

rowing up in Baltimore, Julia Arfaa vacillated between two equally enticing career aspirations.

"I knew I'd be a good attorney," Arfaa recalls. "I was always thinking one step ahead, and I could cross examine people in my family pretty well! But I also loved medicine."

An aversion to blood, however, got her thinking strategically. She set her sights on medical malpractice law and has never looked back. Today, the Arfaa Law Group is among the top malpractice law firms in Baltimore. For more than 20 years, she has represented individuals and families in Maryland state and federal courts, as well as courts in Delaware, Pennsylvania, New York, Virginia, and the District of Columbia.

Arfaa's early and ongoing fascination with medicine did not fall by the wayside; she is widely known for her ability to handle complex medical issues and aggressively advocate for the maximum compensation victims are entitled to receive. She handles all forms of medical malpractice, including childbirth injury, infection and septic shock, cancer and stroke misdiagnosis, spinal cord injury, postpartum hemorrhage, and brain aneurysm. She's gone to bat for some of society's neediest and often forgotten people—including those residing in poorly regulated group homes—digging deeply to get answers and restitution in cases of injury or death.

"I love trial law," says Arfaa. "Because of that, our cross-examinations are extremely detailed, incisive, and effective. I have a true passion for medicine, the law, and helping my clients. I'm not just going through the motions, and jurors can see that."

Jurors can, indeed. In recent years, she and her firm have obtained record-breaking settlements and jury awards ranging from \$2.3 million to \$21 million.

"The most rewarding thing about medical malpractice law is that you are truly changing people's lives," says Arfaa. "Many of our clients have been hardworking people who, because of negligence or improper treatment, have been left permanently disabled and unable to work or care for their families. One young mother we represented went to the hospital with a kidney infection that was never diagnosed, ended up with multiple amputations, and is unable to care for her young children. This is, clearly, unacceptable. I'm so glad my colleagues and I were able to help her and her family. It's just the best feeling."

Brilliance, tenacity, and heart, together with some extraordinary time management skills, allow Arfaa to win major settlements for her clients and still have time for her family and friends. Her blended household includes five teenagers, ages 14–18.

Arfaa Law Group is a small, streamlined practice—just Arfaa, partner Jonathan Cusson, and a staff of three—and Arfaa says she likes it that way. "There's no drama. We're a peaceful team; everyone works well

together. That's the environment you need when you're working every day with clients who've been through trauma and need your help."

What's on the horizon for Julia Arfaa? "I'm thinking about medical school, maybe in 10 years. It's a personal goal that I would love to achieve."

Just last year, Arfaa Law Group obtained a \$18.54 million verdict for a young man who was not properly resuscitated during a massive pulmonary embolus. It was the largest jury verdict in a medical malpractice case in the history of Baltimore County.



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