

# Samantha M. Flener

SHAREHOLDER

she / her / hers

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Samantha Flener helps health care organizations resolve high-stakes managed care and reimbursement disputes. She has served as first- and second-chair trial counsel in numerous matters throughout her career and supports clients through all phases of litigation, from early case strategy through trial preparation and resolution.

She works with hospital systems, ambulatory surgery centers, air ambulance services, specialty providers, physician groups, ancillary service providers and medical device companies.

Clients rely on Samantha to address payment and coverage issues efficiently, including:

- Out-of-network emergency underpayments, misclassifications, denials and medical-necessity disputes
- Line item denials
- Payor policy challenges
- Recoupments and offsets
- Disputes related to updated chargemasters
- Contract interpretation and reimbursement-related disputes
- Reimbursement and compliance issues involving ERISA preemption, the Affordable Care Act, EMTALA, HIPAA, prompt-pay requirements and audit/recoupment laws

Samantha also advises providers on in-network and out-of-network strategy and the relationships among providers, insurers, self-funded plans, benefit administrators and vendors. Before focusing her practice on health care disputes, Samantha litigated Hatch-Waxman matters; her mathematics background supports an evidence-driven approach when cases turn on technical medical and scientific issues.

## Education

- Vanderbilt Law School (J.D., 2018)
- Western Kentucky University (B.A., *summa cum laude*, 2014)
  - Mathematics

## Capabilities

- Health Care
- Health Care Litigation
- Hospitals & Health Systems
- Managed Care & Payor Disputes
- Academic Medical Centers

## Bar Admissions

- New York, 2019
- Tennessee, 2020

## Court Admissions

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

## Memberships

- Nashville Bar Association
- Young Leaders Council- Nashville Class 77
- American Health Law Association

## Pro Bono

Ms. Flener believes strongly in applying her legal advocacy skills on behalf of paying and non-paying clients. Representative work includes:

- Filing of an amicus brief in the Tennessee Supreme Court on behalf of the Children's Defense Fund and the Campaign for the Fair Sentencing of Youth who we are working with on a pro bono basis. The brief is in support of Tyshon Booker, who received an automatic de facto life sentence for a felony murder committed when he was 16 years old.
- Representing community organizations and individuals against a city police department in a suit involving excessive force and First Amendment violations.

## Community Engagement

- Volunteered as a virtual tutor with Water Walkers during the pandemic to support low-income students during remote learning.
- Supports the Nashville Community Bail Fund and its work to reduce wealth-based disparities in pretrial detention.
- Big Sister through Big Brothers Big Sisters
- Nashville Ballet Late Party Committee member

## Recognition

- Participant, Polsinelli Trial Academy facilitated by NITA, 2024
- 2024 Nashville Chamber of Commerce Emerging Leaders Award (NELA) Finalist
- Named one of *Best Lawyers: Ones to Watch® in America* in Health Care Law, 2023-2026

# Publications

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January 4, 2024

**Reimbursement End-of-Year Highlights**