



Elizabeth S. Sconzert

MANAGING MEMBER

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EDUCATION

Loyola University New Orleans, School of Law

Juris Doctor, Order of the Barristers
2005

Loyola University New Orleans

*Bachelor of Arts, English/Public
Relations*
2001

BAR ADMISSIONS & CERTIFICATIONS

State of Louisiana

*United States District Court for Eastern,
Middle and Western Districts of
Louisiana, United States Fifth Circuit
Court of Appeal*

*Certified Litigation Management
Professional, CLM*

2016

*Insurance Claims Management
Specialist, Claims Xchange*

2025

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS/ ASSOCIATIONS

- Member, Louisiana State Bar Association
- Board member, Pro Bono Project
- Member, Louisiana Bar Foundation
- Board member, ClaimsXChange

ABOUT

Elizabeth Sconzert is the Managing Partner of Smith Sconzert, LLC, bringing more than 20 years of litigation experience to the strategic defense of complex matters. Known for her thoughtful approach and clear communication, Elizabeth understands that effective advocacy begins with listening — ensuring each client’s story is accurately and persuasively presented at every stage of litigation. Elizabeth delivers practical, risk-conscious guidance and works collaboratively to achieve efficient resolutions that balance legal, operational, and reputational interests.

CORE PRACTICE AREAS

Professional Liability

Elizabeth has extensive experience defending a wide range of licensed professionals, including physicians, nurses, social workers, dentists, psychologists, counselors, applied behavior analysts, attorneys, general contractors, massage therapists, real estate agents, and insurance brokers. She regularly represents clients in disciplinary investigations, peer review proceedings, and licensing board inquiries, helping professionals protect their licenses and livelihoods. Elizabeth has successfully defended professional negligence claims through trial and verdict and, when appropriate, has negotiated favorable resolutions that manage exposure and control defense costs.

Medical Malpractice & Healthcare

Elizabeth defends hospitals, long-term care facilities, nursing homes, LTACs, ambulatory surgery centers, and healthcare providers across numerous specialties, including cardiology, orthopedics, obstetrics, nephrology, bariatric surgery, dermatology, neurology, and family medicine. She represents physicians, nurses, pharmacists, dentists, therapists, recovery centers, and allied health professionals at every level of Louisiana’s court system. Her litigation experience also includes credentialing disputes, EMTALA claims, Nursing Home Bill of Rights matters, behavioral health and judicial commitment proceedings, informed consent claims, HIPAA compliance issues, and medical records disputes—frequently achieving claim dismissals, narrowed issues, or favorable resolutions through targeted motion practice and expert-driven defense strategies.



REPRESENTATIVE CASES

- *In re M.T., Medical Authorization for Patient under Judicial Commitment* (22nd JDC, La. 2025) (relief granted)
- *Lyons v. City of Mandeville* (22nd JDC, La. 2024) (defense verdict)
- *Thomas v. Regional Health System of Acadiana*, 2019 C-00507 (La. 1/29/20); 2020 WL 500019
- *Lee v. Kanagala*, 2019-1036 (La. App. 1 Cir. 9/30/19); 2019 WL 4750111
- *James v. Lakeview Regional Medical Center*, 2016-1103 (La. App. 1 Cir. 4/12/17); 2017 WL 1376574
- *Anderson v. Lakeview Regional Medical Center* (22nd JDC, La. 2015) (defense verdict)
- *Woodsum v. Bagby* (22nd JDC, La 2014) (defense verdict)
- *M.J. Farms, Ltd. v. Exxon Mobil Corp.*, 07-2371 (La. 7/1/08); 998 So. 2d 16.
- *Guilbeaux v. The Housing Authority of the City of Opelousas*, 07-1235 (La. App. 3 Cir. 03/05/08); 978 So. 2d 1132.
- *Korean War Veterans Association v. Federal Ins. Co.*, 2008 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 4682
- *Magnolia Management Corp. v. Federal Ins. Co.*, 2007 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 85372

COMMUNITY COMMITMENT

Elizabeth is actively involved in her community, serving on board positions for NAMI and the American Diabetes Association, as well as the Pro Bono Project, supporting initiatives that advocate for the traditionally underserved in Southeast Louisiana.

BEYOND THE OFFICE

When not practicing law, Elizabeth shares her life with her husband of nearly twenty years, embraces the joy of raising two (very) opinionated daughters and attempts to find balance while owning and teaching at a boutique yoga studio. A writer at heart, she loves to explore new places- whether near or far- and connect with the many personalities she meets along the way.

Public & Governmental Entity Law

Drawing on her extensive experience defending public entities, Elizabeth advises city officials and governmental bodies on policy development, open meetings compliance, enforcement actions, contract procurement and negotiations, public records requests, land use, public works, and employment matters. Her approach emphasizes proactive risk management, regulatory compliance, and defensible decision-making. Known for her collaborative style, Elizabeth listens carefully to stakeholders and delivers practical solutions that balance legal risk with the often-competing interests of public entities and the communities they serve — helping clients avoid disputes or resolve them efficiently when they arise.

EXPERTISE & RECOGNITION

Awards

- *American Society of Legal Advocates Louisiana's "Top 40 Litigation Lawyers Under 40"* 2013, 2014
- *New Orleans CityBusiness "Ones to Watch,"* 2013
- *Louisiana Super Lawyers Rising Star* 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020 (Personal Injury, Medical Malpractice Defense)
- *Selected to serve on the US Magistrate Judge Merit Selection Panel by Chief Judge Englehardt of the Eastern District of Louisiana*, 2018
- *Professional Women of St. Tammany Women's Choice Award*, 2019
- *Louisiana State Bar Association Citizen Lawyer Award*, 2019
- *New Orleans CityBusiness 16th Leadership in Law Class*, 2020
- *Member of Loyola Women's Leadership Academy, Cohort 5*, 2023
- *New Orleans CityBusiness 20th Leadership in Law Class*, 2025

Presentations:

- *Burnout in Professional Liability: WebEx* Aug. 2025; *Claims Academy*, Oct. 2025
- *Claims Academy: Professional Liability College*, Provost, Jul. 2025
- *Demystifying the Louisiana Medical Malpractice Act: Arch Insurance*, Aug. 2024
- *Rights and Procedures for Patients w/ Psychiatric Needs*, Christus Health, Mar. 2024
- *Take a Deep Breath, Louisiana State Bar Association: December 2025, Feb. 2024, December 2023, December 2022, October 2022; 22nd Judicial District Bar Association*, Jun. 2023
- *Virtual Reality: Will changes to the litigation environment endure in this new hybrid world? Claims Xchange*, Mar. 2023
- *National Survey of Covid Immunity, CLM Summer Professional Liability Program*, Jun. 2022
- *The Aftermath of Thomas and Billeau*, Louisiana State Bar Association, Medical Malpractice Committee, Oct. 2021
- *Diversity & Inclusion Breakout, DRI Annual Medical Professional Liability Law*, Aug. 2020
- *Defense Update in Healthcare Law, Louisiana, Texas and Alabama Associations of Defense, Winter Meeting*, Feb. 2020
- *Interdiction & Judicial Commitment*, 22nd Judicial District Bar Association, Nov. 2019
- *Negligent Credentialing- Separate & Apart from Malpractice*, New Orleans Bar Association, Oct. 2016
- *New Summary Judgment Articles*, 22nd Judicial District Bar Association, Jan. 2016
- *Specialty Courts and Their Impact on Our Community*, 22nd Judicial District Bar Association, Nov. 2015
- *Balancing Act: Where Legal and Real Worlds Collide*, New Orleans Bar Association, Oct. 2014
- *You've got a Judgment, Now What?*, New Orleans Bar Association, Jul. 2013
- *Nuances of the Medical Malpractice Act*, 22nd Judicial District Bar Association, Mar. 2013
- *Wrongful Death vs. Survival Action Prescriptive Issues*, New Orleans Bar Association, Jan. 2012