

**PRESS RELEASE**

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***For immediate release***

*April 5, 2007 ... Uniondale, New York*

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**Michael McDermott and Christopher Kutner Join Farrell Fritz as Health Care Partners**

Farrell Fritz, P.C. is pleased to announce that Michael E. McDermott and Christopher J. Kutner have re-joined the firm as partners in the health care practice group. Mr. McDermott was a partner at Farrell Fritz from 1995-1999 and was in charge of the firm's health care practice. Mr. Kutner was a senior commercial litigator with the firm from 1990 to 1998.

**Mr. McDermott** has represented hospitals, HMO's, integrated delivery systems, nursing homes, home care and hospice care agencies, MSO's, multi-specialty physician groups and physicians in a wide variety of transactional and regulatory matters.

Prior to re-joining the firm, Mr. McDermott was vice president and deputy general counsel at Lutheran Medical Center in Brooklyn, NY. His responsibilities included advising senior management, the board of trustees and medical staff on all legal/regulatory matters affecting a voluntary, not-for-profit teaching hospital and affiliated nursing home, family health centers, and senior housing facilities. Mr. McDermott was also previously a partner at Aaronson Rappaport Feinstein & Deutsch, LLP (New York, NY) and general counsel and assistant general counsel at Lenox Hill Hospital (New York, NY).

Mr. McDermott is an adjunct professor at Hofstra University School of Law, where he teaches health law courses to second and third year students. He earned his Juris Doctor in 1980 from Southwestern University Law School and his B.S. in 1977 from St. John's University.

Mr. McDermott is a member of the American Health Lawyers Association. He serves on the New York State Bar Association's Health Law and Elder Law Committees; the Nassau County Bar Association's Hospital and Health Law Committee and the Greater New York Hospital Association's Legal Advisory Committee. He is admitted to practice in the State of New York and the State of California.

**Press Release April 5, 2007, (Continued)**

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**Mr. Kutner** most recently served as corporate and regulatory compliance counsel for Health Insurance Plan (HIP) of Greater New York. Previously, he was with a HIP-acquired company, Vytra Health Plans, which he joined in 1998 as their associate general counsel and compliance officer. He ultimately became the special assistant and counsel to the president/CEO of Vytra Health Plans, focusing on strategic planning.

Mr. Kutner's litigation experience includes representing local, national and global companies in civil and criminal matters in state and federal courts. He has tried cases to verdict and decision in both court systems and has successfully argued appeals in the appellate division of New York State Supreme Court. Mr. Kutner has also provided pro bono service for indigent clients through Nassau County's Volunteer Lawyers Project.

Mr. Kutner earned an M.B.A. from Hofstra University in 2003, his Juris Doctor from St. John's University School of Law in 1990 and his Bachelors of Engineering, Mechanical Engineering in 1987 from the State University of New York at Stony Brook.

Mr. Kutner has earned a national certification from the Healthcare Compliance Certification Board. He serves on the American Bar Association's Health Law Committee; the New York State Bar Association's Insurance, Commercial Litigation and Health Law Committees; is past chair of the Suffolk County Bar Association's Health and Hospital Law Committee and is a member of the Nassau County Bar Association's Health and Hospital Law Committee.

Mr. Kutner is admitted to practice in New York, Second Judicial Department; Connecticut and U.S. District Courts for the Eastern and Southern Districts of New York.

**About Farrell Fritz**

Farrell Fritz is a full service law firm that has earned a strong reputation in the New York business community. Highly respected for its experience in many areas of law, Farrell Fritz handles legal matters in the areas of corporate and banking; environmental law; franchise and distribution; labor and employment; land use, municipal and zoning litigation; real estate; tax; and trusts and estates matters for a variety of corporations, institutions and individuals. For more information, please visit our website at [www.farrellfritz.com](http://www.farrellfritz.com).