

CURRICULUM VITAE (Medical-Legal)

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Date of Birth: December 25, 1952 | Birthplace: Highland Park, Illinois

California Medical License: G50041 (Active since 1983)

PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

Board-certified in Plastic Surgery and Otolaryngology–Head and Neck Surgery, with over 33 years of private practice in Irvine, California. Recognized for excellence in surgical outcomes, communication, and patient-centered care. Currently re-engaged in part-time private practice after an extended medical leave of absence and actively pursuing a medical-legal career as an expert witness and independent medical examiner in plastic and reconstructive surgery.

EXPERT WITNESS & MEDICAL-LEGAL EXPERIENCE

- Over three decades of clinical experience in cosmetic and reconstructive plastic surgery.
- Currently accepting assignments as an expert witness and independent medical examiner (IME), offering objective case reviews, expert opinions, and testimony grounded in extensive surgical expertise and real-world experience.
- Conducted approximately 20 Independent Medical Examinations (IMEs) and provided several medical expert depositions and open courtroom testimonies for both plaintiff and defense matters.
- Impeccable malpractice record: zero settlements or payments over 33 years in practice; only one frivolous claim, dismissed following deposition.
- Outstanding reputation for communication and professionalism, supported by 75 out of 75 five-star Yelp reviews.
- National media experience includes six episodes on the Discovery Channel (1998–early 2000s), including the first nationally broadcast breast augmentation procedure in 1998, a breast asymmetry case, arm-breast-body surgery after massive weight loss, and reconstruction of an ear after amputation from a dog bite.
- Recently completed a Master of Legal Studies (MLS) with a concentration in pharmaceutical and medical device law and compliance, enhancing my fluency in legal frameworks and regulatory issues.

- Extensive experience with Ambulatory Surgical Center (ASC) operations: owned and operated a single-specialty ASC accredited by AAAASF and certified by CMS (1995–2019). Also served as a part-time surveyor for AAAASF, reviewing compliance, policy, and safety standards.

RECENT IME ENGAGEMENTS (PLASTIC SURGERY)

Representative independent medical examinations performed in personal injury matters involving burn injuries and related sequelae. Details limited to protect confidentiality.

- **Scald Injury IME** (San Diego County, Sept. 2025) – Defense-Retained Examiner. Conducted independent medical examination and authored report regarding third-degree burn injury from hot liquid exposure.
 - **Scald Injury IME** (Los Angeles County, Jan. 2026) – Defense-Retained Examiner. Conducted independent medical examination and authored report regarding second-degree burn injury from hot liquid exposure.
 - **Scald Injury IME** (Los Angeles County, Mar. 2026) – Defense-Retained Examiner. Conducted independent medical examination and authored report regarding second-degree burn injury from hot liquid exposure.
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SELECTED EXPERT WITNESS ENGAGEMENTS (PLASTIC SURGERY)

Representative engagements reflecting defense-retained expert work in plastic surgery matters involving standard of care, administrative proceedings, and civil litigation.

- **Stingl v. Berman** (Cal. Ct. App., 4th Dist., Div. 3, 2023) – **Defense Expert.** Authored plastic surgery standard-of-care declaration (Dec. 2021). Trial court granted summary judgment; affirmed on appeal.
- **Confidential California Medical Board Administrative Matter** (June 2025) – **Defense Expert.** Retained in defense of the respondent cosmetic surgeon in an administrative proceeding. Case resolved favorably.
- **High-Profile Civil Defense Case** (Los Angeles Superior Court, Sept. 2025) – **Defense Expert.** Retained as rebuttal/impeachment plastic surgery expert witness; not called to testify at trial. Case concluded with favorable defense verdict.

EDUCATION

- Seton Hall University School of Law – **M.L.S.**, Pharmacologic and Medical Device Law & Compliance, May 2024
- UC Irvine, Paul Merage School of Business – Certificate in Leadership for Healthcare Transformation, Spring 2015

- Northwestern University, Kellogg School of Management – Executive **M.B.A.**, 1999–2001
- Pediatric Plastic Surgery Fellowship – Akron Children’s Hospital (with Dr. James Lehman), Spring 1986
- Aesthetic Surgery Fellowship – Santa Ana, California (with Dr. Bruce Connell), 1985
- Plastic Surgery Residency – UC Irvine School of Medicine, 1983–1985
- Otolaryngology–Head and Neck Surgery Residency – Northwestern University Medical School, 1980–1983
- General Surgery Residency – Northwestern University Medical School, 1978–1980
- **M.D.** – University of Illinois School of Medicine, 1974–1978
- **B.A.** – Oberlin College, 1971–1974
- Additional undergraduate coursework – Harvard University (Summer 1972, 1973); University of Michigan (Spring 1971); Research, Johns Hopkins Pathology Department with Kim Solez, M.D.

BOARD CERTIFICATION

- American Board of Plastic Surgery
- American Board of Otolaryngology–Head and Neck Surgery

CLINICAL APPOINTMENTS & PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

- Vice Chairman, Department of Surgery, Irvine Regional Hospital (2007–2009)
- Chief, Division of Plastic Surgery, Irvine Medical Center (1998–2007)
- President, Orange County Plastic Surgery Society (2000–2002)
- Member, American Society of Plastic Surgeons (since 1986)

PRACTICE HISTORY

- Private Practice in Plastic Surgery, Irvine, California (1986–2019)
- Medical Leave of Absence – August 2019 to February 2025 (for treatment and recovery from Acute Myeloid Leukemia)
- Resumed part-time surgical practice – March 1, 2025

Reviewed March 25, 2026
