

MEDICAL MALPRACTICE

Lightfoot delivers compassionate, tireless defense of healthcare providers in medical malpractice litigation.

After years of defending dedicated and conscientious physicians, dentists, nurses and other practitioners against medical malpractice lawsuits, Lightfoot lawyers understand that this can be one of the most difficult times in a healthcare professional's career. That is why we work to zealously protect and dutifully serve our clients to obtain the best, most expedient outcome possible. We have tried dozens of medical malpractice cases, and, while no attorney wins every case, we pride ourselves on an overwhelmingly strong success rate.

A compassionate, thoughtful approach governs all that we do. We routinely obtain early dismissals or pre-trial summary judgments for our clients. However, even when a quick resolution is not possible and we must go to court, we bring our considerable trial experience to bear in full support of our clients.

EXPERIENCE

- Successfully defending an OB-GYN against a multimillion-dollar medical malpractice claim
- Securing a medical malpractice defense verdict by putting clinical judgment in context.
- Obtaining a defense verdict on behalf of an emergency room physician in a wrongful death suit in Colbert County, Alabama. The plaintiff, the patient's widow, alleged that the physician failed to diagnose an aortic dissection during an emergency room visit approximately three weeks before the 30-year-old patient's death. It was undisputed that the patient's death was ultimately caused by an aortic dissection, but it was disputed that the dissection existed at the time of the emergency room visit. After a two-week trial, the jury returned a defense verdict in favor of the physician.
- Securing a defense verdict on behalf of an obstetrician/gynecologist after a 10-day trial in which plaintiff's counsel asked the jury for \$17 million in damages based on an anoxic brain injury a child suffered during his mother's labor. Lightfoot's client was accused of falling below the standard of care in managing the plaintiff's labor and delivery process, resulting in her son suffering from profound cerebral palsy and mental impairment. We aggressively defended the case, proving that the doctor acted appropriately in treating the patient and complied with the standard of care in all respects. After hearing the evidence, the jury returned a defense verdict after roughly two hours of deliberations.
- Defending an Alabama doctor facing charges from the Alabama Board of Medical Examiners that he endangered a patient's health leading to her death and falsified medical records related to that care. The defendant doctor strenuously denied the charges. We retained highly regarded surgical experts on the doctor's behalf who supported both the care and documentation in question. Following a multiple-day contested administrative hearing, the Alabama Medical Licensure Commission dismissed all of the board's charges against Lightfoot's client, finding no wrongdoing on the doctor's behalf.
- Representing the defense in a dental malpractice case. The plaintiff alleged that a needle used in the mouth of her special-needs son during a dental procedure was the wrong size, which allowed it to break off and embed in his jaw when he unexpectedly jerked forward during the procedure. The needle was surgically removed many months later. The plaintiff claimed that she was owed damages for her son's medical expenses, disfigurement, mental anguish, and pain and suffering. The jury took about an hour to deliberate and promptly

returned a verdict in favor of our client.

- Handling a medical malpractice case on behalf of an emergency room physician. The plaintiff alleged that the ER doctor failed to diagnose and treat the patient's esophageal perforation in a timely manner. The patient died as a result of the perforated esophagus. At the conclusion of a two-week trial, the jury returned a defense verdict in favor of our client after less than one hour of deliberations.