

## Robert D. Stone

Partner

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***Health care providers and suppliers call on Rob for innovative and practical strategies in operational and regulatory matters including fraud and abuse, compliance investigations, and reimbursement questions. His clients include entities such as health systems, AMCs, and other companies that operate in the health care industry. Rob was named a Best Lawyers 2020 Health Care Lawyer of the Year.***

Robert Stone focuses on health care compliance and regulatory matters, primarily counseling national health care systems and hospital and physician groups. His skills include assisting with the broad range of federal and state fraud and abuse issues facing health care providers, from compliance program development and review to internal and government investigations. Rob has extensive experience preparing, negotiating, and resolving provider self-disclosures under both the OIG and CMS protocols.

On the corporate side, Rob counsels clients on clinical trial contracting and regulatory compliance for clients that are entering or exiting joint ventures, facing complex reimbursement issues, or engaging in physician recruitment. In addition to providers, he has also worked with medical device manufacturers and medical supply companies.

Rob has presented at national and regional seminars on issues such as Medicare pilot programs, the Stark Law and Anti-Kickback Statute, regulatory issues related to clinical trials, and ethical issues faced by mental health practitioners. *Chambers USA: America's Leading Lawyers for Business* has recognized Rob for excellence in the area of Healthcare, and he was also named to *The Best Lawyers in America*® for 2018–2022 in the area of Health Care Law.

### ***Representative Experience***

- Advising clients on compliance with reporting and attestation requirements for the federal Provider Relief Fund enacted in response to COVID-19.
- Assisting clients with preparing and submitting requests for Section 1135 waivers issued during the coronavirus pandemic.
- Advising health system clients on the application and implementation of Stark Law blanket waivers in the wake of COVID-19.
- Representing hospitals, health systems, physician groups, and other health care providers in operational and regulatory matters, including arrangements that implicate the Stark Law and Anti-Kickback Statute.
- Assisted in drafting legislation in Georgia, including legislation related to Medicaid care management organizations.
- Representing device manufacturers and suppliers in the preparation and implementation of discounting and supply agreements.
- Conducting internal compliance investigations for a variety of health care providers.
- Participating in government investigations with a focus on billing issues and physician relationships.

- Representing clinical research sponsors, sites, physician-investigators, and contract research organizations in drafting and negotiating clinical trial agreements and related fraud and abuse analyses.

## **Publications & Presentations**

### **Publications**

- “E/M Changes Are Here – What Health Lawyers Need to Know about the Compliance and Reimbursement Impacts,” *American Health Law Association*, October 19, 2020.
- “The Comprehensive Care for Joint Replacement Program: Bundle of Joy?” *Journal of Health & Life Sciences Law*, Vol. 10, No. 1, October 17, 2016.
- “Don’t ‘Discount’ Gov’t Opinion on Anti-Kickback Exception,” *Law360*, August 29, 2016.
- “Health Law Issues 2016: Alternative Payment Models – Moving from Alternative to Mainstream,” *AHLA Connections*, February 2016.
- “Healthcare Fraud and Abuse Laws,” in *Georgia Hospital Law Manual*, Georgia Hospital Association, 2013, 2017-2018 eds.

### **Presentations**

- “Trends in Physician Alignment,” GAHA Annual Meeting, Greensboro, GA, May 2–4, 2018.
- “Compliance Implications in Due Diligence,” HCCA Atlanta Regional Conference, Atlanta, GA, January 26, 2018.

## **Professional & Community Engagement**

- Georgia Bar of Georgia, Health Law Section, former chair
- American Health Lawyers Association
- One Child One Lawyer Program, volunteer
- Voices for Georgia’s Children, board

## **Education**

- Vanderbilt University (J.D., 2004)
- Florida State University (M.S., 1994)
- University of Florida (B.S., 1992)

## **Admitted to Practice**

- Georgia

## **Related Services**

Health Care | Fraud & Abuse | Payment Systems | Hospital Systems | Corporate & Business Transactions | Academic Medical Centers & Teaching Hospitals | Health Care Regulatory Counseling and Fraud & Abuse | Corporate Health Care Transactions | Corporate Compliance Programs | Health Care Joint Ventures & Strategic Alliances | Insurance | Certification, Accreditation & Licensure | Life Sciences | Reimbursement | Health Care Corporate Finance & Securities | FDA/Food, Drug & Device