



Claire Cowart Haltom

Shareholder

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Claire Cowart Haltom concentrates her practice on the legal, regulatory and business issues related to health care services.

Ms. Haltom is a skilled health care advisor who has successfully closed more than \$3 billion in health care transactions. She assists health care organizations, both for profit and not-for-profit, with complex mergers and acquisitions, strategic market analysis, corporate governance, regulatory compliance, state approvals, state licensing issues, corporate practice of medicine matters, clinical integration opportunities, and antitrust concerns. She is a member of Baker Donelson's Health Law and Public Policy Department, which is regarded as one of the premiere health law practices in the country. It is nationally ranked by *Modern Healthcare*, *Chambers USA – America's Leading Lawyers for Business*, *Health Lawyers News* and other health care publications. As part of her practice, Ms. Haltom provides strategic policy and government relations advice to clients on a variety of state and federal public policy matters. She takes pride in understanding her clients' business objectives and designing creative, yet practical legal solutions to meet their business needs.

Ms. Haltom is immediate past chair of the Leadership Health Care Board of Directors and has served on the Nashville Health Care Council Board of Directors. She previously served as chair of the Academic Medical Centers Practice Group of the [American Health Law Association](#). Internally, Ms. Haltom is the chair of Baker Donelson's [Alumni Program](#) and serves on the leadership of Baker Donelson's [Women's Initiative](#).

Prior to attending law school, Ms. Haltom served as a communications director for a United States Congressional Committee in Washington, D.C.

Representative Matters

- Represented a billion-dollar non-profit health system in securing the first Certificate of Public Advantage (COPA) ever issued in the state of Tennessee and the first Cooperative Agreement ever issued in the commonwealth of Virginia.
- Represented a two-billion dollar health system in various regulatory matters before the Department of Health and the Attorney General's Office.
- Represented a ten-billion-dollar health system in restructuring physician contracting arrangements.
- Represented a \$2 billion non-profit health system in the buy-out of a 50-year hospital lease, the purchase of real estate, and a commitment to build a new \$250 million hospital campus.
- Represented a \$2 billion health system in its acquisition of more than 500 physicians.
- Represented a billion-dollar health system in a successful "merger of equals."
- Represented a for-profit hospital company in the sale of a 325-bed acute care hospital to a non-profit health system.
- Represented a regional non-profit health system in the sale of a 500-bed acute care hospital to a for-profit hospital company.
- Represented a large non-profit health system through a strategic options process and selection of a strategic partner.
- Represented one of the largest health insurers in the nation in its expansion of services in multiple states.
- Represented a large teaching hospital in its negotiations with a university to form a new faculty practice plan.

- Represented an academic medical center in its acquisition of numerous physician practices.
- Represented an independent community hospital in negotiating a strategic affiliation agreement to join a clinically integrated network.
- Represented a group of charitable clinics in the successful passage of state legislation to address corporate practice of medicine issues.
- Represented a for-profit health care company in a corporate restructuring to address health care regulatory and corporate practice of medicine issues.
- Represented a for-profit health care company in a corporate restructuring and roll-up of 30 joint ventures into a Series LLC to address health care regulatory and franchising issues.
- Represented a group of health systems exploring a regional affiliated network through clinical integration.
- Represented a regional non-profit health system in the purchase of three medical oncology physician practices.
- Represented a regional non-profit health system in the purchase of a 17-physician cardiovascular group.
- Represented the purchaser of a 140-bed acute care hospital from a for-profit hospital company.
- Represented a regional non-profit health system in the purchase of the largest physician-owned medical group in the state of Arkansas.
- Represented a for-profit behavioral health company in the sale of a private inpatient acute behavioral facility dedicated to the treatment of behavioral and chemical dependency issues.
- Assisted national health system in the development and implementation of a telepsych network for facilities in numerous states. Also addressed physician state licensing issues, reimbursement issues, and regulatory compliance issues.
- Assisted AN academic medical center in evaluating state regulatory requirements for expansion of telemedicine services outside of its traditional geographic service area. Also filed necessary waivers/variances with state administrative boards to facilitate the expansion.
- Assisted an operator of urgent care centers in establishing a joint venture partnership with a regional health system to create a network of walk-in care centers.
- Negotiated amended terms of certification on behalf of a major health system for a unique multistate Certificate of Public Advantage.



Professional Honors & Activities

- Listed in *The Best Lawyers in America*[®] for Health Care Law (2020 – 2026)
- Selected to Mid-South Super Lawyers in Health Care Law (2019 – 2023, 2025)
- Chosen to Mid-South Rising Stars (2015 – 2018)
- Named one of *Nashville Business Journal's* "Top 40 Professionals Under 40" (2019)
- Named one of *Nashville Medical News's* "[Women to Watch for 2018](#)"
- Named one of *Nashville Post* magazine's inaugural "Law Leaders Rising" list of fast-rising legal stars
- Recipient – Baker Donelson Nashville Office Pro Bono Award (2016, 2025)
- Member – American Health Law Association
 - Chairman – Academic Medical Centers Practice Group (2014 – 2017)
 - Vice Chair – Publications, Teaching Hospitals & Academic Medical Centers Practice Group (2012 – 2014)
 - Vice Chair – Research & Website, Teaching Hospitals & Academic Medical Centers Practice Group (2011 – 2012)
- Member – Nashville Health Care Council
 - Board of Directors (2017 – 2018)
- Member – Leadership Health Care
 - Chair (2017 – 2018)
 - Vice Chair (2016 – 2017)

- Board of Directors (2013 – present)
- Member – Nashville Council of Health Care Attorneys
 - Membership Chair (2010 – 2014)
- Member – American Bar Association
- Member – Tennessee Bar Association
- Member – Nashville Bar Association



Civic/Personal Involvement

- Alive Hospice
 - Member – Board of Directors (2023 – present)
 - Chairman (2025 – present)
 - Vice Chairman/Chair of Governance (2024)
- Centerstone Military Services
 - Secretary – Board of Directors (2022 – present)
 - Member – Board of Directors (2018 – present)
- Faith Family Medical Center
 - Member – Board of Directors (2015 – 2020)
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- American Heart Association (Middle TN Affiliate)
 - Chair – Young Professional Board (2011 – 2013)
- The Hermitage, Home of President Andrew Jackson
 - Young Jacksonian Society (2010 – 2015)
- Member – Otter Creek Church
- Married to James Haltom, Esq.



Publications

- "Federal Agencies Announce Enforcement of Vaccine Rules as Supreme Court Prepares to Hear Arguments in Legal Challenges" (December 2021)
- "Fifth Circuit Reversal of Nationwide Stay Leaves Enforcement Status of CMS Vaccine Mandate Uncertain," republished January 7, 2022, in *Westlaw* (December 2021)
- "Federal Courts Pause Enforcement of CMS Vaccine Mandate Nationwide" (December 2021)
- Featured – "Claire Cowart Haltom, J.D.," *Nashville Medical News* (May 8, 2018)



Education

- University of Mississippi School of Law, J.D., cum laude
 - Articles Editor – *Mississippi Law Journal*
 - Student Editor – *Journal of Health and Life Sciences Law*
 - Recipient – University of Mississippi School of Law Scholarship
 - Co-President and Founder – Ole Miss Student Health Law Association
- Vanderbilt University, B.A.
 - President – Inter-Residence Hall Association (Student Body President)
 - Recipient – McGill Award for Outstanding Contribution to Vanderbilt University



Admissions

- Tennessee