



SARAH JACOBS BEARD

Director

KPMG LLP
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Function and Specialization

Mrs. Beard specializes in delivering regulatory compliance and investigative services to healthcare providers.

Professional Associations

- American Institute of Certified Public Accountants (AICPA)
- Association of Certified Fraud Examiners (ACFE)

Languages

English

Education, Licenses & Certifications

- Master of Accountancy, University of Georgia
- BA Accounting, Furman University
- Certified Public Accountant (CPA)
- Certified Fraud Examiner (CFE)
- Certified in Financial Forensics (CFF)

Background

Sarah is a Director in KPMG's Forensic Services Practice in Atlanta. She focuses on providing regulatory compliance and investigative services to healthcare providers and payors. Sarah's forensic experience also includes assisting clients with fraud investigations, shadow procedures, SAS 99 Implementation, regulatory compliance reviews and special inquiries.

Professional and Industry Experience

Sarah has experience leading and coordinating Forensic engagements. She has served as the engagement lead on numerous engagements. She has knowledge in fraud and misconduct investigations, fraud risk assessments and other regulatory compliance reviews focused on healthcare. In addition to healthcare, she has worked in a variety of industries including, state and local government, financial services, consumer markets and technology.

- Assisted with the design and implementation of a Corporate Integrity Agreement (CIA) for a Durable Medical Equipment (DME) company. Overseeing the day-to-day operations of the Claims Review and Focus Arrangements Review.
- Assisted with the design and implementation of a CIA for a regional hospital system. Overseeing the day-to-day operations of the Focus Arrangements Review.
- Assisted with the medical necessity component of a CIA related to the two-midnight rule.
- Assisted a large healthcare payor in a dispute related to millions of dollars of denied claims. Developed a statically accurate approach used by the payor in determining a settlement amount for each provider.
- Assisted counsel with the forensic reconstruction of the initial syndication offerings and subsequent account for more than 15 whole hospital joint ventures of a national for-profit health system. Demonstrated compliance with guidelines regarding the operation of such arrangements.
- Assisted a durable medical equipment provider with over 600 locations with the analysis of hundreds of reimbursement claims. Issues addressed include medical necessity, delivery, and the compliance of the claims with the applicable Federal and State guidelines.
- Assisted a healthcare provider with a multi-phased coding, billing, and reimbursement review related to claims submitted to Federal healthcare programs. Conducted validation of claims population, developed a statically accurate sampling approach, oversaw claims review and drafted a report to be used by the provider and their outside legal counsel.
- Performed a risk assessment for large mail order pharmacy in order to determine a sampling approach of claims submitted to Federal healthcare programs.
- Assisted counsel with the numerous assessments of claims submitted to Federal healthcare program by a surgical center. Assessments included inpatient and outpatient services, observation claims, use of bilateral modifier, and orthopedic and pain management services.



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- Assisted a healthcare system with pre-acquisition compliance due diligence related to a potential acquisition of a rehabilitation facility.
- Assisted the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (“FDIC”) with its investigation of the sixth largest bank failure in U.S. history. The bank’s failure was due in part to activities that took place in the mortgage warehouse lending division of the bank. Managed a team of individuals who were tasked with understanding and unwinding multiple ownership claims that had been expressed on the same loans. Presenting finds to various government agencies including DOJ, FBI, IRS, various OIGs, and the SEC.
- Assisted the Department of Justice (“DOJ”) and Federal Communication Commission (“FCC”) with an investigation into an alleged misappropriation of millions of dollars of federal funds. Managed a large team of individuals who conducted over one hundred site visits to capture and record the inventory of electronic equipment at various locations. Created an IDEA database of site visit findings and performed various analytical queries on data. Conducted regular update meetings with DOJ and FCC.

Technical Skills

Microsoft Office, Attenex, Discovery Radar, dtSearch