HansonBridgett



Lori C. Ferguson

Partner

LFerguson@hansonbridgett.com
(916) 551-2813

Hanson Bridgett LLP
500 Capitol Mall, Suite 1500
Sacramento, CA 95814

Firm Leadership
Health Care Litigation Practice Leader
Management Committee, Member

Areas of Focus

- Litigation and Dispute Resolution
- Health Care Litigation
- Senior Housing and Care
- Health Care
- Medical Staff

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Lori leads the health care litigation practice and focuses on helping clients resolve health care-related disputes. She guides medical staffs through difficult situations involving credentialing and privileging issues, handles fair hearings, and represents hospitals in both federal and state lawsuits involving medical staff issues. She regularly represents assisted living communities, skilled nursing facilities, continuing care retirement communities, senior living communities, and various health care providers in civil, administrative, and regulatory proceedings involving a wide range of issues, including resident discharges and evictions, federal deficiency and state citation appeals, and licensing actions. Her experience includes physician contracting and navigating issues pertaining to health care fraud and abuse laws. Lori's skills in managing and resolving disputes carry over to her work as a medical staff hearing officer and as a mediator and arbitrator.

Representative Work

Medical staffs. Represents medical staffs in peer review and fair hearing proceedings involving medical staff members challenging proposed disciplinary actions.

Hospital. Advises hospital governing body on its role on credentialing and privileging issues.

Senior living communities. Guides senior living communities through regulatory and litigation hurdles regarding resident transfers and discharges.

Hearing Officer/Neutral. Serves as neutral hearing officer, mediator, and arbitrator in medical staff and health care matters.

Publications

"AB 1199 Is Now Law: California Medical Staffs Can Move to a Three-Year Reappointment Cycle," co-author Health Care Legal Alert (October 2026)

"Assembly Bill 251: Increased Record Retention Risks for Senior Living Providers" co-author Health Care Legal Alert (August 2026)

"California Legislation Would Extend Medical Staff Reappointment Cycle to Three Years," co-author Health Care Legal Alert (August 2026)

"New California Law Will Allow Physicians to Supervise More Physician Assistants," co-author, Health Care Legal Alert (November 2025)

"New Tenants' Right to Counsel Rules Apply to Senior Living Providers in Los Angeles," co-author, Health & Senior Care Legal Alert (August 2025)

"Update: CMS Appeals Ruling Vacating Key Provisions of the Staffing Mandate," co-author, Health Care Legal Alert (June 2025)

"Federal Judge Vacates Key Provisions of CMS's Nursing Home Staffing Mandate," co-author, Health Care Legal Alert (April 2025)

"SB 1451 Updates Some Requirements for 103 and 104 Nurse Practitioners," co-author, Health Care Legal Alert (April 2025)

"New California Laws Prohibit Medical Debt Reporting and Require New Disclosure Language," co-author, Health Care Legal Alert (December 2024)

"New Reappraisal Requirements for Residential Care Facilities for the Elderly," co-author, Senior Housing and Care Legal Alert (December 2024)

"Terminating an RCFE Residency: The Termination Notice," co-author, California Assisted Living Association (October 2024)

"New California Law Requires 90 Days' Notice of RCFE Rate Increases," co-author, Health & Senior Care Real Estate Legal Alert (September 2024)

"AB 2347 Will Give Defendants More Time to Respond to Eviction Lawsuits," co-author, Litigation and Senior Housing Legal Alert (September 2024)

“New California Elder Abuse Reporting Rules to Take Effect in 2024,” co-author, Senior Housing and Care Legal Alert (October 2023)

“AB 890’s Independent Nurse Practitioner and the Medical Staff,” Health Care Law Alert (September 2022)

“Update on California’s Latest Extension of COVID-19 Tenant Protections,” Senior Housing and Care Law Alert (April 2022)

“Update on California’s COVID-19 Tenant Protections and Their Impact on Senior Communities,” *California Assisted Living Association (*March 2022)

“California Law Now Allows More Professionals to Qualify for the Infection Preventionist Role in Skilled Nursing Facilities,” Senior Housing and Care Law Alert (February 2022)

“New Law Requires Certification of Medical Directors in Skilled Nursing Facilities and Imposes New Reporting Requirements,” Senior Housing and Care Law Alert (October 2021)

“California Legislation Extends Protections for Tenants Experiencing COVID-19-Related Financial Distress; Broadens Financial Assistance for Eligible Landlords and Tenants,” Senior Housing and Care Law Alert (July 2021)

“Federal Court Dismisses Case Against Assisted Living Community Under PREP Act Immunity,” California Assisted Living Association Legal Update (February 2021)

“California Extends COVID-19 Eviction Moratorium; Provides Financial Assistance for Eligible Landlords and Tenants,” co-author, *Senior Housing and Care Law Alert* (February 2021)

“California Legislation Extends Protections for Tenants Experiencing COVID-19-Related Financial Distress; Provides Financial Assistance for Eligible Landlords and Tenants,” co-author, California Assisted Living Association Legal Update (February 2021)

“New California Law Imposes Additional Infection Preventionist and Reporting Requirements on Skilled Nursing Facilities ,” co-author, *Health Care Law Alert* (October 2020)

“New California and Federal Moratoria on Evictions Based on Non-payment,” co-author, *Senior Housing and Care Law Alert* (September 2020)

“New Federal and State Moratoria on Evictions Aim to Protect Tenants Unable to Pay Rent and Other Fees Because of Financial Hardship Due to COVID-19,” co-author, California Assisted Living Association Legal Update (September 2020)

"Judicial Council of California Votes to End Statewide Judicial Restrictions on Evictions," co-author, *Senior Housing and Care Law Alert* (August 2020)

"Business Realities in the Age of COVID-19," co-author, *Seniors Housing Business* (June 2020)

"Eviction Guidance for California Senior Communities During COVID-19 Pandemic," co-author, *Senior Housing and Care Law Alert* (April 2020)

"Under New California Law, Health Care Entities Must Promptly Report Allegations of Sexual Abuse or Sexual Misconduct to Licensing Boards," co-author, *Health Care Alert* (December 2019)

"Recent California Court of Appeal Decisions Highlight Importance of Process and Need for Signature of Authorized Individual to Secure Binding Arbitration Agreement," co-author, *Senior Housing and Care Law Alert* (September 2019)

"New Regulations for Binding Pre-Dispute Arbitration Agreements with Long-Term Care Residents," co-author, *Senior Housing and Care Law Alert* (August 2019)

"New Timing Requirements for Certain California Eviction Actions Take Effect September 1," co-author, *Senior Housing and Care Law Alert* (August 2019)

"California Assisted Living Regulation Catches Up with Statute Regarding Evictions for Change of Use of Facility," *Senior Housing and Care Law Alert* (January 2019)

"California Medical Staff Reporting Update: New Penalties For Failure To Report Go Into Effect January 1, 2018," co-author, *Health Care Law Alert* (November 2017)

"California Statutes Expanded to Include Peer Review Protections and Requirements for Licensed Midwives," Health Care Law Alert (November 2017)

"Supreme Court Reiterates Arbitration Agreements Must Be Placed on Equal Footing with Other Contracts," co-author, *Senior Housing and Care Law Alert* (June 2017)

"District Court Orders CMS in *Jimmo* Settlement to Implement Maintenance Coverage Standard for SNF Services," co-author, *AHLA Member Alert* (February 2017)

"Stark Regulations Updated to Include New Exception for Recruitment of Non-Physician Practitioners," co-author, *Health Care Law Alert* (January 2016)

"Evidence Code Section 1157 Expanded to Include Pharmacy Review Committees," co-author, *Health Care Law Alert* (October 2015)

"New California Law Expands Peer Review Requirements," co-author, *Health Care Law Alert* (October 2015)

"New York Court Rules Against Hospital Defendants in ACA '60-Day Rule' Case,"co-author, *Health Care Law Alert* (August 2015)

"AB 2171: Will Your Arbitration Agreements Comply?" *CALA Fall 2014 Magazine: News & Views, The Voice of Assisted Living* (November 2014)

"What to Expect From a Medical Staff Hearing," *California Association Medical Staff Services* (November 2013)

"How to Decipher Public Information Available on the Medical Board of California License Lookup," *California Association Medical Staff Services* (January 2013)

"Impact of Recent Supreme Court Arbitration Decisions on Enforceability of Health Care Arbitration Provisions in California," *Litigation Alert* (March 2012)

"Enforcing Arbitration Agreements: California Supreme Court Expands Enforceability of Arbitration Agreements in Healthcare Context," *California Assisted Living Association Bulletin* (October 2010)

"Litigation Basics: Surviving the Dreaded Deposition," *California Assisted Living Association Bulletin* (February 2010)

"Litigation Basics: What To Do When You Are Sued - ACT," *California Assisted Living Association Bulletin* (August 2009)

"Bill Would Alter Legal Landscape for Nursing Home Arbitration Agreements," *Nursing Home Litigation Reporter* (September 2008)

Presentations

"DSS Enforcement Actions – What to Expect at Each Stage in the Process," presenter, CALA Fall Conference (November 2026)

"What to Expect When There is a Medical Staff Hearing" co-presenter, CAMSS Northern Central Region Chapter (July 2026)

"Who Oversees the Trainees? ," co-presenter, CAMSS Annual Educational Forum (May 2026)

"Ask the Attorneys," co-presenter, CAMSS Annual Educational Forum (May 2026)

“Updates in Arbitration,” panelist, California’s Assisted Living Association’s Risk Reduction Symposium (February 2026)

“Navigating Challenges When Ending RCFE and CCRC Residencies,” co-speaker, The LeadingAge California BOLD Annual Conference & Expo (May 2025)

“Navigating the Legal Landscape of Terminating a Residency Agreement,” co-presenter, Elevate 2025 CALA Spring Conference & Trade Show (June 2025)

“Legal Perspectives: Your Questions, Our Answers,” co-presenter, CAMSS 54th Annual Educational Forum (May 2025)

“Navigating the Nuances of Proctoring,” co-presenter, CAMSS 54th Annual Educational Forum (May 2025)

“The Medical Staff’s Response to Criminal History, Arrests, Prosecutions, and Convictions,” CAMSS 53rd Annual Education Forum (May 2024)

“Responding to Concerns of Medical Staff Member Substance Abuse and Diversion,” CAMSS San Fernando Valley Ventura County Chapter (March 2024)

“Dealing with Challenging Families,” co-presenter, California Assisted Living Association Fall Conference (June 2023)

“Acuity Creep: Causes, Implications, and How to Respond,” LeadingAge Annual Conference (May 2023)

“Ask the Attorneys,” California Assisted Living Association Fall Conference (November 2022)

“Recent Legal/Regulatory Updates Affecting Medical Staff,” CAMSS Mid-Valley Chapter Legal Seminar (September 2022)

“The Ins and Outs of Physician Behavior Agreements,” CAMSS Desert Chapter Education Seminar (August 2022)

“Responding to Concerns of Medical Staff Member Substance Abuse and Diversion,” CAMSS Desert Chapter Education Seminar (August 2022)

“Strategies for Resolving Resident Concerns,” co-presenter, LeadingAge Annual Conference (May 2022)

“Managing Peer Review Confidentiality: Strategies for Responding to Requests for Access from the Governing Body and Administration,” CAMSS (May 2022)

“We Have A Telemedicine Program, What the Heck Do We Do Now?” co-presenter, CAMSS Mid-Valley Chapter (December 2021)

“Recent Legal/Regulatory Updates Affecting Medical Staff,” CAMSS Mid-Valley Chapter Legal Seminar (September 2021)

“Developing a Late-Career Practitioner Policy,” CAMSS 50th Annual Education Forum (July 2021)

“Responding to Concerns of Medical Staff Member Substance Abuse and Diversion,” California Association Medical Staff Services/50th Annual Educational Forum (June 2021)

“Liability and Immunity in the Age of COVID-19,” LeadingAge California (May 2021)

“Navigating Challenging Issues Related to Ending RCFE Residencies,” LeadingAge California (May 2021)

“Beginning & Ending Residencies: Navigating Challenging Issues” co-presenter, California Assisted Living Association, Fall Forum (October 2020)

“The Ins and Outs of Physician Behavior Agreements,” California Association Medical Staff Services 2020 Education Series (August 2020)

“Medical Staff Legal Update,” CAMSS Mid-Valley Chapter Legal Seminar (September 2019)

“To Report or Not To Report? Exploring Mandatory Reporting Requirements Under State and Federal Law,” co-presenter, California Association Medical Staff Services 48th Annual Education Forum (May 2019)

“Navigating the Transfer/Discharge Process,” LeadingAge CA 2019 Conference and Exposition (May 2019)

“Ask the Attorneys Panel,” co-presenter, LeadingAge CA 2019 Conference and Exposition (May 2019)

“Fair Hearings and other Medical Staff Issues,” co-presenter, Sacramento County Bar Association Health Section (November 2018)

“Resident Evictions: Following the Rules and Avoiding Pitfalls” co-presenter, California Assisted Living Association Fall Conference (November 2018)

“Navigating Challenging Family Dynamics” co-presenter, California Assisted Living Association Fall Conference (November 2018)

“Legal Issues Related to Board Certification,” California Association Medical Staff Services Annual Forum (May 2018)

“Resident Evictions: Following the Rules and Avoiding Pitfalls,” LeadingAge CA Annual Conference and Exposition (May 2018)

“Medical Staff Legal Update,” CAMSS Mid-Valley Chapter Legal Seminar (October 2017)

“Developing Overall Strategies for Defense of Regulatory Enforcement and Civil Lawsuits Arising from Same Events” co-presenter, California of Health Facilities (July 2017)

“Resident Evictions: Following the Rules and Avoiding Pitfalls” co-presenter, California Assisted Living Association Spring Conference (June 2017)

“Arbitration Under Attack: Implications for Senior Living” co-presenter, LeadingAge CA Public Policy Summit (March 2017)

“Strategies for Managing Disruptive Physician Behavior,” CAMSS Mid-Valley Chapter Seminar (September 2016)

“The Scope and Protections of Evidence Code Section 1157,” CAMSS Bay Area Chapter (November 2015)

“SB 337,” CAMSS Mid-Valley Chapter (November 2015)

“Medical Staff Legal Update,” CAMSS Legal and Regulatory Seminar (September 2015)

“Legal Update: What’s New in Medical Staff Law and How to be Ready for It,” co-speaker, California Association Medical Staff Services 44th Annual Education Forum (May 2015)

“Medical Staff Issues for Employed Physicians,” California County Counsels’ Association Health & Welfare Conference (November 2014)

“What to Expect from a Medical Staff Hearing,” California Association Medical Staff Services Mid-Valley Chapter Meeting (October 2014)

“Responding to Threats - Don’t Wait Till It’s Too Late!” co-presenter, California Assisted Living Association Spring Conference and Trade Show (June 2014)

“The Meaning of Investigation in Peer Review Matters and Privileges, Immunities, and Pitfalls in Peer Review,” co-speaker, California Association Medical Staff Services Annual Forum (May 2014)

“Business & Professions Code Section 805.01,” California Association Medical Staff Services Mid-Valley Chapter Meeting (April 2014)

“Medical Staff Bylaws: Pitfalls and Best Practices,” co-speaker, California Association Medical Staff Services (October 2013)

“Fair Hearings for the Allied Health Professional,” co-speaker, California Association Medical Staff Services (October 2013)

“How to Decipher Public Information Available on the Medical Board of California License Lookup System,” Mid-Valley Chapter (April 2013), CAMSS Redwood Empire Chapter (June 2013), Bay Area Chapter (June 2013)

“A Practical Approach to Legal Issues—Aging & Re-Entry Practitioners; Court Orders, Arrests and Probation Outside the Medical Arena,” co-speaker, California Association of Medical Staff Services (November 2012)

“Late Career Physicians: The Pros and Cons of Adopting a Policy Triggered by a Physician’s Age,” co-speaker, National Association Medical Staff Services (September 2012)

“Medical Staff Leaves of Absence: Best Practices,” co-presenter, California Association Medical Staff Services, Bay Area Chapter (August 2012)

“Ask the Expert Panel Discussion,” panelist, California Association Medical Staff Services, Mid-Valley Chapter Credentialing Seminar (June 2012)

“A Medical Staff/Human Resources Psychodrama and Vignette: How to Conduct a Medical Staff Investigation of Allegations of Disruptive and Unprofessional Conduct Without Demoralizing the Medical Staff Leadership for the Next Ten Years,” co-speaker, California Association Medical Staff Services, 41st Annual Education Forum (May 2012)

“End-of-Life Planning in Health Care Reform Era,” co-speaker, LeadingAge CA, CA DON Certificate Program Webinar (January 2012)

“Elder Abuse: Risks, Prevention, and Response,” CALA Fall Conference and Trade Show (October 2011)

“Dealing with Aging Physicians,” co-presenter, California Association Medical Staff Services, Bay Area Chapter (October 2011)

“Elder Justice Act of 2009,” Delta Chapter of CAHF (October 2011)

“Physician Behavior Contracts,” California Association Medical Staff Services, Bay Area Chapter (June 2011)

“SB 700: New Reporting and Other Requirements Medical Staffs Face Under the New Law,” California Association Medical Staff Services, Bay Area Chapter (April 2011)

“SB 700: New Reporting and Other Requirements Medical Staffs Face Under the New Law,” California Association Medical Staff Services, Yosemite Chapter (April 2011)

“SB 700 and Its Implications for Your Medical Staff,” California Association Medical Staff Services, Mid-Valley Chapter (February 2011)

“The Elder Justice Act of 2009,” California Association of Health Facilities, Sacramento Chapter (February 2011)

“How Health Care Reform May Impact Medical Staff,” California Association Medical Staff Services, Mid-Valley Chapter (November 2010)

“Elder Abuse: Do You Really Understand the Risks?” California Association of Adult Day Services Annual Conference (November 2010)

“Elder Justice Act,” American Health Lawyers Association webinar (November 2010)

“Recent Developments in Alternative Dispute Resolution: Are your arbitration agreements ironclad?” Association of Corporate Counsel, Sacramento Chapter (September 2010)

“Medical Staff Legal and Regulatory Update,” CAMSS Mid-Valley Chapter Seminar (September 2010)

“Elder Abuse: Do You Really Understand the Risks?” CAADS Spring Conference (May 2010)

“What To Do When You Anticipate or Receive a Lawsuit,” CAHF DD Symposium (May 2010)

“Staying Away from the Courthouse: Tips for Avoiding Resident Lawsuits,” California Association of Health Facilities (January, March, June 2010)

“EMTALA: Key Issues Emergency Departments and On-Call Physicians Face,” Schwartz/Levy Inn of Court (March 2010)

“Responding to Incidents at Long-term Care Facilities,” California Association of Health Facilities Spring Conference (April 2008)

Press

"Hanson Bridgett Adds Ferguson and Holden to Firm Management Committee," Hanson Bridgett Press Release (January 2025)

"Creating Success for Clients," *Comstock's Magazine* (March 2021)

"What Senior Living Providers Need to Know About New Eviction Moratorium in California," *Senior Housing News* (September 2020)

Honors & Awards

Sacramento Magazine, Top Lawyer (2015-2016, 2019)

Super Lawyers, Health Care; Civil Litigation (2011-2018, 2021-2023)

Order of the Coif

Chambers and Partners USA, Healthcare

Professional Affiliations

State Bar of California

California Society for Healthcare Attorneys, Membership Committee

California Association of Medical Staff Services

California Association of Health Facilities

California Assisted Living Association, Public Policy Committee and Legal Subcommittee

American Arbitration Association National Roster of Arbitrators, Panelist

Education

J.D., University of Virginia School of Law (1996)

B.A., University of Virginia (1993)

Admissions and Courts

California

Texas

U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit

U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit

U.S. District Court for the Northern District of California

U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of California

U.S. District Court for the Western District of Texas