



## Peter H. Tanella

Partner

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### Overview

Peter is the Chair of the firm's National Veterinary Practice Group. Peter is also a member of the firm's Executive Committee wherein he strives to embody the firm's core values while working closely with firm leadership to help drive the firm's positioning and strategic plan.

Peter is an experienced business lawyer and trusted advisor who has developed a national practice representing his clients in all facets of their business life cycle including corporate formations and start-ups, acquisitions, sales and mergers, associate buy-ins, non-veterinary ownership structures, real estate transactions, partnership agreements, employment agreements, joint ventures and succession planning. Peter regularly serves as outside general counsel providing counseling to his clients to efficiently find creative solutions to manage their practices, while acting as a key resource for facilitating transactions.

Peter maintains exceptionally close relationships with his clients. Whether he is managing a complex transaction or providing day-to-day support as outside general counsel, his clients value his in-depth knowledge and commitment to addressing every aspect of their business objectives. Peter prides himself on anticipating his client's needs and works collaboratively with their teams to achieve their business goals while respecting his client's deadlines and budget. He provides a "one stop shop" for his clients, who appreciate his responsiveness, efficiency and practical approach to finding solutions to their day-to-day legal issues as well as more complex matters, such as succession planning. Together with other members of the practice group, Peter provides counseling to his clients on risk management issues involving tax law compliance, regulatory compliance, telemedicine, employment and discrimination matters, construction law, intellectual property, business separations, cyber security, and data privacy.

Peter leverages his industry relationships to add value to clients' businesses by making mutually rewarding introductions. As a result, he regularly connects his clients to other professional service providers, clients, and investors. He works under the premise that connecting quality people with one another enhances the likelihood of success for all involved.

Beyond his law practice, Peter has a strong commitment to community service, non-profit and charitable causes. He is a proven leader in his hometown of Cedar Grove, New Jersey where he served nineteen years on the Township Council, including five terms as Mayor. Peter currently serves on the Board of Directors for NYSAVE, a non-profit organization which provides emergency funding for the veterinary care of sick or injured companion animals. He is a member of the New Jersey State Bar Association's Animal, Health, Wealth, Agriculture and Veterinary Practice Law Committee. He is also a member of VetPartners and the American Veterinary Medical Law Association. He serves as the Vice Chairman of the Board of Directors for the Metropolitan YMCA of the Oranges, the largest association of YMCAs in the State of New Jersey. He served as a member of the Essex County Bar Association's World Trade Center Disaster Relief Task Force providing free legal services to families

and victims of the 9/11 attacks. Peter continues to reside in his hometown with his wife, Kimlani, their three daughters and their cockapoo “Kona”.

## Professional Affiliations

- NYSAVE, Board of Directors
- New Jersey State Bar Association – Animal Health, Welfare, Agriculture & Veterinary Practice Committee, Member
- VetPartners, Member
- American Veterinary Medical Law Association (AVMLA), Member
- Metropolitan YMCA of the Oranges, Vice-Chair – Board of Directors
- Mayor/Councilman, Township of Cedar Grove, 2004-2023

## Publications

[“What to Watch for in Employment Law.”](#) Today’s Veterinary Business, April/May 2023.

[“PPP Loans and Your Veterinary Practice.”](#) Today’s Veterinary Business, February/March 2023.

[“Leaving So Soon?”](#) Today’s Veterinary Business, December 2022/January 2023.

[“How to Forge a Healthy Workplace Culture.”](#) Today’s Veterinary Business, October/November 2022.

[“How Groomer Clients Become Adversaries.”](#) Today’s Veterinary Business, August/September 2022.

[“When an Infection Triggers a Lawsuit.”](#) Today’s Veterinary Business, June/July 2022.

[“Fair Shares.”](#) Today’s Veterinary Business, April/May 2022.

[“Stay Away, Please.”](#) Today’s Veterinary Business, February/March 2022.

[“When Clients Sue.”](#) Today’s Veterinary Business, December 2021/January 2022.

## Areas of Practice

- [Veterinary Law \(Chair\)](#)

## Admission

- State of New Jersey, 2000
- U.S. District Court, District of New Jersey, 2000

## Education

- Quinnipiac University School of Law, J.D.
- Montclair State University, B.A.

## Podcasts

[Harbor Business Experience Podcast, March 1, 2022.](#)

[Smarter Vet Financial Podcast, March 31, 2023.](#)

## Speaking Engagements

Michigan State University Chapter of the Veterinary Business Management Association: *“Employment, Start-Up & Buying a Practice Contract Red Flags/Pitfalls,”* November 16, 2022.

WVC Conference: *“Everything You Wanted to Know About MSOs: And Why Veterinarians Should Establish Their Own,”* February 21, 2023.

WVC Conference: *“Non-Traditional Methods for Granting Employees Equity Interest in Veterinary Practice,”* February 21, 2023.

Fetch DVM360 Conference, Charlotte – Peer-to-Peer Luncheon Presentation with Chris Rocchio, DVM of Monarch Business Consulting: *“10 Mistakes Veterinarians Make When Buying or Selling a Practice,”* March 25, 2023.

Relief Rover Webinar with Brent Pohlman, Esq.: *“A Contract Primer for Relief Veterinarians,”* April 18, 2023.