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## McDermott Adds In-House Health Care Pro In DC

By **James Boyle**

Law360 (July 14, 2023, 3:06 PM EDT) -- An attorney specializing in health care delivery models has joined McDermott Will & Emery's Washington, D.C., office after spending more than a decade as an in-house attorney for companies including CVS and Signify Health.

Erin Kelly has been welcomed to McDermott Will & Emery LLP as a partner in the health care practice group, the firm announced Thursday. Kelly told Law360 Pulse in an interview Friday that she is prepared to provide her expertise in health care regulations, transactions and compliance to a roster of clients after spending the last 13 years advising only her employers.

"I am ready to leverage my diverse experiences for the firm and my clients," Kelly said. "I've known the attorneys at McDermott Will & Emery for the last eight years or so as they provided outside counsel on matters. I knew the attorneys here give practical and creative advice and operate as true partners. As I met more of the team, I saw they worked in an innovative and collaborative environment."



Erin Kelly

Kelly's practice counsels clients in the health care industry on navigating complex regulatory and transactional matters, including the development of new business offerings, innovative contracting structures and novel care delivery models. Her expertise focuses particularly on the intricacies of the Medicare Advantage program offered by the government.

"There has been a lot more investment and innovation in recent years with the Medicare Advantage program," Kelly said. "I have significant experience working with providers and vendors in tailoring their services with the MA plans."

Kelly has also seen an increased use of the value-based care arrangements between insurance companies, providers and payors. Under the value-based care model, reimbursements are based on the total cost of care and measures of quality performance.

"It's an arrangement where the providers share some of the risk," Kelly said. "I assist clients in crafting those arrangements and help them through the regulatory process for those arrangements."

After earning her law degree from University of Michigan Law School, Kelly started her career as an associate in Swidler Berlin LLP's corporate group in 2001. She stayed with the firm when it merged with Bingham McCutchen in 2006, then moved in-house in June 2010 as an attorney with Coventry Health Care.

In June 2013, Kelly moved to CVS Health as counsel on the company's Aetna Medicare subsidiary. She joined Signify Health in July 2021 as chief compliance officer and senior vice president and left the company this month as deputy general counsel and chief compliance officer.

"Erin is a solutions-oriented lawyer and a true partner to her clients, making her style of practice perfectly suited to our team's approach to client service," Kate McDonald, co-leader of McDermott's managed care team and partner-in-charge of the healthcare practice in Washington, D.C., said in a statement. "I have worked with Erin for many years and always admired her creativity in overcoming operational challenges and regulatory complexities, as well as her focus on innovation and collaboration within the healthcare market."

--Editing by Patrick Reagan.

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