



Chris has spent the last decade litigating medical malpractice and Section 1983 claims. As lead counsel in both state and federal court, Chris has successfully represented doctors, nurses, correctional healthcare providers, jails, and various healthcare entities.

With a practice based in Richmond, clients typically ask Chris to defend Virginia cases from the start. But when his specialized background can help, Chris is regularly tapped to join later stages of litigation throughout the country. He has defended clients in Ohio, Colorado, Nevada, and Washington State, assisting with corporate depositions, dispositive motions, mediations, trials, and appeals.

Whatever the scenario, Chris builds a common vision with his clients and helps execute those goals through total advocacy that he sharpens through trials, a commitment to compelling briefs, and publishing commentary on the issues that impact his clients the most.

REPRESENTATIVE EXPERIENCE

Medical Malpractice (not including pro se cases)

- Dismissal of Emergency Room PA and physician without payment in pediatric wrongful death case (Alexandria Circuit - September 2025)
- Dismissal of internal medicine doctor without payment in case involving permanent neurologic injuries. (Richmon Circuit – July 2025)
- Dismissal of Emergency Room physician without payment in paralysis case (Richmond Circuit – June 2025)
- Dismissal of Emergency Room physician without payment in fetal death/maternal injury case (Alexandria Circuit - May 2025)
- Defense verdict for Emergency Room physician in orthopedic/nerve injury case (Portsmouth Circuit February 2025)§ Dismissal of Emergency Room physician without payment in anoxic brain injury case (Fairfax Circuit - October 2024)
- Prevailed at sovereign immunity trial for anesthesiologist in surgical complication case (Charlottesville Circuit - September 2022)§ Defense verdict for plastic surgeon in surgical complication case (Lynchburg Circuit - March 2022)
- Prevailed at sovereign immunity trial for anesthesiologist in surgical complication case (Charlottesville Circuit - September 2022)
- Defense verdict for plastic surgeon in surgical complication case (Lynchburg Circuit - March 2022)

Correctional Healthcare (not including pro se cases)

- Dismissal of Correctional Dentist without payment (E.D. Va. - October 2023)
- Successfully defended Correctional Healthcare Company at trial in a leg amputation case (Richmond Circuit - January 2023)



- Successfully briefed and argued a case of first impression in the Fourth Circuit regarding an inmate's claims that his rights to medical privacy were violated under HIPAA and the Due Process Clause. (4th Cir. 2021)
- Achieved summary judgment on all claims made by 47-year-old inmate who suffered an above the knee amputation while under the jail's care for chronic diabetes. (E.D. Va. 2020)

PUBLICATIONS & PRESENTATIONS

- Fourth Circuit Holds that Federal Rights Cannot Be Waived Ex Ante Fourth Circuit Holds that Federal Rights Cannot Be Waived Ex Ante (JD Supra · Dec 1, 20)
- Fourth Circuit Finds That West Virginia Expert Certification Requirement Does Not Apply to Inmate's Medical Malpractice Claim (JD Supra · Oct 25, 202)
- Recent Ruling on Medical Privacy Claims Illustrates the Fourth Circuit's Application of Stare Decisis (JD Supra · Jun 28, 2021)
- Turning Insult Into Injury: An Emerging Trend in Fourth Circuit Prison Litigation (Journal of Civil Litigation, Fall 2018, Vol. 30, Number 3 · Oct 1, 2018)

PRACTICES

- Litigation
- Healthcare
- Professional Liability Defense

LICENSURE

- Virginia
- U.S. District Court, Eastern Virginia
- U.S. District Court, Western Virginia
- Supreme Court of Virginia
- U.S. District Court, Colorado

ACADEMIC CREDENTIALS

- University of Richmond School of Law, J.D., 2014
- Duke University, B.A., 2005



BYRNE
CANAAN
LAW

Christopher F. Quirk

Partner

O 804.806.4814

M 202.270.2274

cquirk@byrncanaanlaw.com

ASSOCIATIONS AND PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

- Virginia Association of Defense Attorneys

DISTINCTIONS AND AWARDS

- In addition to having been recognized in Virginia Business Magazine's "Legal Elite" since 2020, Chris has also been rated by his peers in Super Lawyers and Best Lawyers in America.
- In 2025, Chris was invited to join the American Board of Trial Advocates (ABOTA), a national association of experienced trial lawyers and judges.

COMMUNITY SERVICE

- Richmond Animal League, Volunteer