SpencerFane®

Andrew R. (Andy) Ramirez

Partner

Contact

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Overview

Andy Ramirez is a corporate attorney who helps directors, trustees, and administrators of health systems navigate a wide range of complex transactional and regulatory issues challenging the health care industry. He serves as independent general counsel to his clients advising them on strategic planning, clinical integration, governance, and compliance with day-to-day legal operational requirements.

In 2013 in Kansas, and again in 2015 and 2021 in Missouri, he served as lead counsel in the largest private hospital acquisitions in three metropolitan areas working with a team of health care specialist to secure all regulatory approvals from state and federal agencies. During the pandemic, he assisted a governmental hospital's transition to not-for-profit private status and created a novel model of collaboration of multiple independent critical access hospitals, all while assisting his existing hospital clients address the legal issues presented by emergent changes in the law.

Andy consistently gives back to the community having served as an adjunct professor at the University of Kansas Law School, chair of the Kansas Civil Rights Commission, and his local Metropolitan Planning Commission. Additionally, he served as judge *pro tempore* for a Municipal and District Court. He displays the highest ethical standards having been appointed to serve for seventeen years as a member of the Kansas Supreme Court Board of Discipline.

Education

- University of Kansas School of Law, 1985 (J.D.)
- University of Kansas, 1983 (B.S., B.S.B.A.)

Bar Admissions

- Kansas
- Missouri

Court Admissions

- Kansas Supreme Court
- Missouri Supreme Court
- U.S. Court of Appeals for the Tenth Circuit
- U.S. District Court for the District of Kansas
- U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Missouri
- U.S. District Court for the Western District of Missouri
- U.S. Supreme Court
- U.S. Tax Court

Distinctions

- *Best Lawyers in America,* 2006-2027
  - Lawyer of the Year, Health Care Law*,* 2014, 2021, 2024, 2026
- Chairman, Health Care Compliance Association Midwest Area, Kansas City, Missouri, 2006-2009
- Kansas Bar Association, Commission on Professionalism, 2012-2013
- Kansas Supreme Court, Board for Discipline of Attorneys, 1996-2013
- Martindale-Hubbell, AV Rated
- *Missouri and Kansas Super Lawyers,* 2006-2015

Memberships

- American Health Law Association
- American Bar Association, Health Law; Business Law
- Missouri Society of Health Care Attorneys
- Kansas Association of Health Care Executives
- Kansas Association of Hospital Attorneys, Director
- Kansas City Society of Hospital Attorneys
- Kansas City Metropolitan Bar Association
- Leadership Kansas

Presentations and Publications

- "Legal Issues Challenging Hospital Boards," Regional Trustee Seminar, Kansas Hospital Association, June 27-28, July 19, Oct. 17-18, 2018
- "Surviving a Data Breach," Association of Healthcare Internal Auditors, September 1, 2015
- "STARK WARS, Return of the Federal Regulators, an Overview of Current Status of Stark Law," Healthcare Financial Managers Association, Show Me Summer Conference, July 2015
- "Attorney General Opinion Concerning Power of County Hospitals to Operate Outside of Their Boundaries," Kansas Hospital Association, July 2015
- "End-of-Life Decisions: Understanding DNRs, Living Wills and Other Advance Directives for Medical Care," Lawrence Memorial Hospital Endowment Association, November 12, 2014
- "Proposed Model Medical Staff Bylaws," Kansas Hospital Associations Board Retreat, Denver, Colorado, May 2013
- "Legal issues surrounding M&A of Providence and Saint Johns Hospitals," Kansas Hospital Associations Board Retreat, Denver Colorado, May 2013
- "Stark Law Self-Referral Disclosure Protocol – The Inside Edition," Missouri Hospital Association, November 2012

- “Anatomy of an Ethics Complaint,” Health Law Institute, Kansas Bar Association, April 2012
- “Recognizing and Responding to Financial Distress,” Rural Hospital Symposium, Kansas Hospital Association, March 2012
- “Legal Issues Challenging Hospital Boards, Critical Issues Summit for Hospital Boards,” Kansas Hospital Association, August 2011
- “Physician Hospital Contracting Issues,” Kansas Hospital Association, March 2010
- “Aligning Hospital Physician Interests,” Kansas Hospital Association, January 2010
- “Compliance Program Audits,” Kansas Hospital Association, November 2007
- “The Role of the Health Care Lawyer in the Representation of Hospitals,” Washburn Business Law Society, Washburn Law School, October 2007
- “Legal Issues for Independent Pharmacies,” KPSC Mid-Year Meeting, April 2007
- “The Kansas Attorney General’s Investigation of Hospital Billing and Collection Practices,” Kansas Association of Hospital Attorneys, Wichita, Kansas, September 2006
- “The Role of the Board in the Medical Staff Process,” 2006 Critical Issues Summit, Kansas Hospital Association, August 2006
- “Hospitals and the Uninsured: Tending to Business While Demonstrating Community Benefit,” Health Care Webinar, Overland Park, Kansas, May 2006
- “Medicare Advantage / CAH Finance Seminar,” Kansas Hospital Association, Junction City, Kansas, September 2005
- “Stark Wars II, Awaiting the Final Episode,” HCCA Midwest Area Annual Conference, Kansas City, Missouri, August 2005
- “The Stark Facts About the Phase II Regulations,” The Missouri Strategic National Implementation Process (MoSNIP) and The Health Care Compliance Association (HCCA), October 2004
- “The Stark Reality Physician Recruitment and Retention under Phase II,” Health Care Webinar, Overland Park, Kansas, September 2004
- “Patient Rights in Kansas Hospitals,” the Kansas Association For Risk and Quality Management and the Kansas Hospital Association, September 2004
- “Stark II: Phase II – Return of the Regulators,” Health Care Webinar, Overland Park, Kansas, April 2004
- “Patient Rights from the Hospitals Perspective – The Patient’s Responsibilities,” Alzheimer’s Association, Overland Park, Kansas September 2003
- “New Regulations Impacting Physician Groups,” Northland Medical Managers, Liberty, Missouri, December 2002
- “Medical Staff Bylaws and Fair Hearing – A Fresh Look,” Kansas Hospital Association, Topeka, Kansas, October 2002
- “Stark II Update – Phase I Regulations,” Health Care Compliance Association, Region VII Annual Conference, Kansas City, Missouri, August 2002
- “Fraud and Abuse Update,” Health Care Compliance Association, Lawrence, Kansas, June 2002
- “Legal Ethics, Dealing with Administrative Agencies,” Lawrence, Kansas, October 2001