

Lori R. Semlies
Partner

Contact

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Services

Medical Malpractice & Health
Care

Admissions

Bars

New York, New Jersey

Courts

U.S. District Court, Southern District of
New York

U.S. District Court, Eastern District of
New York

Memberships & Affiliations

New York Bar Association
Medical Malpractice Defense Bar
Association of New York

Education

Touro College Jacob D. Fuchsberg Law
Center, J.D., 1994, *magna cum laude*

University at Albany, B.A., 1991

Certifications/Licenses



Lori Semlies, a co-chair of the firm's Medical Malpractice & Health Care practice, focuses on the defense of medical and nursing home malpractice claims in state and federal courts, including all phases of litigation through trial. She has handled appeals in the New York Appellate Division, First and Second Departments, and before the Second Circuit Court of Appeals.

As part of her risk management services for clients, Lori frequently lectures at conferences across the country on best practices in documentation in a medical institution. She also assists clients with drafting admission agreements and protocols and helps them manage crisis situations. Lori writes for Wilson Elser's blog "Professional Liability Advocate," available on the firm's website.

Lori currently serves as a member of the steering committee of Wilson Elser's Women Attorneys Valued & Empowered (WAVE) initiative, which exemplifies the firm's enlightened approach to advancing the professional and personal well-being of its women attorneys.

Areas of Focus

Medical Malpractice

Lori's practice encompasses the defense of hospitals and physicians in medical malpractice cases arising in all areas of medical specialty, from orthopedics to neurosurgery, and involving all types of claims, from brain-damaged infants to failure to diagnose cancer. She also defends dentists, podiatrists, laboratories and remote radiological interpretation providers.

Long-term Care Facilities and Nursing Homes

Co-chair of the firm's national nursing home litigation team within the Medical Malpractice practice, Lori has particular knowledge of the state and federal regulations that pertain to long-term care facilities. Cases that she handles in connection with nursing homes typically arise from the development of decubitus ulcers, falls that lead to fractures or brain injuries, and allegations of failure to diagnose or properly treat a patient. To limit or avoid punitive damages available to plaintiffs under local or federal statute, Lori and the other members of the firm's nursing home team have developed useful strategies for getting claims dismissed and have crafted arguments for limiting the use of evidence during the liability phase of a trial. Lori is a much-sought-after speaker on best practices, using a mock examination of nursing staff to demonstrate the potential pitfalls of inadequate documentation.