



Shalyn Watkins

She/Her/Hers
ASSOCIATE

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PRACTICES

Healthcare | Healthcare Regulatory Compliance | Healthcare Transactions |
HIPAA and Healthcare Privacy | Corporate Practice of Medicine |
Digital Healthcare | Behavioral Health

INDUSTRY

Healthcare & Life Sciences

Shalyn S. Watkins is a healthcare attorney in Holland & Knight's Los Angeles office. Ms. Watkins represents various healthcare providers and companies, including, but not limited to, individual providers and provider practices, digital health platforms, emerging companies, laboratories, technology companies and behavioral health companies. She also assists clients with developing and managing compliant healthcare programs.

Ms. Watkins' practice involves assisting clients with regulatory compliance, telehealth platform development and operations, artificial intelligence (AI) usage and integration, health information privacy advising, cybersecurity incident response advising, Medicare and Medicaid/Medi-Cal reimbursement and overpayment issues, controlled substance prescribing and diligence, licensure and credentialing disputes, and transaction due diligence and structuring. Her experience includes knowledge of the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA), California Medical Information Act, corporate practice of medicine, Stark Law, Anti-Kickback Statute (AKS), contract disputes, administrative law and regulatory enforcement actions, compensation and policy reviews, and the development and implementation of compliance plans for clients.

Prior to joining Holland & Knight, Ms. Watkins was an attorney at an international law firm. Previously, she served as senior legal counsel for a global healthcare technology company, where she advised its Health Solutions and Pharmacy Solutions subsidiaries on regulatory compliance obligations.

Ms. Watkins also served as assistant regional counsel for the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), where she represented the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS), Office for Civil Rights (OCR), U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA), Indian Health Service (IHS) and other agencies. During this service, she was also appointed as a Special Assistant United States Attorney for Medicare reimbursement appeals.

Ms. Watkins began her legal career as an assistant attorney general for Ohio, where she practiced in the Health and Human Services Section. In this role, she represented state agencies and professional boards in enforcement actions and litigation.

While in law school, Ms. Watkins served as editor-in-chief of the *Alabama Civil Rights and Civil Liberties Law Review* and competed on the school's Bryant National Health Care Transactional Moot Court Team. She served as the president of the Student Government Association at Stillman College, where she also graduated as valedictorian of

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her class.

Credentials

Education

- The University of Alabama School of Law, J.D., Certificate in Governmental Affairs
- The University of Alabama Graduate School, M.A., Health Studies, *summa cum laude*
- Stillman College, B.A., English, *summa cum laude*

Bar Admissions/Licenses

- Alabama
- California
- New York
- Ohio
- Texas

Court Admissions

- U.S. Supreme Court
- U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Ohio
- U.S. District Court for the Southern District of Ohio
- U.S. District Court for the Southern District of Texas
- U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Alabama
- U.S. District Court for the Middle District of Alabama
- U.S. District Court for the Southern District of Alabama

Memberships

- American Health Lawyers Association (AHLA), Health Care Liability and Litigation Practice Group, Vice Chair of Education, 2022-Present
- Alabama State Bar, Young Lawyers Division, Executive Committee, 2022
- Defense Research Institute (DRI), Young Lawyers Diversity & Inclusion Subcommittee, Chair, 2021-2022
- DRI Foundation, Member-At-Large, 2022

Honors & Awards

- Top 40 Under 40 in California, The National Black Lawyers, 2023, 2024
- Leadership Council on Legal Diversity (LCLD), Pathfinder Program, 2023
- Leadership Forum, Alabama State Bar, 2022
- Barristers Leadership Program, Columbus Bar Association, 2017
- Order of the Samaritan, The University of Alabama School of Law, 2016
- Bench and Bar Honor Society, The University of Alabama School of Law, 2014-2016

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Publications

- New Year, Same Bill: California Reintroduces Bill Aimed at Healthcare Private Equity Investment, *Holland & Knight Alert*, February 14, 2025
- DEA Extends Access to Telehealth Treatment with New Rules, *Holland & Knight Alert*, January 23, 2025
- Five Things to Consider When Negotiating Business Associate Agreements, *Birmingham Medical News*, December 2024
- DEA, HHS Extend Telemedicine Flexibilities for Controlled Substance Prescriptions Through 2025, *Holland & Knight Alert*, November 26, 2024
- 5 Key Takeaways from Panel Discussion with the California Office of Health Care Affordability, *Holland & Knight Alert*, November 11, 2024
- Business Associate Agreements Matter: Demystifying the Perceived Simplicity of HIPAA Agreements, *Employee Benefit Plan Review*, October 2024
- The Future for AI Usage in California Healthcare Hinges on Governor's Indication of State Limits, *Holland & Knight Alert*, October 10, 2024
- California Governor Vetoes Assembly Bill 3129: What's Next?, *Holland & Knight Alert*, October 1, 2024
- FDA Warning Letter Marks Significant Shift in Enforcement of Laboratory Developed Tests, *Holland & Knight Alert*, September 16, 2024
- Requirements for COVID-19 Vaccinations and Influenza Shots: 50-State Survey, *American Health Law Association (AHLA)*, August 27, 2024
- Business Associate Agreements Matter: Demystifying the Perceived Simplicity of HIPAA Agreements, *Holland & Knight Alert*, August 21, 2024
- Friendly PC Model Survives in California After Envision Healthcare Litigation Settlement, *Holland & Knight Alert*, August 12, 2024
- Navigating Scrutiny of Friendly Professional Corporations in California, *Law360*, July 2, 2024
- California Court Decision Further Scrutinizes the Friendly PC Model – Now What?, *Holland & Knight Alert*, June 24, 2024
- Private Equity Healthcare Transactions Under Scrutiny, *Holland & Knight Alert*, March 14, 2024
- Provider Liability Post-Dobbs, *AHLA Health Law Connections*, July 1, 2023
- Be Focused. Be Determined. Be Hopeful. Be Empowered., *Defense Research Institute (DRI) The Voice*, March 2023
- Information Blocking – Updates to Access to Health Information, *AHLA Hospitals and Health Systems (HHS) Practice Group Bulletin*, January 12, 2022
- Ramping Up for Surveys, Audits, and Investigations: What to Expect from State and Federal Regulators After COVID-19, *AHLA Health Law Weekly*, July 23, 2021
- Lessons from Texas – Vaccine Mandates in Hospital Systems, *American Health Law Association (AHLA) Health Law Weekly*, June 18, 2020

Speaking Engagements

- Representing Physicians: The Guide You Didn't Know You Needed, National Business Institute (NBI), May 13, 2025

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- That's So Metadata: Navigating the Nuances of Privacy Compliance, Cybersecurity and Sensitive Data Collection for Telehealth Businesses and Health Care Organizations, Telemedicine: Legal and Compliance Issues, American Health Law Association (AHLA), March 12, 2025
- Meet the Firms, UC Irvine School of Law Black Law Students Association (BLSA), January 30, 2025
- Health Data and HIPAA: Where Business Needs Meet the Privacy Rule, Strafford Webinar, January 22, 2025
- New HIPAA Privacy Rules and Key Issues for Group Health Plans, Strafford Webinar, November 5, 2024
- A Guide to Healthcare Transactions in California, Holland & Knight Webinar, November 4, 2024
- FCA Litigation Year in Review, American Health Law Association (AHLA) Webinar, February 21, 2024
- The Future of Healthcare Liability: Healthcare Pipeline and Workforce Changes After *Students for Fair Admissions v. Harvard*, AHLA Webinar, November 8, 2023
- HIPAA Changes in 2023, AHLA Speaking of Health Law Podcast, June 2023
- Generations in the Legal Profession, Alabama State Bar, June 23, 2022
- Tips on Storing & Securing Resident Data in the New Technology Age, Assisted Living Association of Alabama, March 2022
- Ageism and Bridging the Age Gap, Defense Research Institute (DRI) Insurance Coverage and Claims Institute, March 2022
- Episode 4: Health Care Workforce Employment Law Issues to Watch in 2022, AHLA Health Law Connections' Top 10 Issues in Health Law 2022 Podcast, January 28, 2022
- On Being a Black Lawyer, The University of Alabama School of Law, November 2021
- Working with CMS and State Survey Agencies in the New Era of Compliance Audits, Mississippi Hospital Association, September 2021
- Master Class, National HBCU Pre-Law Summit, September 2021
- Who Watches the Watchers? Legal and Regulatory Changes After COVID-19, Assisted Living Association of Alabama, August 2021
- PLUS Program Survey Course in Healthcare Litigation, The University of Alabama School of Law, 2021
- Diversity Open House Alumni Presentation, The University of Alabama School of Law, 2021
- Choosing a Law School, National HBCU Pre-Law Summit, 2018
- Diversity Open House Alumni Presentation, The University of Alabama School of Law, 2018
- Alumni Spotlight Presentation, Stillman College, 2018
- Generations in the Workplace, Ohio Attorney General's Office, 2017