



Next Gen



This week's Q&A with

Tammy Ward Woffenden

Austin Health Care Partner [Tammy Ward Woffenden](#) advises health care providers, health plans and other businesses in the industry on compliance with state and federal laws and regulations concerning the provision of health care services, licensing and certification, Medicare and Medicaid, privacy and data security and fraud and abuse. Tammy also represents clients on health care transactions and is often involved in the entire life cycle of the deal, starting with the initial letter of intent. From there, she helps structure the transaction in compliance with various federal and state health care laws by providing risk analysis during the diligence period, navigating complex change of ownership/information processes for continuity of operations and revenue flow and handling the client's post-closing needs.



More About Tammy

Tell us about the most interesting or significant matter you've worked on in your career.

Matters that stand out have placed me on the front lines with clients, colleagues and industry leaders to address health care innovation, policy and public health matters. I have drafted provisions of national health care legislation, advised on new business models around telemedicine and population health, helped expand community access to primary care services, obtained regulatory approvals to open group homes for vulnerable patients, reviewed legal issues relating to fascinating new medical devices and technology and advised clients through crisis management, including legal issues relating to the Ebola virus (in 2014). Today, we are supporting our clients who are dealing with challenges surrounding COVID-19.

What has helped you to become successful in your field?

I am a creative problem solver and understand that our clients are balancing both business and legal needs. I learn about my clients' business goals and operational concerns and incorporate this insight into practical legal advice. Further, I have spent my entire legal career at Locke Lord and have always had talented and supportive mentors and colleagues who generously share their knowledge, experience, time and advice every day.

What drives or motivates you on your hardest days/during your most difficult matters?

Understanding my role as an adviser and knowing our clients depend on us to provide sound and practical legal advice, even on the hardest days and especially on the most difficult matters.

What do you do to relax and reset after a long week?

Family time with my husband and two kiddos (John, 6, and Anna, 8). Some weekends we stay home, have game night and host friends for dinner. Other weekends we are visiting family out of town, doing fun activities with our kids or supporting them at baseball, volleyball, basketball, gymnastics, choir concerts, art shows — and who knows what is next?

What is your favorite thing about, or to do in, Austin?

I enjoy attending shows at Moody Theatre, such as ACL Live, visiting wineries in the Texas Hill Country and hiking with my family and dog on the many trails in and around Austin.

What would be your fantasy career if you weren't a lawyer?

I would love to dust off my great grandmother's kolache recipe and open a small Czech bakery in the Texas Hill Country.



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