In Memoriam: Preeminent Health Care Antitrust Attorney Arthur N. Lerner (1951-2016)


Art was a dean of the health care bar, recognized as a top health care lawyer by peers and clients alike. Art began his legal career with ten years of public service at the Federal Trade Commission. From 1982 to 1985, Art directed the FTC’s health care antitrust program. Before that, he served as attorney advisor to the chairman of the FTC, assistant to the director of the Bureau of Competition, and as an FTC trial attorney in health care antitrust.

Once in private practice, Art focused his work on antitrust, managed care, health reform, transactions, and fraud and abuse issues for health plans, hospitals, and other health care entities. Art joined Crowell & Moring in 2000 with a group of 16 lawyers from the law firm of Michaels & Bonner. He co-founded Crowell & Moring’s Health Care practice that year and served as the co-chair of the practice from 2002 to 2015. With Art’s leadership, the practice grew into one of the most respected health care practices in the nation.

During his more than 30 years of private practice, Mr. Lerner represented nearly every large health care plan in the nation, including Aetna, Cigna, Coventry Health Care, Humana, Kaiser Foundation Health Plan, and UnitedHealthcare, and he was involved in a large number of health care and antitrust matters that have shaped the health care industry.

Art’s leadership within the health care bar and his devotion to public service was widely felt. He served as a member of the Board of Directors (2008-2014) and Executive...
Committee (2013-2014) of the American Health Lawyers Association (AHLA) and as chair (2004-2007) of the Antitrust Practice Group of AHLA. He also served as the chair of the American Bar Association Antitrust Section's Federal Civil Enforcement Committee (2006-2007) and FTC Committee (2004-2006). Art demonstrated an enduring commitment to public service, and he received the "Champion of Change" award from the District of Columbia Primary Care Association for his and the firm’s _pro bono_ work focused on ensuring that every resident of the District of Columbia has a "medical home."

Art was recognized as a top lawyer in the health care field nationally by _Chambers USA_ and was recognized in both antitrust and health care law by _The Best Lawyers in America_. He was named one of the top 25 managed care lawyers in the United States by _The National Law Journal_. In addition, Art was listed on the BTI Client Service All-Star Team for Corporate Transactions, in recognition of his ability to break down deal complexities and his profound understanding of his clients’ business. He was also recently awarded Crowell & Moring’s coveted leadership award by firm partners in recognition of the many contributions he made to enhancing the firm’s culture, community, and business.

Art was born in 1951 and raised in Toledo, Ohio. He earned his A.B. from University of Michigan, and his J.D. from Harvard Law School, _magna cum laude_.

Art was the devoted husband of Linda Dreeben for more than 40 years. In addition to his wife, Linda, Art is survived by his two sons, Benjamin and Zachary; grandson Liam; and daughters-in-law Melissa and Alana.

Art became a leader for raising money and awareness for the Pancreatic Cancer Action Network, which works to advance research and support patients for those affected by pancreatic cancer.

Art will be remembered by all of us at the firm as a brilliant lawyer, trusted colleague, and a caring friend.

Memorial contributions may be made to Montgomery Hospice Casey House, [www.montgomeryhospice.org](http://www.montgomeryhospice.org); Jewish Federation of Greater Washington, [www.shalomdc.org](http://www.shalomdc.org) or Ruesch Center at Georgetown Lombardi Cancer Center, [ruesch.georgetown.edu](http://ruesch.georgetown.edu).