



C. THEA PITZEN

Principal

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Thea Pitzen joined the firm's Norfolk office in 2016, and maintains a busy general civil litigation defense practice with a focus on defending hospitals, physicians, dentists, nurses, and other health care providers in malpractice cases and regulatory investigations. She also regularly provides risk management advice and counsel to health care providers and assists practitioners with licensing questions. She has experience representing clients in both state and federal courts throughout the Commonwealth of Virginia.

Prior to joining the firm, Thea practiced law in Jacksonville, Florida, where her practice focused on complex business litigation and included the representation of several large financial institutions. She was also previously a lecturer with The Catholic University of America, Columbus School of Law in Washington, D.C., and served as a judicial law clerk to the Honorable William C. O'Kelley, Senior Judge in the United States District Court for the Northern District of Georgia.

Prior to attending law school at Emory University School of Law, Thea spent two years working as an educator through Teach For America. In addition to being a lawyer, Thea is also an active duty military spouse, an avid writer, and a mother of two. She is an active member of the Military Spouse JD Network and served on its Board of Directors from 2014 to 2016. She currently serves as an Associate Editor with the ABA Section of Litigation's Litigation News publication, and publishes frequently on a wide variety of litigation topics each year. In addition to Litigation News, Thea has published articles for Hampton Roads Physician, the ABA Law Student Division's Before the Bar, and the Military Spouse JD Network.

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PRACTICE AREAS

- Health Care
- Medical Malpractice Defense
- State Board Licensing & Credentialing
- Risk Prevention
- Skilled Nursing, Assisted Living, and Long-Term Care Facilities
- Commercial and Business Litigation

EDUCATION

- Emory University School of Law, Atlanta, GA
J.D., with honors, 2009
- New York University, New York, NY B.A., magna cum laude, 2004

ADMITTED TO PRACTICE

- Commonwealth of Virginia
- The District of Columbia
- Florida
- Georgia
- Supreme Court of the United States
- U.S. Court of Appeals, Fourth Circuit
- U.S. Bankruptcy Court, Eastern District of Virginia
- U.S. District Court, Eastern District of Virginia, and Southern District of Florida

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

- Virginia State Bar
- Norfolk & Portsmouth Bar Association
- Virginia Association of Defense Attorneys
- American Bar Association