

**Carol K. Lucas**

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Carol K. Lucas is Chair of the Firm's Health Care Practice Group and former Co-Chair of the Corporate Practice Group. Ms. Lucas focuses her practice on healthcare law and general business law. She has extensive experience in mergers and acquisitions, joint ventures, securities, private placements, state and federal regulations, entity formation and corporate representation of both public and private companies in the healthcare industry. Over the last several years, Ms. Lucas has represented numerous clients in connection with issues and disputes related to payment for healthcare services. She is also an expert on the establishment and representation of Federally Qualified Health Centers and related issues such as governance requirements, issues raised by hospital sponsorship of FQHCs, application issues, and the impact of health care reform on these entities. She also specializes in the representation of ambulatory surgery centers, med spas, imaging centers and other ancillary providers in a variety of medical specialties, and in the legal and business issues that confront independent practice associations and other physician organizations.

Among others, Ms. Lucas has represented:

- A closely held teleradiology company in its merger with a public teleradiology company.
- An IPA acquired by a large regional IPA.
- A number of non-profit community clinic operators applying for the Federal FQHC program.
- A laser surgery practice in its expansion through acquisition of additional practices.
- The California Association of Physician Groups in the formation of trade association, governance issues and general health care matters.
- Numerous medical groups in corporate and compliance matters.
- An orthopedic group in the buyout of a hospital partner in a joint ambulatory surgery center.
- A major regional insurance brokerage in its sale to a significant financial institution.
- A national pharmacy benefits manager with respect to requirements of California Knox-Keene Act.
- A national medical laboratory company with California corporate practice of medicine issues.
- A national surgery center and surgical hospital developer in acquisition and syndication of facilities in California, Kansas and Texas.

Ms. Lucas is a member of the American Health Lawyers Association, the Los Angeles County Bar Association, and the State Bar of California. She is a past Chair of the Executive Committee of the State Bar Business Law Section and a past Co-Chair of Business Law Section's Corporations Committee and Health Law Committee and a past Vice Chair of the Section's Opinions Committee. She is currently the Secretary of the State Bar Business Law Section's Insurance Law Committee. Ms. Lucas, is AV Preeminent rated by Martindale Hubbell and is recognized by *Chambers USA: America's Leading Lawyers for Business* as a leader in the field of Health Care. She was selected by *Corporate Counsel* as a 2012 Top Rated Lawyer in Health Care Law and as one of Southern California's *Super Lawyers* five times from 2011-2015. Ms. Lucas was also named one of *Super Lawyer's* "Top 50 Women in Law" of Southern California.

Ms. Lucas has given lectures at numerous seminars and conferences, including meetings sponsored by the State Bar of California, American Health Lawyers Association and The Future of Health Care Delivery Conference.

## Publications, Presentations and Media

- "Children's vs. Blue Cross: An End of Out-Of-Network Price Gouging?" CAPG Annual Healthcare Conference, June 13, 2015
- Commentary, "Investing in Outpatient Surgery Centers," *Healthcare Finance*, October 31, 2014
- Buchalter Nemer Blog: "Children's Hospital v. Blue Cross: The End of Contracting or Just the End of Gouging?," August 2014
- "AB 1000 and Corporate Practice in California: More than Meets the Eye—or Less?," *American Health Lawyers Association Newsletter*, July 18, 2014; *Buchalter Nemer Points & Authorities*, Spring 2014
- Commentary, "Health Care M&A Blurring the Lines Between Provider and Payer," *Daily Journal*, February 5, 2014
- Best Practices for Navigating Emerging ASC Legal Challenges," California Ambulatory Surgery Association's Annual Conference, Indian Wells, CA, September 12, 2013
- Guest Speaker, KFWB's Money 101 with Bob McCormick, May 2, 2013
- Co-Author, "California Authorizes Pharmacy Licenses for Ambulatory Surgery Centers," *Buchalter Nemer Client Alert*, October 2012
- Co-Author, "California Tightens Restrictions on Referrals of Workers' Compensation Patients," *Buchalter Nemer Client Alert*, September 2012
- Commentary, "State Suing Doctor Over Billing Tactics," *Los Angeles Times*, August 18, 2012
- "How the Affordable Care Act Impacts Employers," *Buchalter Nemer Client Alert*, July 6, 2012
- "What Are Federally Qualified Health Centers and How Can They Be Integrated into a Continuum of Care?" Physicians and Physician Organizations Law Institute, Las Vegas, NV, February 10, 2011
- "Contracts," *The Business of Plastic Surgery*, World Scientific Publishing Company, 2010
- "How 2010 Healthcare Legislation Impacts Employers," *Buchalter Nemer Client Alert*, April 2010
- "Payment Issues Involving Non-participating Providers: How Can We Determine Reasonable and Customary Reimbursement in a Post-Ingenuix World?" Hospitals and Health Systems Law Institute, February 25, 2010
- "Key Compliance Issues for Ambulatory Surgery Centers," 6th Annual Healthcare Law Compliance Symposium, October 1, 2009
- "Involuntary Dissolution: The Nuclear Option," *Business Law News*, Issue 3, 2009
- "Botox at the Mall? A Look at Medical Spas Under California Law," *Los Angeles Business Journal*, August 2007
- "Supreme Court Rejects State Power to Authorize HMO Lawsuits" CAPG Update, July 2004
- "California Court Recognizes Cause of Action For Negligent Financial Credentialing" CAPG Update, May 2004

Ms. Lucas received her B.A. *magna cum laude* in History and Film Studies from the University of Rochester in 1979. She earned her J.D. *cum laude* in 1982 from New York University School of Law, where Ms. Lucas was a member of the Annual Survey of American Law and the Order of the Coif.

### Areas of Practice

Health Care and Life Sciences

### Industry Specialty

Health Care and Life Sciences

### Bar Admissions

California

New York

### Court Admissions

U.S. District Court Southern for the District of New York

U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of New York



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