



## MAUREEN O. BRYAN

### PARTNER

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Maureen Bryan, partner and leader of the firm's Health Care and Life Sciences industry team, is in part responsible for many of Missouri's top ranking defense verdicts. As a member of the firm's award-winning Mass Tort and Catastrophic Loss practice area, she defends clients in litigation alleging catastrophic injuries as a result of medical malpractice, products liability and premises liability. In addition, she represents clients in matters involving the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA), the Office for Civil Rights (OCR), and breach of protected health information, including conducting risk assessments, developing strategies to remedy data breaches, complying with notice and regulatory requirements, OCR investigations and reporting, and defending resulting civil litigation.

Experienced in all aspects of litigation, Maureen has tried cases to verdict in courts across the United States. Outside of the courtroom, Maureen's experience includes hundreds of successful mediations and settlement negotiations throughout the nation. Before resolving a case, Maureen counsels clients through the complexities of case investigation, liability assessment, valuation and discovery. She also provides advice on methods to avoid litigation and steps to mitigate risk.

Maureen represents some of the nation's largest hospital corporations, Fortune 500 companies, and physician groups in a broad range of claims that include catastrophic birth injuries, surgical complications, failure to diagnose or appropriately treat medical conditions, misdiagnosis of medical conditions, HIPAA violations, OCR investigations, protected health information data breaches, pharmaceutical and medical device products liability, as well as nonmedical premises liability and products liability claims.

### Health Care

A wide range of health care clients, including hospitals, clinics, nursing homes, nurses, physicians and physician assistants turn to Maureen to defend medical malpractice cases. The matters she frequently handles concern obstetric malpractice and birth injury, traumatic brain and severe neurologic injuries, and wrongful death. Her experience includes defending cases involving all aspects of medical care and all types of conditions, complications and injuries. In addition, Maureen's experience includes defending claims related to the use of pharmaceuticals, medical devices, "never events," fraud and hospital policy failures.

Maureen also counsels clients on ways to reduce liability and minimize litigation costs. She provides advice on revisions to policies and procedures, consent forms, and other pertinent documents governing day-to-day operations.

### SERVICES AND INDUSTRIES

Privacy and Data Security

Litigation

Mass Tort and Catastrophic Loss

Health Care and Life Sciences

Medical Malpractice

Product Liability

### ADMISSIONS

Missouri

Illinois

Florida

Tennessee

U.S. District Court, District of

Columbia

## **HIPAA /Data Breaches**

Maureen's experience includes investigating and defending matters arising out of HIPAA violations and protected health information data breaches. Maureen works with clients to analyze, develop and implement HIPAA compliant policies, procedures and programs. This includes providing advice about best practices, potential HIPAA and privacy exposure, and conducting in-house HIPAA and data breach training.

## **Products Liability**

Maureen defends clients in medical device, pharmaceutical, and nonmedical products liability claims. This area of her practice encompasses defending claims involving many different types of products including medical devices, medical implants, pharmaceuticals, electronic and motorized products, and products causing electrocutions.

## **Personal Injury and Premises Liability**

Maureen's varied work includes defending clients against personal injury claims arising from the following: slips and falls at retailers, casinos and health care facilities; auto accidents; and explosions, electrocutions, and other events. She has also tried and resolved many cases involving premises liability claims, accidents, threats to public health, and injuries from the mishandling of products.

## **EDUCATION**

- Washburn University School of Law (J.D., *magna cum laude*, 1994)
- University of Arizona (B.A., 1990)

## **PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES**

- The Missouri Bar
- Illinois State Bar Association
- The Florida Bar
- Tennessee Bar Association
- The District of Columbia Bar
- Defense Research Institute

## **CHARITABLE AND CIVIC INVOLVEMENT**

- St. Louis Area Foodbank (Board of Directors)
- Christ the King Home and School Association (Past Treasurer and President)
- Christ the King Board of Education (Past President)
- Jensen-Schmidt Tennis Academy for Down Syndrome (Volunteer)
- Criminal Justice Ministry (Board Member)

## ACCOLADES

- Benchmark Litigation, Local Litigation Star (2019-present)
- Missouri Lawyers Weekly Women's Justice Awards, Litigation category honoree (2018)
- Obtained Missouri's second-largest defense verdict in 2013 in a case Missouri Lawyers Weekly valued the verdict at \$13 million.
- Won Missouri's largest defense verdict in 2010.

## BACKGROUND

Before joining Armstrong Teasdale as a partner in 2007, Maureen practiced at other firms located in Florida and Missouri.

## EXPERIENCE

### **Data Privacy, Antitrust and HIPAA Breach**

Investigated and resolved matters involving violations of the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA), protected health information data breaches, and Office for Civil Rights (OCR) reporting and investigations, including the inadvertent misdirection of more than 1,500 patients' protected health information and the intentional disclosure by an employee of protected health information.

### **Defense Verdict for Health Care Client**

Secured a complete defense verdict for client hospital in an IV infiltration case. The plaintiff claimed that, as a result of a contrast extravasation into her right arm during a CT scan, she developed a blister and loss of muscle strength in the arm as well as post-traumatic stress disorder. The plaintiff claimed the client and its employed radiology technician was negligent in timely turning off the contrast after the plaintiff began yelling in pain. Following the three-day jury trial in St. Louis County Circuit Court, the jury ultimately returned a defense verdict.

### **Defense Verdict for University Client in Medical Malpractice, Negligence Case**

Secured a defense verdict in a medical malpractice case in which the plaintiffs asked the jury to return a verdict in excess of \$5 million in favor of a brain-damaged minor. The plaintiffs alleged defendant's failure to appropriately diagnose and treat the minor's mycoplasma pneumonia, and encephalitis resulted in permanent brain damage. The case was complicated in that the treating pediatric neurologist testified on behalf of the minor plaintiff and adverse to the defendant. Testimony included nine experts in the areas of pediatric neurology, infectious disease, autoimmune disorders, pediatric neuropsychology and pediatrics. After a several-week trial, a St. Louis City jury returned a verdict in favor of the defendant.

### **Second-Largest 2013 Missouri Defense Verdict**

Won the second-largest 2013 defense verdict in Missouri for its representation of a hospital in a medical negligence case. The ranking was reported by Missouri Lawyers Weekly.

### **\$17 Million Defense Verdict for Hospital Client in Suit Brought by Neurosurgeon**

Defended a hospital client in a suit against a neurosurgeon who allegedly slipped and fell leaving the operating room in the hospital where he worked. The suit alleged that right-shoulder injuries from the fall ended his career. The last pre-trial demand sought \$17 million in damages. After four days of trial, a defense verdict was returned in favor of our client. The win was ranked the no. 1 defense verdict in the state of Missouri in 2010 by Missouri Lawyers Weekly.