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## Reinhart Boerner Names New Health Care Practice Leader

By **Adrian Cruz**

Law360 (July 7, 2023, 4:16 PM EDT) -- Milwaukee-based Reinhart Boerner Van Deuren SC has named a longtime shareholder with almost 30 years of legal experience as the new chair of its health care practice.

Reinhart Boerner said in a Wednesday announcement that Robert Lightfoot was appointed health care chair at the start of July, succeeding shareholder Larri Broomfield, who spent the last few years leading the practice group.

Lightfoot, who's been with Reinhart Boerner since 2011, has served in a number of leadership roles both at the firm and with outside organizations, including chairing the long term care, assisted living and senior independent housing services group, serving as general counsel for trade groups Wisconsin Assisted Living Association and LeadingAge Wisconsin and serving on their respective boards.



Robert Lightfoot

"I'm honored to lead the department and I know we have a very vibrant healthcare practice here at Reinhart," Lightfoot told Law360 Pulse on Friday. "I'm hoping to be able to keep it strong and hopefully grow the practice."

Lightfoot said that the health care group consists of around 10 attorneys who practice in a broad range of health care matters including acute and post-acute care, privacy and security, transactional work such as facility licensing and dental. He added that he anticipates one or two associates who were previously summer interns with Reinhart Boerner to join the firm in the fall.

"I just want to make sure that when people think of healthcare at Reinhart, they think of great service, expertise in a number of areas and the ability to serve our clients at a high level," Lightfoot said.

One of the main issues Lightfoot said his clients in the post-acute care space are currently facing is the post-pandemic return to normalcy. While the focus during the pandemic was mostly on COVID-19 avoidance in their facilities, he said that a backlog of regulatory issues in other areas built up during that time.

"Post-pandemic, regulatory has come back strong both on the post acute side and the assisted living/skilled nurse side," Lightfoot said. "Regulatory issues tend to take over a lot of their time right now because it was somewhat depressed during the pandemic, where the focus was only on infection control issues. Now, they're trying to clear some of the backlog."

A graduate of Hamline University School of Law, Lightfoot's practice focuses on representing owners and operators of nursing homes and assisted living facilities on operational, regulatory and employment matters such as transactions, survey and certification, audits, risk management and HIPAA compliance.

Before joining Reinhart Boerner, Lightfoot spent a year and a half as a shareholder with von Briesen & Roper SC and 14 years with Murphy Desmond SC. Before deciding to pursue law, he also spent six years as a registered nurse with Vanderbilt University Medical Center working in the intensive care

and oncology sectors.

"Bob's wealth of knowledge in this space uniquely equips him to take on this role. We know that he will continue the focus on exceptional client service that has long defined our health care practice," CEO Albert Orr said in a statement. "Bob has a keen understanding of the special nuances of healthcare and extensive experience with state and federal agencies, making him an invaluable asset to his clients and a respected authority in his area of practice."

--Editing by Alyssa Miller.

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