “Attorney-Client and Work Product: Past and Upcoming Changes to the Federal Rules,” *For The Defense*, February 2008.
- Contributing Author, “Your Obligations to Patients Who Speak Limited English,” *Neurology Today*, June 5, 2007.
- Co-Author, “Meaningful Access to All: Health Care and Limited English Proficiency Patients,” *For The Defense*, November 2005.
- Co-Author, “Pediatric Suicide and Anti-Depressants: An Overview of Regulatory Actions, FDA Warnings and *Daubert* Challenges,” *For The Defense*, June 2005.
- Contributing Editor, *Tort Law Desk Reference: A Fifty-State Compendium*, Washington State chapter, 2005, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009, 2010 editions.

EDUCATION

Seattle University School of Law, J.D., *magna cum laude*

Presidential Scholar, 2001-2004

Seattle University Law Review, Associate Editor, 2002-2003, Managing Editor, 2003-2004

National University of Singapore School of Law, Study Abroad Program

University of Washington, B.A., Political Science

BAR AND COURT ADMISSIONS

Washington State Bar Association

U.S. Court of Appeals, Ninth Circuit

U.S. District Court, Western District of Washington

U.S. District Court, Eastern District of Washington