

Christopher J. Churchill

Partner

Senior Living Industry Group Chair

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OVERVIEW:

Chris is a partner in the firm's Business and Real Estate practice groups and chair of the Barley Snyder Senior Living Industry Group. He also is a member and former chair of the Barley Snyder Health Care Industry Group. His extensive legal career includes: mergers and acquisitions, joint ventures and affiliations, regulatory compliance and licensing, corporate governance, payor and other contracting matters.

Chris frequently represents a wide array of clients in the senior living and healthcare sectors, including: CCRCs/Life Plan Communities, nursing homes, assisted living facilities, personal care homes, home/health care agencies, senior housing developers and others in the senior living industry, as well as health care clients, including: hospitals, physician/dental groups, FQHCs/health centers, health plans/TPAs, diagnostic imaging centers and other health care providers.

Mergers & Acquisitions

Chris has extensive experience advising clients on a wide range of mergers and acquisitions, with particular focus on the senior living and health care sectors. He works closely with organizations to navigate the complexities of corporate transactions, from initial structuring to post-transaction integration. Whether handling asset sales, joint ventures, mergers or affiliations, Chris ensures that his clients' strategic goals are aligned with legal and regulatory requirements.

His expertise spans both for-profit and nonprofit entities, helping to manage the nuances of governance issues, financing arrangements and regulatory approvals that often arise during M&A transactions. His ability to navigate complex regulatory landscape makes him a trusted advisor for organizations seeking to expand, reorganize or enter into new partnerships.

Regulatory Compliance & Licensing

Chris regularly assists clients with their complex federal/state regulatory compliance needs. He has substantial experience handling matters related to the False Claims Act and whistleblower actions. He is well-versed in Stark Law and Anti-Kickback Statute compliance, as well as Medicare, Medicaid, and

third-party payor contracting, reimbursement and audits. He also provides guidance on HIPAA/HITECH compliance and Pennsylvania data breach laws.

Additionally, Chris has deep knowledge of regulatory matters involving the Department of Human Services (DHS), Department of Aging (DOA), Department of Health (DOH) and Department of Insurance (DOI), and has represented numerous clients in handling license violations, appeals and hearings.

Chris's thorough understanding of the regulatory environment allows him to anticipate challenges and provide proactive solutions for his clients. His dedication to compliance and risk management ensures that clients operate within the bounds of the law while meeting their financial and organizational goals.

Professional Involvement
Chris has served on the Health Care Policy Committee of the Alexander Graham Bell Association in Washington, D.C., as well as on the boards of various health care and not-for-profit organizations. He is a member of the American Health Lawyers Association and the Pennsylvania Bar Association.

Chris is a frequent author of numerous articles/publications on health care, senior living, corporate compliance and business issues. Scroll below to check out his recent articles.

Chris has been recognized for his work in mergers and acquisitions, earning praise from clients for his strategic guidance and ability to navigate complex transactions. Read more about some of his recent transactions in our Year in Review publications: 2024 Year in Review, 2023 Year in Review and 2022 Year in Review

In his free time, Chris enjoys biking, hikes, exploring wildlife and traveling with his children.

EDUCATION:

- Villanova University Charles Widger School of Law, J.D.
- University of Virginia, B.S. Business
- University of Pennsylvania, Wharton School Executive Finance Program

ADMISSIONS:

- Pennsylvania
- Virginia
- U.S. District Court, Eastern District of Pennsylvania
- U.S. Court of Appeals, Third Circuit

PRACTICE AREAS:

- Business
- Cybersecurity
- Crisis Management
- Real Estate
- Mergers & Acquisitions

INDUSTRY GROUPS:

- Health Care
- Senior Living
- Transportation & Logistics

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT:

Tel Hai Retirement Community
Board Member

Arbor Association
Member of Board of Directors

St. James Episcopal Church, Lancaster
Former Chancellor to the Vestry Board

Alexander Graham Bell Association of Washington, D.C.
Former audit committee member

PRESENTATIONS:

- "Affiliation Strategies that Balance Autonomy with Collaboration", LeadingAge Annual Meeting (2026)
- Community Expansions into Non-Traditional Housing and Mixed-Use Models, Kairos Education Conference & Exhibit (2026)
- "Artificial Intelligence - A Brave New World", Kairos Education Conference & Exhibit (2024)
- "M&A vs. Organic Growth - Governance, Financing and Other Implications", Kairos Education

Conference & Exhibit (2023)

- "COVID-19 Vaccine: The Impact on Health Care and Long Term Care", Barley Snyder Webinar (2020)
- Federal Sentencing Guidelines and Effective Compliance Programs, Financial Executives International - Professional Development Session (2017)
- "Compliance Program Effectiveness", Barley Snyder Business Seminar Series (2012)
- "Managed Care Compliance 101+", HCCA Conference (2012)
- "Evaluating Your Compliance Strategy", Barley Snyder Business Seminar Series (2011)

MEMBERSHIPS:

- American Health Lawyers Association
- Pennsylvania Bar Association

OTHER PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE:

- Former adjunct professor for graduate studies in health care administration, St. Francis University

RELATED NEWS:

- Pennsylvania Launches Proactive Wage and Hour Enforcement Initiative for Home Care Agencies
  September 3, 2026
- New Senate Bill Proposes Expanding Medicaid to Include Assisted Living
  May 7, 2026
- Despite Revalidation Extension for Nursing Facilities, Key Questions Remain Unanswered
  May 23, 2025
- The Slippery Slope of HIPAA Noncompliance
  April 7, 2025
- More Privacy Restrictions to Take Effect Soon No, Not HIPAA
  June 20, 2024
- New Staffing and Other Requirements for Medicare and Medicaid Nursing Facilities
  June 11, 2024
- More Government Scrutiny of Private Equitys Role in Healthcare, Including Nursing Facilities
  March 22, 2024

- Final Ownership Disclosure Requirements for Nursing Facilities
  January 5, 2024
- CMS Proposes Sweeping Disclosure Requirements for Nursing Facilities
  March 7, 2023
- Pennsylvania's Amendments to Data Breach Law Now Extend to Senior Living Entities
  December 29, 2022
- Barley Snyder Partner Christopher Churchill Elected to Tel Hai Retirement Community Board of Directors
  December 15, 2022
- New Federal Scrutiny of Telehealth Abuse Following the COVID Pandemic
  August 2, 2022
- Increased Budget Funding for Pennsylvania's Senior Living Facilities
  July 12, 2022
- Whats Next for LTC Facilities After the Supreme Courts Vaccine Ruling?
  January 18, 2022
- Big Changes Coming for Pa.s LTC Facilities
  October 21, 2021
- New Federal Agency Mandate Supports Vaccinating LTC Staff
  August 2, 2021
- More COVID-19 Relief for Pa. Senior Living Facilities
  July 7, 2021
- New Pressures on LTC Facilities for Vaccinations
  June 3, 2021
- COVID-19 Immunity Law? Be Careful What You Wish For
  May 6, 2021
- Visitation Restrictions Lifted for LTC Facilities
  March 17, 2021
- Feds Alter Provider Relief Fund Requirements
  February 12, 2021
- Health Care Workers to Get Some of First COVID-19 Vaccines
  December 3, 2020
- Last Chance for COVID-19 Provider Relief Funds
  September 9, 2020
- More Mandatory Testing and Funding for Senior Living Facilities
  August 3, 2020
- Delayed Reopening for Pennsylvanias Long-Term Care Facilities
  June 8, 2020

- Pennsylvanias New COVID-19 Testing Directive for Long-Term Care Facilities
  May 18, 2020
- More COVID-19 Emergency Funding for Health Care Providers
  April 27, 2020
- COVID-19 Emergency Fund for Health Care Providers Comes with Restrictions
  April 20, 2020
- Temporary Waivers for Long-Term Care Facilities During COVID-19 Crisis
  April 3, 2020
- How the CARES Act Stimulus Package Could Affect Your Business (UPDATE)
  March 31, 2020
- Families First Exemption Now Expanded to CCRC/Nursing Home Workers
  March 30, 2020
- Telehealth Expanded to Address COVID-19 Crisis
  March 24, 2020
- Understanding Quarantines in Pennsylvania Senior Living Facilities
  March 16, 2020
- Coronavirus and Senior Living Facilities
  March 4, 2020
- Compliance Plans Now Mandatory for Long-Term Care Facilities
  January 28, 2020
- Binding Arbitration Again an Option for Long-Term Care Facilities
  August 6, 2019
- How the Federal Government Shutdown Could Affect Your Business
  January 24, 2019
- New Anti-Kickback Safe Harbors May Stimulate Senior Living Investment
  November 8, 2018
- Continuing Care at Home: Should CCRCs Take the Plunge?
  October 18, 2018
- Can a Surgeons Questionable Medical Judgment Support a False Claims Case?
  September 19, 2018
- CMS Relaxes Immediate Jeopardy Standard for Nursing Facilities
  July 9, 2018
- Justice Department Clarifies Softer Stance on False Claims Act Enforcement
  May 2, 2018
- Barley Snyder Starts Senior Living Group
  April 11, 2018
- Federal Government to Target False EHR Incentive Payments
  August 15, 2017

- Proceed with Caution in Using New Process to Self-Report Stark Law Violations
  June 7, 2017
- Barley Snyder Tops JD Supra's 2017 Food & Beverage List
  March 21, 2017
- Thirteen Barley Snyder Attorneys Named Select Lawyers
  December 27, 2016
- Could Possible Healthcare Repeal Efforts Extend to Physician Payments Under Medicare?
  November 29, 2016
- When Organic is Not Organic, Even When the USDA Says It Is
  October 21, 2016
- Missed Opportunity by The Supreme Court to Address the Erosion of Hospital Self-Review Privileges
  August 26, 2016
- HIPAA Phase 2 Audits Begin: What Are The Risks?
  April 7, 2016
- New Stark Law Exception for Non-Physician Practitioner Recruitment Subsidies: A Gift or Pandora's Box for Hospitals?
  February 24, 2016
- FCC Clarifies the Requirements for Sending Wireless Calls and Text Messages to Patients
  October 19, 2015
- After Almost 25 YearsNew Long-Term Care Regs: An Impressive and Costly Undertaking
  July 28, 2015
- Outsourcing Contracts: Trends and Best Practices
  March 1, 2008