



Nora E. Becerra

Partner

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OVERVIEW

Nora E. Becerra is a partner in the Health Care and FDA practice group. She focuses her practice on regulatory compliance and complex litigation and assists healthcare clients with various fraud and abuse matters, including responding to government subpoenas and civil investigative demands, conducting internal investigations, and defending False Claims Act lawsuits. Nora regularly advises healthcare providers, drug and device manufacturers/suppliers, pharmaceutical, laboratory, and durable medical equipment clients on regulatory compliance matters, including best practices for medical coding and billing procedures, physician compensation models, joint ventures, general contracting, cybersecurity and privacy policies, and other matters that may implicate the False Claims Act, Anti-Kickback Statute, Civil Monetary Penalties Law, Stark Law, and HIPAA.

Nora is experienced in all phases of internal investigations and complex litigation, and has practiced before courts and regulatory bodies across the country. She has successfully represented clients in matters involving the U.S. Department of Justice and other federal and state agencies such as the Illinois Department of Public Health and the US International Trade Commission in Washington, D.C.

PROFESSIONAL BACKGROUND

Nora was a summer associate in the Chicago office of K&L Gates in 2014. While attending the University of Chicago Law School, she served as President of the Latino Law Students Association and was a student director in the Corporate Lab transactional law clinic, where she managed matters for several Fortune 500 companies. Nora also externed as a judicial clerk for Federal Judge Amy St. Eve at the United States District Court for the Northern District of Illinois. Nora began her career at the firm as a general commercial litigator and is experienced in all phases of complex litigation, including pre-litigation strategy, fact and expert discovery, motion practice, trial preparation, trial, post-trial motions, and settlement negotiations. She has represented clients before various state and federal courts and agencies, and now focuses her practice primarily within the healthcare industry.

ACHIEVEMENTS

Nora was listed in *The Best Lawyers: Ones to Watch*® in America for Health Care Law in Chicago, 2024 edition.

Nora was the recipient of Chicago Scholars' "35 under 35 Young Leaders Making An Impact Award" in recognition of her community involvement and pro bono service efforts. In 2017, Nora participated in the "Rate My Pitch" competition, a city-wide mock pitch competition where associates from law firms across Chicago were evaluated by a panel of judges comprised of the general counsels for Allstate, Motorola Solutions, Anixter and General Electric. Nora won first place for "Best Individual Pitch" in addition to being captain of the team awarded "Best Team Pitch."

Nora received the Dean's Certificate of Recognition from the University of Chicago Law School for her work with Chicago Volunteer Legal Services, LAF (formerly the Legal Assistance Foundation of Metropolitan Chicago) and the Constitutional Rights Foundation of Chicago. She currently serves on the firm Diversity Committee and is a former board member of the Chicago Committee for Minorities in Large Law Firms, an organization that promotes the retention and advancement of minority attorneys. Nora is also a member of the firm's Women in the Profession (WIP) committee.

SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS

- "2020 FCA Year in Review," Chicago Bar Association, May 2021
- "Digital Health in Transition: Regulation, Reimbursement and Evolution," Chicago Bar Association Health Law Seminar, January 2023

EDUCATION

- J.D., The University of Chicago Law School, 2015
- B.A., The University of Chicago, 2010 (*with Honors*)

ADMISSIONS

- Bar of Illinois
- United States Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit
- United States District Court for the Central District of Illinois
- United States District Court for the Northern District of Illinois

LANGUAGES

- Spanish

THOUGHT LEADERSHIP *POWERED BY HUB*

- 28 April 2023, The False Claims Act and Health Care: 2022 Recoveries and 2023 Outlook
- 12 January 2023, Stark Law and the Anti-Kickback Statute Under the False Claims Act

- 25 February 2022, Qui Tam Quarterly - EHR Systems: A Step Forward for Patients but a Compliance and Enforcement Minefield for Health Care Providers
- 27 August 2021, Qui Tam Quarterly - Hunting Telehealth Fraud Under COVID-19 Waivers and Expansion
- 25 March 2021, Veteran Affairs Auditing US\$35 Billion in Payments to Community Care Providers
- 22 February 2021, The False Claims Act and Health Care: 2020 Recoveries and 2021 Outlook
- 21 January 2021, OIG Finalizes New and Revises Existing AKS Safe Harbors and Creates New CMP Law Exception
- 21 January 2021, White Paper: OIG Finalizes New and Revises Existing AKS Safe Harbors and Creates New CMP Law Exception
- 30 December 2020, Qui Tam Quarterly - COVID-19 and the Big-Data Revolution of Health Care False Claims Act Litigation
- 11 November 2020, Congratulations to Our Diverse and Women Lawyers
- 4 September 2020, COVID-19: K&L Gates Triage: COVID-19 and Social Determinants of Health -- A Closer Look at the Disparate Impact of COVID-19 on Ethnic and Racial Minorities
- 1 May 2020, COVID-19: Labs Beware! – EKRA Expands DOJ's Enforcement Arsenal in the COVID-19 Fraud Battle
- 12 June 2018, BIPA Trending: Illinois Biometric Information Privacy Act Litigation Once Again On the Rise
- 2 March 2018, Spokeo Fails Facebook: Privacy Violation Held to Constitute Concrete Harm Under Illinois Biometric Information Privacy Act
- 1 September 2016, Professional Plaintiffs Beware: Courts Dismiss TCPA Claims on Standing Grounds
- 13 July 2016, Seventh Circuit Reaffirms Stance On Sender Liability In TCPA Fax Litigation

OTHER PUBLICATIONS

- "Hunting Telehealth Fraud Under COVID-19 Waivers and Expansion," *Pratt's Government Contracting Law Report*, December 2021
- "Qui Tam Quarterly: COVID-19 and the Big-Data Revolution of False Claims Act Legislation," *Health Law Journal*- Vol. 26 No. 2, *New York Bar Association*, 25 May 2021
- Child Labor Related Uses of Section 337, *Federal Circuit Bar Journal*, Vol. 27, No. 4, Articles, October 2018
- State Class Actions: Practice and Procedure, (collaborator) Aspen Publishers, 2013 and 2014 editions

NEWS & EVENTS

- 2 January 2024, K&L Gates Names Nearly 30 Partners, Government Affairs Advisors Across Firm

- 2 November 2020, Numerous K&L Gates Diverse and Women Lawyers Recognized for Leadership and Legal Accomplishments

AREAS OF FOCUS

- Health Care and FDA
- Health Care Fraud and Abuse (U.S.)
- Health Care Payor-Provider Disputes (U.S.)
- Hospitals and Health Systems
- Internal Investigations
- White Collar Defense and Investigations

REPRESENTATIVE EXPERIENCE

- Represented a Continuing Care Retirement Community in a right of access case before the Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH) and successfully obtained the grant of a motion for directed verdict by the administrative law judge who issued a favorable written recommendation to the IDPH
- Provided regulatory advice to a national full-service home medical equipment company regarding federal health care regulations, including fraud and abuse regulations, HIPAA, and DME supplier standards
- Provided regulatory guidance to large university medical center regarding physician compensation in response to audit uncovering potential Stark violations
- Provided regulatory guidance to publicly traded company in order to facilitate implementation of 50-state pharmacy program
- Represented durable medical equipment manufacturer in government investigation alleging Medicare fraud and abuse
- Counsel for engineering, procurement and construction company in arbitration and district court proceedings involving large scale internal investigation, civil and criminal defense and ICC arbitration arising from an international multi-billion dollar project based in the Republic of Colombia
- Counsel for large public research university in breach of license agreement action concerning molecular diagnostic assay technology, resulting in grant of summary judgment on liability in favor of the university