



Jennifer A. Hansen

Partner

Chair, Medical Staff Practice Group

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CAPABILITIES

Administrative Law

Compliance

Litigation, Mediation,
Arbitration

Managed Care

Medical Education

Payor-Provider Disputes

Provider and Supplier
Operations

Medical Staff Operations and
Disputes

Academic Medical Centers
and Teaching Hospitals

Assisted Living, Independent
Living and Adult Day Health

Hospitals and Health
Systems

Skilled Nursing Facilities
(SNFs) and Long-Term Care
Providers

Physicians, Medical Groups,
Medical Foundations, and
Independent Practice
Associations (IPAs)

EDUCATION

University of Minnesota Law
School, J.D., 2001

University of Wisconsin,
Madison, B.A., *honors*

BAR ADMISSIONS

California, 2001

“Advocating for clients is an art, not a science. Engaging with clients and adversaries early and proactively in a professional manner can make all the difference.”

Jennifer Hansen’s representation of health care providers focuses on three primary areas: medical staff, payor/provider disputes, and post-acute care facility defense. She has represented hospitals, medical staffs, and post-acute providers in wide range of litigation including state and federal court trials, Judicial Review Committee hearings, arbitrations, administrative hearings, and mediations throughout the State of California. Jennifer connects and communicates with regulators, licensing boards, payors, and others to facilitate constructive discussions and early, positive resolutions.

Jennifer has over 15 years of experience representing medical staffs in sensitive high-profile cases involving medical staff membership and privileges. A significant portion of Jennifer’s practice involves advising medical staffs in credentialing and privileging matters, governance, by-laws, policies and procedures, rules and regulations, investigations, and reporting to the state professional licensing boards and the National Practitioner Data Bank. She has served as counsel in multiple peer review hearings and provides representation in writs and other litigation relating to medical staffs.

Her extensive knowledge of the health care payment and reimbursement landscape makes her particularly effective in representing hospitals and hospital systems, post-acute care providers, physicians, and other ancillary providers in managed care contract and non-contract payor/provider disputes with health care payors. She has collected millions of dollars in unpaid and underpaid patient claims for her provider clients, including obtaining awards of interest. Health care providers also count on Jennifer for advice and assistance with managed care contracts and out-of-network disputes or issues arising under the Knox-Keene Act, California Insurance Code, and ERISA. Jennifer has handled dozens of cases against almost every major payor, including but not limited to Blue Cross, Blue Shield, United, Aetna, and Cigna.

Jennifer has successfully served as lead counsel on investigations for prominent post-acute care facilities, adult residential facilities, hospitals and pharmacies, including alleged immediate jeopardy deficiencies. She has

represented clients in challenges to federal deficiencies issued by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, and state citations issued by the Department of Public Health and the Department of Social Services. Jennifer handles administrative hearings before the Department of Health and Human Services Departmental Appeals Board and Office of Administrative Hearings and Appeals.

Jennifer served on the firm's Board of Directors from 2019-2022.

Representative Matters

- In 2024, prevailed in hearing for ACGME residency program upholding a termination and non-renewal of resident contract.
- In 2023, prevailed in joint hearing for academic medical center medical staffs upholding denials of medical staff application of a physician.
- In 2023, prevailed in defending public hospital board in Superior Court writ proceeding following 2022 defense in public censure reconsideration proceeding.
- In 2023, represented medical group in peer review hearing relating to a termination of employment for medical disciplinary cause or reason.
- In 2021, 2023, and 2024, represented multiple clients in pro bono adoption proceedings.
- In 2022, assisted two post-acute care facilities with dismissals of immediate jeopardy deficiencies.
- In 2021, represented medical staff in year-long peer review proceeding involving alleged sexual misconduct relating to summary suspension of physician.
- In 2020, represented health system client in contentious peer review proceeding resulting in the upholding of the denial of re-appointment of advanced practice professional.
- In 2019, defended County hospital in health care provider contract dispute.
- Successfully represented hospital on appeal where trial court properly refused to certify class of self-pay patients contesting hospital's use of Chargemaster rates in *Kendall v. Scripps Health*, 16 Cal.App.5th 553 (2017) and obtained defense verdict at trial.
- Successfully represented hospital on appeal where trial court properly refused to certify class of self-pay patients contesting hospital's use of Chargemaster rates in *Hefczyc v. Rady Children's Hospital-San Diego*, 17 Cal.App.5th 518 (2017).
- Won arbitration proceeding for hospital system confirmed by the Ninth Circuit in *Scripps v. Blue Cross Blue Shield of Kansas*, (5/30/14) (Case No. 12-56493).

Recognition

- California State Bar Association, Wiley W. Manuel Award and Legal Aid Society of San Diego's Outstanding Service Award, 2009-2010
- San Diego Business Journal, Women of Influence in Law, 2023
- San Diego Business Journal, Top 100 Leaders in Law, 2023
- San Diego Daily Transcript, Outstanding Young Attorney, 2010
- Super Lawyers, San Diego, 2023
- Best Lawyers, Health Care Law and Litigation-Health Care, 2024

Professional Affiliations

- American Health Lawyers Association
- California Society of Healthcare Attorneys
- American Bar Association
- California Academy of Attorneys for Health Care Professionals
- California Association of Medical Staff Services

- National Association of Medical Staff Services
- San Diego County Bar Association
- Lawyers Club Community Outreach Committee

News

- Congratulations to HLB's 2024 San Diego Super Lawyer & Rising Stars
- Jennifer Hansen is named "Top 100 Leaders in Law 2023" by the San Diego Business Journal
- Twenty-One HLB Attorneys Have Been Named "Best Lawyers in America 2024" and Five HLB Attorneys as "Ones to Watch"
- Jennifer Hansen named by San Diego Business Journal's Women of Influence in Law 2023
- HLB's 2023 San Diego Super Lawyer and Rising Stars

Insights

- HLB's Digital Health Practice Co-Author's AHHA Telehealth Law Handbook
- Urgent Update: Joint Commission Approves Three Year Appointments
- Examining a Hearing Officer's Risk of Bias from Alleged Financial Conflict in Peer Review Proceedings: The California Supreme Court's Ruling in Natarajan v. Dignity Health (Aug. 12, 2021, S259364)
- The Evolving Legal Landscape of Late Career Practitioner Policies
- New Law Changes Physician Assistant Supervision Requirements Effective January 1, 2020

Events

- Jennifer Hansen and Catherine Wicker are speaking at CAMSS Desert Chapter Annual Legal Conference
- Jennifer Hansen and Catherine Wicker Co-Presented at CAMSS Desert Chapter's Virtual Conference
- Jennifer Hansen, Emily Brinkman, and Maydha Vinson Present at CAMSS on "Legal Update: MSPs in the Know"
- HLB Webinar – Minutes Matter: Practical Pointers for Drafting Medical Staff Records
- Sharing Peer Review Information – Practical Approaches to Protect Confidentiality and Immunity Protections