



SHAREHOLDER

Edward J. McNelis, III

RICHMOND, VIRGINIA

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(804) 783-7223

Practices

Healthcare

Professional Liability Defense

Litigation

Product Liability

Industries

Insurance

Healthcare

Professional Services

EDUCATION

The College of William & Mary, JD, 1989

The Pennsylvania State University, BS,
cum laude, 1986

ADMISSIONS

Virginia

Pennsylvania

West Virginia

All Virginia Federal and State Courts

All Pennsylvania Federal and State
Courts

All West Virginia Federal and State
Courts

US District Court for the District of
Colorado

US District Court for the District of
Nebraska

Ed McNelis joined Sands Anderson in 2017, bringing extensive experience in medical malpractice defense, civil rights defense, and correctional health care defense.

Ed works across the Mid-Atlantic region and in other parts of the country representing doctors, nurses, and healthcare companies and practices who are seeking a forthright, judicious legal partner. As an ally, Ed dedicates his efforts to helping his clients win their cases, so they protect their reputations and careers.

Ed has over 28 years of civil litigation experience. Throughout his career, he's honed the resolve, focus, and determination needed to see each case through to completion. His representation often involves defending his clients at trial, where he has a success rate of over 95%. Ed doesn't believe in settling for the easy road. No matter how complex or nuanced the case, he works tirelessly to unwind the legal and medical complexities, and to create a strategic plan of action. With a first-hand understanding of the healthcare industry, Ed helps clients navigate the complexities of civil litigation with clarity and confidence.

Ed knows how the risk associated with going to court can seem daunting at times, and that without focus the ability to look forward and stay on track can derail. To drive the best outcomes, Ed treats each case individually, recognizing the unique needs and challenges his clients must address. He takes time to listen to his clients' concerns, provides answers to their questions, and advocates on their behalf, so they come out ahead.

Prior to joining our firm, Ed was a partner at Rawls-McNelis and served over 30 years in the U.S. Army and retired as Colonel. He served as the State Judge Advocate General for the Virginia National Guard for over 7 years. While serving on active duty in the Army, he was a prosecutor in the 1st Armored and 3rd Infantry Divisions in Germany.

Continued

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

Virginia State Bar
Virginia Bar Association
Pennsylvania State Bar
West Virginia State Bar
West Virginia Bar Association
Defense Research Institute
City of Richmond Bar Association

COMMUNITY SERVICE

Veterans Legal Services Program,
Virginia Bar Association, Member
Charitable Activities through Grace
Covenant Presbyterian Church,
Participant
Richmond Velo Sport, Former
President

PROFESSIONAL HIGHLIGHTS

Served as State Judge Advocate General for the Virginia National Guard for seven years, under three Governors.

Defended successfully the Virginia Tech mental health professionals named in civil lawsuits arising from the tragic events in 2007.

Represented the Governor of Virginia, several Circuit Court Judges, the University of Virginia, and correctional healthcare companies across the country.

RECOGNITION

Most Trial Defense Victories of any Attorney Throughout the Country by TM Health, Joint Recipient with Grace Morse-McNelis, March 2017

United States Army, Judge Advocate General's Corps, Colonel

The State Judge Advocate General of the Virginia Army and Air National Guard, 2009-2015

United States Army, Judge Advocate General Advanced Course, Top graduate, 1999

National Moot Court Tournament, Finalist, 1989

Best Lawyers in America®, Personal Injury Litigation – Defendants, 2017 – 2022

Legal Elite, Health Law, Virginia Business Magazine, 2019 – 2020