



Renee E. Zerbonia

SENIOR COUNSEL

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OVERVIEW

Renee keenly focuses on healthcare regulatory matters so clients can concentrate on what's most important: patient care.

Renee helps clients navigate complex regulatory issues in the healthcare industry, such as billing and reimbursement, fraud and abuse, licensing and credentialing, and corporate structuring. She works with a variety of healthcare providers, including physicians, hospitals, home health agencies and others. With her knowledge of regulatory and licensure matters, Renee has also guided providers through establishing ketamine clinics for the treatment of psychiatric conditions with psychedelics. Renee enjoys finding creative solutions for clients facing difficult issues as well as those looking to implement and bring new ideas to market.

Renee has significant experience representing clients in pharmacy-related matters. Her experience includes counseling compounders through Food and Drug Administration (FDA) inspections, managing changes of pharmacy ownership and location, and advising on various compliance matters. She also has experience with specialty pharmacy contracting.

As a former Assistant Attorney General in the Medicaid Fraud Control Unit of the Missouri Attorney General's Office, Renee has also represented healthcare providers in a variety of state and federal fraud, waste and abuse matters. She has guided clients through internal audits as well as state and federal audits and investigations.

Industry

Healthcare

Services

Healthcare Operations

Healthcare Providers

Healthcare Regulatory &
Compliance Counseling

Medicaid Reimbursement Strategies
Pharmacy

Psychedelics & Emerging Therapies

State Attorneys General Practice

Experience

MEDICARE AND MEDICAID

- Advised hospitals on Medicare and Medicaid issues relating to provider-based departments, including outreach to Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS).
- Analyzed regulatory compliance issues relating to physician-owned hospitals.
- Assisted specialty pharmacy with Medicaid program enrollment in all 50 states and Washington, DC, and advised on ongoing compliance.

PHARMACY

- Routinely counseled pharmacies on licensing and compliance matters.
- Advised pharmacy benefit manager on specialty pharmacy contracting.
- Assisted pharmacies with obtaining state licenses in all 50 states.

REGULATORY/COMPLIANCE

- Managed and led due diligence in several healthcare transactions, including sale of multiple dialysis centers.
- Counseled physician groups, physical therapists, dental practices and others on corporate structuring matters.
- Prepared telemedicine and telehealth policies for healthcare providers.
- Conducted compliance plan effectiveness audits.
- Advised emerging companies on data privacy and security issues relating to HIPAA.

INVESTIGATIONS AND SELF-DISCLOSURES

- Assisted with preparation of multiple Self-Referral Disclosure Protocol (SRDP) submissions.
- Advised clients on Medicaid fraud and abuse investigations.
- As an Assistant Attorney General, directed investigations into alleged Medicaid fraud and abuse and represented state of Missouri in civil and criminal Medicaid fraud and abuse cases.

Education

- J.D., Saint Louis University School of Law
 - *cum laude*
 - Certificate in Health Law
 - Academic Excellence Awards in Healthcare Finance & Business Planning, Taxation, Patent Law and Legal Profession
 - *Saint Louis University Journal of Health Law & Policy*, Staff Editor
- B.A., Wake Forest University
 - Biology

Admissions

- Missouri
- Colorado