

Katherine Betz Kravitz

Partner

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OVERVIEW:

Kathy is a partner at Barley Snyder and a member of the firm's Health Care Industry Group and Litigation Practice Group. In her more than 30 years of practice with Barley Snyder, Kathy has served as counselor and problem-solver for health care providers throughout central Pennsylvania, including hospitals and physicians, nursing homes, assisted living facilities, hospices, home health and home care agencies. She regularly defends health care providers in significant malpractice litigation and before the licensure boards.

Kathy uses her broad based expertise to guide providers through both every day problems and more serious issues, always with an eye toward future prevention. Experience has honed Kathy's ability to find practical solutions to difficult problems without running afoul of regulations. Kathy has also worked with providers to create event evaluation processes which preserve relevant privileges to the greatest extent possible.

Kathy assists clients through all phases of policy making, including preparation, review and implementation in virtually all areas of health care practice. Kathy understands the importance of clarity and simplicity in policy making, and the need to incorporate what the review bodies need into a process which is functional for the provider.

Kathy has been defending health care providers in litigation across Central Pennsylvania throughout her entire career, including the most serious of cases involving adult brain injury and birth injuries. Her diverse health care practice gives her insight essential to effective representation of the providers in litigation and in the courtroom. Kathy also understands the stress these proceedings bring to the providers involved, and she is skilled at soothing nerves and bolstering confidence in the process of trial or deposition preparation. She puts these same skills to effective use when fostering licensed providers through a Department of State investigation and/or complaint.

Kathy counsels clients on a variety of health care issues, including:

- HITECHandHIPAA
- Red Flag Rules/Identity Theft Prevention

- Mental Health Laws and Procedures
- POAs, Advance Directives, and Guardianship
- EMTALA
- FDA Internal Review Board Regulations
- Abortion Control Act Compliance
- Policy Making
- Corporate Liability
- Informed Consent
- Risk Management
- Credentialing
- State Board Licensing and Investigations
- DOH Regulations
- JCAHO credentialing
- Event Reporting and Patient Safety
- Defense of Malpractice Claims
- Secondary Payor Reporting
- Criminal Background Checks
- Child Abuse Reporting
- Protective Services Act
- Allied Health Provider Law and RegulationsKathy was named toCentral Penn Business Journals2024 Women of Influence List based on her professional experience, community involvement and commitment to mentoring.

EDUCATION:

- Widener University School of Law, J.D., cum laude, Law Review
- University of Maryland, B.S. in Journalism

ADMISSIONS:

- Pennsylvania
- U. S. District Court for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania
- U. S. District Court for the Middle District of Pennsylvania
- U.S. Supreme Court

PRACTICE AREAS:

- Litigation
- Cybersecurity

INDUSTRY GROUPS:

- Senior Living
- Health Care

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT:

Schreiber Center for Pediatric Development
Board member

United Way Women United
Member

Touchstone Foundation
Access Committee member

Pennsylvania Bar Association's Health Law Committee
Chair

Lancaster General Health Foundation Women's Giving Circle
Member

Lancaster General Health Foundation's semi-annual Wine Heart Gala
Planning Committee

Lancaster Chamber of Commerce

Excellence Exchange Advisory Committee, Former member

Leadership Lancaster
1994 graduate

American Heart Association in Lancaster
Former board member

Mental Health America/Lancaster
Former committee member, Past board member, Past board president

Lancaster County POLST Coalition
Steering committee

RECOGNITIONS:

- The Best Lawyers in America,Health Care Law (2027)

MEMBERSHIPS:

- American Health Lawyers Association
- American, Pennsylvania and Lancaster Bar Associations

PRESENTATIONS:

- Advance care planning seminar, panelist (April 2019)
- Advance care planning seminar, panelist (April 2018)
- "End-of-Life Decisions. What do you want?", National Healthcare Decisions Day (April 2015)

RELATED NEWS:

- Superior Court Embraces Breadth of Federal Patient Safety Privilege in Fetal Tissue Mix-Up Case
  April 2, 2026
- Barley Snyder Partner Katherine Betz Kravitz Named to Schreiber Center for Pediatric Development Board of Directors

September 24, 2025

- Pennsylvania Superior Court Upholds and Clarifies Crucial Privileges for Health Care Providers
  July 24, 2025
- The Slippery Slope of HIPAA Noncompliance
  April 7, 2025
- Barley Snyder Attorney Katherine Betz Kravitz Named to Central Penn Business Journal's Women of Influence List
  May 13, 2024
- Barley Snyder Partner Peter Faben Joins Moravian Center Adult Day Board of Directors
  July 14, 2023
- HHS Bulletin Warns Health Care Providers: Make Sure Website Tracking Is HIPAA-Compliant
  December 19, 2022
- Patient Access to Records a Federal Priority
  November 17, 2020
- Pa. Health Care Workers Earn Qualified Malpractice Immunity
  May 7, 2020
- HIPAA in the Days of Coronavirus
  March 20, 2020
- Barley Snyder Partner Kravitz Testifies Against Medical Malpractice Rule Change
  June 27, 2019
- Kravitz Named Chair of Health Law Practice Group
  August 28, 2018