# Dinsmôre



Beth Y. Collis

Partner beth.collis@dinsmore.com

Columbus, OH Tel: (614) 628-6945

Beth understands medical professionals facing investigation are under considerable stress, and she helps clients navigate the uncertainty. As a former Ohio assistant attorney general, Beth has more than two decades of experience handling administrative hearings before state licensure boards and on appeal to the Ohio courts. She takes time with each client to hear and address their questions, explain their circumstances, and chart their best path forward.

She focuses her practice on representing individuals and companies before professional licensure boards, including the State Medical Board of Ohio, Ohio Board of Nursing, Ohio Pharmacy Board, Counselor, Social Worker, Marriage and Family Therapist Board, Ohio Chiropractic Board, Ohio State Dental Board, and Ohio Psychology Board. Beth represents clients who are under investigation or who are the subject of a proposed disciplinary action by their licensure boards. Typically, many of Beth's clients have never been under investigation before and are unfamiliar with the disciplinary process. She works closely with her clients to ensure they know what to expect, understand their options, and to identify and achieve the best possible resolution.

Beth also represents clients struggling with chemical dependency, addiction, or mental or physical conditions that threaten their ability to practice their profession. In addition to defending professionals' individual licenses, she helps clients wade through the myriad of collateral damage public disciplinary action causes to their careers. This includes defending against challenges from Medicare, Ohio Medicaid, or before their national certifying board.

## Services

- Health Care Industry
- Ohio Professional Licensure, Credentialing & Defense

## Education

- Case Western Reserve University School of Law (J.D., 1990)
- Kenyon College (B.A., 1986)

## **Bar Admissions**

• Ohio

# Dinsmôre

## **Court Admissions**

- U.S. Supreme Court
- U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Ohio
- U.S. District Court for the Southern District of Ohio

#### Affiliations/Memberships

- The American Association of Nurse Attorneys (TAANA), member
- Suzuki Music Columbus, past board president
- Ohio State Bar Association, Administrative Law Committee
- Upper Arlington Civic Association, past director
- UA-Kid, Inc. (Upper Arlington Kids Identified with Dyslexia), member

#### Distinctions

- Woodward/White, Inc.'s Best Lawyers in America® in Administrative Law
- Business First, "Best Lawyers in Central Ohio" in Administrative Law
- Columbus Business First, Best Attorneys in Central Ohio (2013)
- Best Lawyers®
  - o Administrative/Regulatory Law; Health Care Law (2022, 2023, 2024, 2025)

# Experience

#### **Obtained Reversal of Medical Board Decision**

The Franklin County Court of Common Pleas reversed a decision of the State Medical Board of Ohio which suspended a physician assistant's license after she tested positive on a single EtG test, notwithstanding four years of sobriety demonstrated through negative alcohol screens and direct monitoring from multiple physicians and the Ohio Physician's Health Program. The court found placing primacy reliance on an EtG test is inappropriate and scientifically unsupported at this time, as the EtG test is highly sensitive to even inadvertent, low-level alcohol exposure, which can provide an unreliable result. The court found that the board erred by relying on the EtG test alone and reversed the decision of the board.

#### **Obtained Reversal of Ohio Board of Nursing Order**

The court reversed in part a decision of the Ohio Board of Nursing affecting our client, a nurse. The court stated the board found no evidence our client had an alcohol problem, and that the board erred by imposing monitoring conditions requiring our client to abstain from the ingestion of alcohol. The court ordered the Nursing Board Order be modified to remove this requirement.

#### **Obtained Reversal of Stayed License Decision**

The 10<sup>th</sup> District Court of Appeals reversed a decision of the Franklin County Court of Common Pleas, which affirmed the State Medical Board of Ohio and remanded the case back to the board for further proceedings. The

# Dinsmôre

court determined that the board did not act in accordance with law when it imposed a "stayed" license suspension without affording our client, a physician, an opportunity to be heard, and without determining the "threshold" question of whether, when the three day examination was ordered, the board had "reason to believe" the physician was impaired "because of habitual or excessive use of drugs or alcohol." Upon remand by the court, the board chose to take no action against the physician and dismissed the case.

# **Publications**

May 24, 2024 New Regulation Now Requires Ohio Nurses To Self-Report Criminal Convictions Within 30 Days

December 15, 2023

You've Got (E-)Mail: Ohio Law Now Allows Licensing Agencies to Serve Disciplinary Actions Exclusively by Email

November 8, 2023 Ohio Voters Pass Reproductive Freedoms Amendment to State Constitution

March 3, 2023

Media Reports Shine Light on Ohio's Physician "Sexual Misconduct" Law and it is Broader than You May Know

February 22, 2023 Your License in the Crosshairs: Understanding the State Medical Board's Disciplinary Process in an Era of Increased Scrutiny

February 7, 2023 The State Medical Board Has Called You, Now What?

February 6, 2023 Are You Prepared to Join the Multi-State Nurse Licensure Compact?

August 3, 2022 Ohio Licensed Physicians Risk Possible Discipline if They Perform Abortions in Ohio or Any Other State

August 19, 2021 Important Changes to the Ohio Board of Nursing – First Source Screening Program

April 9, 2020 Physicians Face Regulatory Exposure for Prescribing COVID-19 Drugs Cited by President Trump

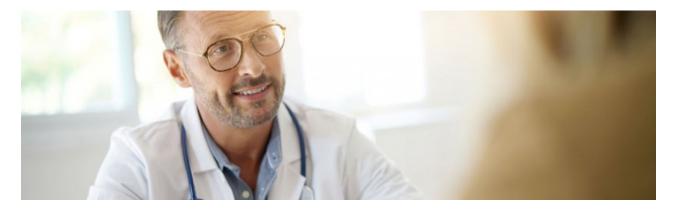
March 17, 2020 Ohio State Dental Board Issues COVID-19 Advisory

December 10, 2019



Ohio Board of Pharmacy Issues Important Notice to all Licensees Regarding Extortion Scam Ohio Nursing Defense Counsel Blog

# **Ohio Medical Board Defense Blog**



Visit the Ohio Medical Board Defense Counsel Blog.

## Keeping you informed

Our attorneys publish updates dealing with physician licensure topics as well as federal and Ohio regulations to keep you informed.

## Need a Speaker?

Our attorneys are ready and willing to educate groups and organizations on several topics including:

- · License application pitfalls for physicians
- Physician employment agreements
- Most common medical board disciplinary cases
- License application pitfalls for nurses
- Most common nursing board disciplinary cases