

# Adella Katz

**Attorney** 

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Integrating her passion for healthcare with a fascination for the intricacies of the law and regulations governing the industry, Adella is interested in opportunities to uncover and address gaps and solve problems in the healthcare industry. From her work in private practice and in-house at a Medicare Advantage insurance plan, a large hospital system, and a growing management services organization, Adella has learned the skills necessary to develop creative and innovative solutions to clients' needs. Her background working in private practice and in-house in multiple private healthcare organizations gives her a unique insight into the wide range of needs and concerns of the U.S. healthcare industry.

### **Regulatory Experience**

Adella's experience encompasses evaluation, implementation, and consultation of complex federal healthcare regulations, including the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA), the Health Information Technology for Economic and Clinical Health Act (HITECH Act), the Confidentiality of Medical Information Act (CMIA), and the California Consumer Privacy Act (CCPA) for private healthcare organizations, as well as contract drafting and reimbursement work under the federal Employee Retirement Income Security Act (ERISA).

## **Client-Centric Approach**

Her expertise lies in helping clients navigate through the complex and often turbulent waters of healthcare law. She has broad experience in Stark law and Anti-Kickback Statute, corporate practice of medicine restrictions, reimbursement, and privacy regulations. Adella has also advised clients about appealing adverse benefit determinations and overpayment refund requests from insurance companies. In addition, Adella has provided extensive counsel on HIPAA and HITECH to ensure compliance with California state and federal breach notification regulations and the HIPAA Privacy and Security Rules.

### **Before Nelson Hardiman**

Prior to practicing law, Adella earned her Bachelor of Science in Healthcare Administration and focused on gaining experience at various healthcare organizations to become a well-rounded healthcare attorney. Adella has devoted her free time to volunteering with special needs children and being an advocate for children's education rights. Her steady focus at the intersection of healthcare and law gives her a unique ability to present complex legal issues in layman's terms across a wide swath of individual and business needs.

## Life Outside the Firm

When she's not working or writing articles on burgeoning issues in healthcare, Adella spends her time traveling with her husband, reading murder mystery novels, and sampling new cuisines around Los Angeles.



## **Practice Areas**

- Government Investigations
- <u>Litigation</u>
- Regulatory Compliance
  Transactions

## **Credentials**

## **Education**

LMU Loyola Law School, J.D.

California State University, Northridge (CSUN), B.S. Healthcare Administration

## **Admissions**

California State Bar

## **Affiliations**

Women Lawyers Association of Los Angeles

American Health Law Association

American Bar Association, Health Law section



## **Experience**

Adella garnered strong experience prior to and during law school through internships with a leading medical facility management service organization, a privately held provider of healthcare services, a network of provider-sponsored health plans, and as a legal assistant at a law firm focused on representing individuals and business entities in healthcare and business law matters.

## **Regulatory Compliance**

- Conducted HIPAA, OSHA, and Cal/OSHA compliance audit of a management services organization; drafted Breach Notification policies and procedures to comply with HIPAA and HITECH regulations.
- Drafted new Underpayment, Overpayment, and Medical Necessity appeal letters contesting health plan adverse benefit determinations, requests for recoupment, & offsetting based on state (California) and federal (ERISA) overpayment rules.
- Drafted interest payment collection letters based on California's prompt payment laws under the Knox-Keene Act.
- Researched and drafted memorandums about: corporate practice of medicine statutes in 14 states, discoverability of CMS plans of correction in Florida, scope of practice of cardiovascular technicians, medical record retention requirements.
- Researched and drafted a series of policies and procedures for compliance with the California Consumer Privacy Act (CCPA), distinguishing compliance between California and federal breach-notification rules following breaches of protected health information.

#### **Compliance Training**

 Amended annual employee and board trainings to reflect compliance with HIPAA, COVID-19-related blanket waivers under Stark Law, Anti-Kickback Statute referral interpretations, and new COVID-19-related fraud schemes under the False Claims Act.

### **Legal Issues and Guidelines**

- Drafted and edited agreements for various privately held hospitals, including agreements for Residency positions, Clinical Services, Specialty On-Call Panel Services, Graduate School Affiliation, Vendor Services, and facility services.
- Edited business associate and First Tier, Downstream, Related Entity agreements to comply with HIPAA and the HITECH Act.
- Drafted guidance of graduate medical education financing following 2021 proposed CMS regulations.
- Edited and drafted physician complaint against hospital, release and settlement agreement, waivers, and employment and independent contractor agreements for medical professionals.
- Collaborated on oncology practice acquisition; compiled disclosure schedules, evaluated asset-purchase agreement.