



Christina Mott Hesse

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Christina is a trial lawyer who represents health care facilities and medical professionals facing malpractice allegations ranging from misdiagnosis to wrongful death. She is also the author of the [Idaho Medical Malpractice Defense blog](#) where she discusses medical malpractice law, trending issues, and recent litigation, from the defense perspective.

Christina is adept at working with expert witnesses across multiple specialties in complex medical malpractice cases, whether the case involves allegations of misdiagnosis or particularly rare complications that most practitioners will not see during their careers. In fact, this is her favorite part of the litigation process because it involves the chance to dive into the medicine and learn it well enough to be able to explain it to others. Christina has handled cases involving issues stemming from delayed cancer diagnoses, vertebral artery dissections and intracranial hemorrhages, to retained surgical instruments, birth complications, and cardiac ablation complications.

Christina recently second-chaired a jury trial which involved a motor vehicle accident and issues related to alleged recklessness. The jury returned a favorable verdict to the defense, finding no recklessness. Christina is also savvy with respect to motion practice and mediations. She successfully prevailed on a Motion for Reconsideration of a Motion for Summary Judgment, grounded on Idaho's statute of limitations applicable to minors bringing a medical negligence claim, and has argued a number of other Motions to Dismiss and Motions in Limine. During her career, she has handled close to a dozen mediations. Christina is also a graduate of the Idaho State Bar's Trial Skills Academy.

Christina is a particularly effective lawyer because of the combination of her innate curious nature and her scientific background. Over the course of her legal career, she has always enjoyed learning and researching all issues and developments that she encounters in a case, including: whether a patient brought to an Emergency Department via ambulance can be classified as an intended beneficiary of a services contract between the hospital and an independent radiology group, to wage and hour concerns for employers who provide smartphone stipends and utilize cloud-based services, to implications arising from the increasing trend of 'Reptilian Tactics' that seek to appeal to jurors' senses of community safety during litigation. Christina then identifies the most strategic way to apply her findings to the case at hand and determines the best way to explain it to the Judge and jurors through briefing and oral advocacy.

Christina also volunteers with Family Advocates by serving as an attorney for volunteer Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA), called Guardians ad Litem, in the Fourth Judicial District of Idaho. In this capacity, she can use her voice as an attorney and support volunteers providing essential services to the community's children and parents to advocate for children's voices in cases of child abuse, neglect, and abandonment.

Christina's prior litigation experience includes:

- Working as an **associate attorney** at Adler Cohen Harvey Wakeman Guekguezian LLP, a Boston-based litigation firm, where she represented clients in complex civil suits. In this role, Christina:
 - Secured dismissal of physician-defendant in a multi-defendant wrongful death case by motion for summary judgment (MSJ);
 - Obtained favorable outcomes from state administrative agency on behalf of defendant physician practice groups in alleged employment discrimination charges; and
 - Secured multiple favorable medical malpractice tribunal findings after arguing before the Massachusetts Superior Court on behalf of physicians, oral surgeons, and nurse practitioners.
- Serving as a **judicial clerk with the Massachusetts Superior Court** during which she worked with the Justices in all phases of civil and criminal litigation
- Serving as a **student attorney with the Intellectual Property & Entrepreneurship Clinic at Suffolk University Law School**. In this role, she successfully argued a *Markman* (patent claim construction) hearing on behalf of her client in U.S. District Court, and worked to [successfully defend against the cancellation of a Bellingham, WA small business owners' trademark](#). In 2014, she received the Outstanding Clinical Student Award for the work she did for the Clinic.
- **Interning for the Narcotics Division of the Suffolk County, Massachusetts District Attorney's Office** where she drafted an opposition to plaintiff's motion to dismiss for lack of criminal jurisdiction that was based on first impression arguments.

Prior to law school, Christina served as the Development Officer of the Boys & Girls Clubs of Boston. In this role she assisted with major donor development and stewardship, including managing the Governance Committee and Diversity Subcommittee of the Board of Directors.

She also previously served as the Development Associate for the Center for Science in the Public Interest (CSPI) in Washington, D.C. where she assisted with development efforts. Prior to that role, she worked on CSPI's alcohol policies project, which among other things, worked to curb underage drinking and targeted marketing campaigns by alcoholic beverage companies to underage kids. One of the most notable projects she worked on was to get a caffeinated malt beverage off the shelves. She was able to combine her love for science - really understanding the way that the combination of caffeine and alcohol affected under-21-year olds' brains, and her early love for the law - a complaint was filed against the beer brewing company and they ultimately agreed to stop all production of caffeinated alcoholic beverages. Christina saw the positive outcome that could come from the litigation process and then made the decision to go to law school.

Christina is admitted to practice in Idaho, Massachusetts and New Hampshire.

PROFESSIONAL INVOLVEMENT

- Alpha Chi Sigma (Chemistry Fraternity), Member
- Defense Research Institute (DRI), Member
- Idaho Association of Defense Counsel (IADC), Member
- Idaho State Bar Litigation section, Member
- Idaho Women Lawyers (IWL), Member & Co-Chair of Health & Wellness Committee
- Phi Delta Phi International Honor Society, Member

SELECT PRESENTATIONS & PUBLICATIONS

- Author, [Idaho Medical Malpractice Defense blog](#)
- Author, "[A Brave New Telehealth World](#)," The Advocate, Vol. 62, No. 8 (August 2019)
- CLE: "E-Discovery, vendors, and court rules – What you need to know," Technology in the Practice of Law – Flagship CLE, Idaho State Bar and Idaho Law Foundation (December 2019)
- CLE: "TMI – Considerations for Choosing an E-discovery Platform When Too Much Information Overwhelms Your Production Plans," Employment & Labor Law Section, Idaho State Bar (October 2019)
- *Multifactors, Multiconfusion? Refining "Likelihood of Confusion" Factors for Reverse-Confusion Trademark Infringement Claims to Achieve More Consistent and Predictable Results*, 47 SUFFOLK U. L. REV. 421, 2014
 - Cited by the U.S. District Court for District of Oregon
- *The Cure for the Distracted Mind: Why Law Schools Should Teach Mindfulness*, Suffolk University Law School Research Paper No. 14-23

IRRELEVANT ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Maniac #2041: After running her first marathon, the Marine Corps Marathon in October 2008 and vowing to never run a full marathon ever again, she immediately signed up for her second one. And then she decided that she had to qualify for Marathon Maniacs. She then ran two marathons and a 50K (31 miles) in 47 days to qualify and become Maniac #2041. She has now completed 10 marathons and her next challenge is to "up" her Marathon Maniac level from Bronze to Iridium by running 9 marathons in 9 different states/countries/Canadian

provinces within 365 days.

- While in college, she worked at Ben & Jerry's (despite being lactose-intolerant), and packed a pint of mint chocolate chip for Sean May, star-Center, mere days before the Tarheels won the National Championship in 2005 (GO HEELS).
- Attended German preschool while her father was stationed at Ramstein Air Base in Germany, before the Berlin Wall fell. Unfortunately the only German word still committed to memory is "Gesundheit."
- Successfully completed the 'Volcano Tender' challenge at The Portsmouth Brewery in New Hampshire: 10 tenders, no dipping sauces, no liquids, no sending 'em back to the kitchen.

EDUCATION

- University of North Carolina (UNC), Chapel Hill, B.A., Biology, B.A. Public Policy; Minor: Chemistry
- Suffolk University Law School, J.D., *cum laude*, Boston, MA: Intellectual Property Law Concentration, Patent Specialization, with distinction
 - Lund University (study abroad) in Lund, Sweden
 - Suffolk University Law Review, Associate Managing Editor
 - National Finalist, Northeast Region Champion, and Best Appellant Brief; AIPLA Patent Law Moot Court Team, 2014; Argued in the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit before Judges Linn, Chen, and Taranto.
 - Honors: Sargent Scholarship, Public Interest Law Group Fellow