Marco Tomakin, JD, BSN, RN, CPHRM has over 25 years of experience in the health care industry and legal profession. He is an experienced nurse - attorney licensed in both the Philippines and New York. With these dual professions, Marco has a unique perspective as well as a keen interest in the intersection between immigration law and delivery of healthcare to migrant communities and the welfare of foreign-born workers. He is currently a Risk Manager at Albany Medical Health System, the largest and only regionally governed, not-for-profit health system in northeastern New York and western New England where he focuses mainly on claims and litigation management. Marco is a member of the American Society of Health Care Risk Management (ASHRM) and maintains his Certified Professional Healthcare Risk Management (CPHRM). He is also a Member of The Association for Healthcare Risk Management of New York, Inc. (AHRMNY).

He has recently been awarded the Fay Rozovsky Scholarship Program to attend the 2025 ASHRM Annual Conference in Charlotte, NC.

Melissa Bedward, MS, RNC-OB, C-EFM, IBCLC, C-ONQS, CPHQ, CPHRM is currently a Clinical Risk Manager at Catholic Health Mercy Hospital. She started her nursing career in 2007 on a medical unit at New York Presbyterian/Queens after receiving her degree from Saint Vincent Catholic Medical Center School of Nursing. In 2011 she transitioned to Labor and Delivery, where she became certified in electronic fetal monitoring and in-patient OB and obtained her bachelor's in nursing from Lehman College. She became a Certified Lactation Counselor in 2015 and recognized the need to improve birth practices and education. After receiving a master's in nursing leadership from Stony Brook University in 2019 she started a new role as the RN Lactation Specialist. During this time, she helped prepare the maternal child department for their successful Baby Friendly designation. In 2019 she received the award for Outstanding Service from the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology. After working at the same hospital for 14 years, in November 2020 she started a new chapter at North Shore University Hospital as a Clinical Quality Improvement Specialist supporting OB/GYN, Maternal-Child health and Fertility. Working very closely with the OB/GYN Team, she was able to hone her ability to identify areas for improvement, develop strategic plans, and implement effective solutions to enhance operational efficiency and ensure compliance with regulatory standards. Her background has provided her with a strong foundation in data analysis, process improvement methodologies, and facilitating debriefs and RCAs for serious safety events. She was awarded the 2022 North Shore University Hospital Center of Excellence award for delivering high-quality care. Since arriving at NSUH, she earned certifications in Obstetrics and Neonatal Quality and Safety (C-ONQS) and Healthcare Quality (CPHQ) and was promoted to Senior Manager.

She has been an active member of AHRMNY and ASHRM for the past several years, on the AHRMNY Publishing committee and co-presented at the 2023 and 2024 ASHRM Annual Conference. In 2024, Melissa was invited to join the Stony Brook School of Nursing Alumni Board and successfully obtained her CPHRM. She most recently was elected to the board of directors for the Association for Healthcare Risk Management of New York (AHRMNY).

Noah Becker, Esq. is the Director of Risk Management with New York City Health + Hospitals/Elmhurst, part of the New York City Health + Hospitals system. In his role, Noah oversees the Root Cause Analysis process at Elmhurst as well as incident reporting across the Hospital. Noah also oversees a team of risk managers and together the Department counsels providers regarding any and all issues of consents, surrogacy, capacity determinations and anything else that comes their way.

Noah began his legal career at the law firm of Aaronson Rappaport Feinstein & Deutsch and then transitioned into public service. Now with several years under his belt at NYC Health + Hospitals he's certain he's found his home.