



Edgar Bueno
Partner

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PRACTICE AREAS

Health Care
Health Care Litigation & Qui Tam
Investigations
HIPAA & Health Care Cybersecurity
Litigation
Government Investigations & White-
Collar Defense

INDUSTRIES

Health Care

LICENSED IN

Georgia
Virginia

EDUCATION

George Washington School of Law: J.D.,
1997 (Moot Court)
University of Chicago: B.A., 1992

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

American Health Lawyers Association
Health Care Compliance Association

EXPERIENCE

Edgar Bueno is a partner and co-chair of HunterMaclean's health care practice group. He also works in the litigation practice group, where he focuses on representing businesses and individuals involved in health care fraud investigations, False Claims Act matters, reimbursement audits, and complex commercial litigation.

Edgar has significant litigation experience handling state and federal False Claim Act matters and qui tam whistleblower actions. Edgar also represents clients who are subjects or targets of civil, criminal, or grand jury investigations focusing on securing dismissals or other favorable outcomes before indictment or the filing of charges.

In addition, he regularly advises clients on a wide range of health care regulatory and compliance issues including the anti-kickback statute, physician self-referral, EKRA, overpayments, voluntary self-disclosures, civil monetary penalties and program exclusion, OIG corporate integrity agreements, EMTALA, licensing requirements and HIPAA privacy. He also assists clients with compliance reviews and assessments, as well as internal investigations to respond to legal risks.

Edgar is a former Assistant U.S. Attorney and Chief of the Civil Division for the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Southern District of Georgia. In this role, he supervised the entire division and managed all aspects of federal court litigation for numerous high-profile cases. Under his tenure, the office achieved an unprecedented number of FCA actions and recoveries on behalf of the United States.

Edgar started his legal career as an attorney with the Office of Inspector General for the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

He is a frequent and popular speaker at health care conferences focusing on fraud and abuse, compliance, and strategies for responding to government investigations. Edgar is also an adjunct instructor of health law classes about the federal health care programs. He has served as an instructor at the Department of Justice training center (NAC) and the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center (FLETC). Edgar has received several recognitions from the Office of Inspector General for the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services for exceptional achievement in combatting health care fraud.

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

Pro Bono Representation
Volunteer Football Coach (middle school)

RECOGNITION

Best Lawyers in America: Health Care Law

Law 360 Editorial Advisory Board for
Compliance, 2024

OIG Bronze Medal for Outstanding
Employee of the Year: 2003

OIG Exceptional Achievement Award:
1999, 2001, 2002

REPRESENTATIVE ENGAGEMENTS

- Represented a large physician practice in a False Claims Act qui tam action involving numerous allegations of health care fraud and abuse. The case included a successful appeal to the Eleventh Circuit Court of Appeals regarding whistleblower share and attorney fees.
- Represented a chain of nursing homes and its owner in a False Claims Act investigation involving improper Medicare billing of services. The engagement included the negotiation of a corporate integrity agreement with the OIG.
- Represented a national teleradiology company and its owner in a False Claims Act qui tam action regarding allegations of improper billing.
- Represented a cardiology practice and a podiatry practice in a False Claims Act qui tam action involving allegations of upcoding, Stark Law and Anti-Kickback violations, and substandard quality of care. A central issue involved the ownership structure of a surgery center.
- Represented a physician practice in a False Claims Act qui tam action involving allegations of Anti-Kickback violations through “sham” agreements with outside vendors and suppliers.
- Represented a hospital in a False Claims Act qui tam action involving outpatient hyperbaric oxygen therapy and other wound care services. DOJ declined to intervene and the matter was dismissed.
- Represented an orthopedic practice in a False Claims Act investigation involving allegations of improper injections and treatments.
- Represented a pain practice in a multi-district OIG investigation involving allegations of improper treatment, billing, and lab orders.
- Represented a podiatry practice in a large health care fraud investigation. No criminal charges were filed, and the case was resolved through a civil settlement.
- Represented a pulmonology practice in a False Claims Act investigation involving billing for critical care services, documentation, and allegations of upcoding.
- Represented business owners and health care providers prosecuted by the DOJ Healthcare Fraud Strike Force in conjunction with Operations Brace Yourself, Double Helix, and Rubber Stamp.
- Represented several clinical and genetic testing laboratories in DOJ fraud investigations.

- Represented pharmacies, pharmacists, and other providers/registrants in DEA and state investigations involving dispensing, storage, and violations of the Controlled Substances Act.
- Represented several behavioral health providers in state and federal investigations involving allegations of improper billing, inadequate documentation, and resident misconduct.
- Represented several hospitals before state surveyors and the OIG for alleged EMTALA violations. The engagements included reviews and revisions to policies and procedures.
- Represented a medical supply company in a COVID related criminal investigation and forfeiture action.
- Represented an accredited college in a “diploma mill” investigation by the Department of Education, FBI, and IRS. No criminal charges were filed.
- Represented several government contractors in criminal investigations involving allegations of kickbacks and contract steering. The government closed the investigations with no charges being filed.
- Represented a global freight and logistics contractor in a False Claims Act qui tam investigation that resulted in DOJ declining the case.
- Represented providers, business associates, and other covered entities in OCR investigations for alleged HIPAA privacy and security violations.

PRESENTATIONS

- *Response to Civil Investigative Demands*
2023 Healthcare Enforcement Compliance Conference
- *Trending Fraud and Abuse Developments and How to Address Them*
27th Annual Compliance Institute
- *Healthcare Compliance and Cybersecurity*
15th Annual Compliance Officers Retreat (co-presenter)