

## JENNIFER CHRISTIANSON

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Office Location:



### Overview

Jennifer Christianson is a partner in LashGoldberg's Miami office.

Jennifer brings 20 years of experience handling complex commercial litigation matters and providing sophisticated operational and regulatory advice to help clients manage their business risks. Prior to joining the firm, Jennifer was a partner and practiced at several large, national law firms.

A substantial part of her practice consists of representing large corporate health care clients in complex commercial litigation, class actions, governmental and internal investigations, employment matters, and providing operational and regulatory compliance advice. Jennifer's previous work experience in the health care industry gives her unique insights and practical perspectives in understanding her clients' needs.

In the health care space, Jennifer handles class action, qui tam and whistleblower defense, licensure and accreditation matters, regulatory compliance matters such as Stark, Anti-Kickback, EMTALA, Medical Staff Bylaws, Rules & Regulations, Policies & Procedures, Peer Review and Credentialing, Risk Management, non-competition issues, quality assurance, and privacy issues involving HIPAA, HITECH, and other laws and regulations.

Jennifer received her law degree *summa cum laude* from The University of Miami School of Law, where she served as the Editor-in-Chief of the *Law Review*, and her undergraduate degree *magna cum laude* from Carleton College. After graduating from law school, Jennifer served as a law clerk for The Honorable Stanley Marcus, Circuit Court Judge for the United States Eleventh Circuit Court of Appeals.

## Principal Practice Areas:

- Alternative Dispute Resolution
- Appellate Advocacy
- Class Actions
- Complex Commercial Litigation
- Employment Litigation
- Government Investigations, False Claims Act and White Collar Criminal Defense
- Health Care Operations
- Health Care Litigation

## Education:

- University of Miami School of Law, *summa cum laude*
  - Soia Mentschikoff Scholarship
  - Editor-in-Chief, *University of Miami Law Review*
- Carleton College, *magna cum laude*

## Admissions:

- Florida
- U.S. Court of Appeals for the Eleventh Circuit
- U.S. District Court for the Southern District of Florida
- U.S. District Court for the Middle District of Florida

## Honors:

- Speaker, Florida Association of Medical Staff Services, Education Conference
- Soia Mentschikoff Scholarship, University of Miami School of Law
- Editor-in-Chief, *University of Miami Law Review*
- University of Miami School of Law, *summa cum laude*
- Carleton College, *magna cum laude*

## Representative Matters:

- Represented hospitals in significant and often-cited line of cases finding that physicians must exhaust their administrative remedies prior to challenging a hospital's peer review and credentialing process.
- Represented hospitals in significant and often-cited line of cases finding that hospitals are immune from suit under Florida law when a claim arises out of the hospital's peer review and credentialing

process absent allegations of intentional fraud.

- Represented a hospital in a case of first impression finding that Florida statutory protections for credentialing apply to medical staff screening process for threshold eligibility criteria.
- Represented a hospital in a case of first impression addressing the constitutionality and application of the ballot initiative passed by Florida voters in November 2004 and known as Amendment 7, “the Patients' Right to Know About Adverse Medical Incidents.”
- Represented healthcare providers in case dismissing federal False Claims Act allegations based on alleged violations of the Stark Law.
- Obtained summary judgment for hospital in defense of class action claims alleging unlawful balance billing and violations of the Florida Deceptive and Unfair Trade Practices Act.
- Obtained dismissal of class action claims against a hospital based on allegations of data breach.
- Defeated class certification for a hospital in a case alleging the hospital charged excessive fees.
- Obtained dismissal of tort claims against a hospital based on allegations of invasion of privacy.
- Obtained dismissal of malicious prosecution claims against an insurance company’s special investigative unit.
- Represented famous athlete whose personal information was stolen and misused in successful case seeking to prevent disclosure.
- Represented hospital and physicians in successful litigation to remove false and fraudulent reviews on public websites that were posted by a competitor posing as former patients and seeking damages.
- Represented medical staffs in multiple peer review hearings from the initial investigation stages through final hearing.
- Developed and drafted medical staff bylaws for multiple campuses, including the use of screening processes for threshold eligibility criteria.