

Claire H. Topp

Partner

topp.claire@dorsey.com

Minneapolis – 612.343.8278



A partner in Dorsey's health and nonprofit and tax-exempt organizations practice groups, Claire collaborates with her clients to achieve their business goals by understanding their risk tolerance and applying practical and risk mitigating solutions within a complex regulatory environment.

Claire works in three diverse sectors – healthcare, tax exempt organizations, and standards development organizations.

Claire is a frequent lecturer on governance best practices, private foundation excise taxes, Stark II, Medicare/Medicaid fraud and abuse and negotiating employment agreements for physicians, dentists and advanced practice nurses.

Select Experience

Healthcare

- Represented tax exempt healthcare system in Northwest in formation of joint venture, negotiation of professional services agreement and management agreement with for profit retail pharmacy to operate retail clinic staffed with advanced practice nurse professionals provided by health care system.
- Represented numerous multi-hospital healthcare systems on joint ventures with physicians related to diagnostic imaging and ambulatory surgery centers.
- Represented healthcare system in negotiation and formation of regional cancer alliance with another healthcare system and group of radiation oncologists in Northwest.
- Represent multi-hospital healthcare system in a formation of a joint venture with physical therapy providers.

Education

- University of Minnesota Law School (J.D., 1992)
 - *magna cum laude*;
Order of the Coif
- University of Minnesota (B.S., 1988)
- Carleton College (B.A., 1986)
 - *cum laude*

Bar Admissions

- Minnesota

Professional Affiliations

- Adjunct Professor, Nonprofit Law, University of Minnesota Law School, Fall Semester, 2011 to 2014, 2016 to current
- Chair, Nonprofit Corporations Committee of the Minnesota State Bar Association, 1997-2003
- Member of 2005 Public Trust Task Force of Minnesota Council on Foundations
- Director, Charities Review Council, 2004-2010
- Chair, Community Health Charities, 2010-2012; Director, 2004-2012
- Director, NPH-USA (formerly known as Friends of the Orphans), 2004-2010; 2011-2012
- Director, Nuestros Pequeños Hermanos International (a Virginia nonprofit corporation), 2011-2012
- Director, Nuestros Pequeños Hermanos y Hermana, International (a Mexican charitable organization), 2013-present
- Member, American Health Law Association and Minnesota State Bar Association, Health Law and Nonprofit Law Section

Accolades

- *Best Lawyers in America*®, 2019-2026
 - Health Care Law
 - Nonprofit/Charities Law
- *Best Lawyers*® *Lawyer of the Year*, Nonprofit/Charities Law, Minneapolis, 2019, 2021, 2024, 2026
- *Minnesota Lawyer*, Legal 250, 2026
- *Minnesota Monthly*, "Top Lawyers in Minnesota," 2024-2026
- MSBA, North Star Lawyer, 2012-2025
- Consistently providing pro bono legal assistance to those in need through Dorsey's Pro Bono program
- Contributed more than 50 Diversity hours, 2023
- Dorsey & Whitney – Scales of Justice Team Award (The World Ventilator Foundation), 2021
- *Mpls. St. Paul Magazine*, "One of the Top 100 Women Lawyers in Minnesota," 2015, 2021
- *Minnesota Super Lawyers*®, 2003-2020
- *Minnesota Super Lawyers*® *Women's Edition*, 2020
- *Minnesota Law and Politics*, "Rising Star"
- *Minnesota Law and Politics*, "Top 100 Women Lawyers in Minnesota," 2007
- *Minnesota Physician*, Leading Health Care Attorney, 2005
- *Minnesota Law and Politics*, "Who's Who in Health Care Law," 2004

Select Presentations

- Teaching - University of Minnesota Law School, Fall Semester 2011-2014 and 2017 - current; Spring Semester 2016
- "Private Funds Symposium," New York Office, September 27, 2017
- "Delta Dental Plans Association Legal Meeting," Threats Against Reserves and

Strategies to Diversify Revenue While Protecting Tax Exempt Status, September 14, 2017

- “Navigating Legal Issues for Family and Private Foundations,” Minnesota Council on Foundations, September 13, 2017
- “Best Practices When Sitting on a Non-Profit Board,” Dorsey U, August 31, 2017
- “Social Impact Bonds,” 2017 Nonprofit Law Conference – Minnesota CLE, March 14, 2017
- “Social Impact Bonds,” Dorsey’s Annual Des Moines Symposium on Public Private Partnership, October 27, 2016
- “Navigating Legal Issues For Minnesota Foundations,” Minnesota Council on Foundations, September 27, 2016
- “Legal Update for Tax Exempt Organizations,” Clifton Larson Allen Healthcare and Nonprofit Conference, May 2, 2016
- “Pay for Success 2.0,” Utah Innovation Summit, January 27, 2016
- “Business Law Concentration Seminar,” University of Minnesota Law School, December 2, 2015
- “Health Law & Bioethics Career Panel,” University of Minnesota Law School, October 21, 2015
- Moderator “The Avera Marshall Case: What Happened and What’s Next for Hospitals and Physicians?” MSBA Health Law Seminar, March 2015
- “Negotiating a Contract for Employment,” University of Minnesota - Advanced Practice Nursing Students, February 9, 2015
- “Transition to Practice Program: Negotiating Employment Agreements,” Minnesota Medical Association, February 2015
- “MMA Physician Contract Presentation,” Minnesota Medical Association, November 5, 2014
- “Transition to Practice Program: Negotiating a Contract for Employment,” Minnesota Medical Association, September 9, 2014
- “Practice Resources: Your Guide to Non-Profit Practice in Minnesota,” Panel Presentation at Minnesota CLE 2014 Nonprofit Law Conference, March 12, 2014
- “Negotiating Employment Agreement,” Minnesota Medical Association, October 17, 2013
- “Intermediate Seminar on Legal Grantmaking,” Co-presenter, Minnesota Council on Foundations, June 9, 2013
- “Fundraising Issues: Multistate Solicitation and Cause Related Marketing,” Minnesota CLE 2013 Nonprofit Law Conference, March 12, 2013
- “Negotiating a Contract for Employment,” University of Minnesota - Advanced Practice Nursing Student Conference, March 1, 2013
- “Sports Philanthropy Presentation,” All Sports United Conference, August 7, 2012
- “Understanding D&O Issues in a Brave New World: Healthcare, Nonprofit, For Profit and a Bevy of Other Issues,” Annual Bankruptcy Institute Spring Conference, April 20, 2012
- Health Law “Hot Topics,” Minnesota Women Lawyers, March 22, 2012
- “Legal Basics for Family, Independent and Corporate Foundations,” Minnesota Council on Foundations, co-presenter, March 8, 2012
- “Negotiating a Contract for Employment,” University of Minnesota - Advanced Practice Nursing Student Conference, February 24, 2012
- “Legal Basics for Private Foundations,” Council on Michigan Foundations, November 16, 2011
- “Legal Basics for Private Foundations,” Minnesota Council on Foundations, August

25, 2011 and "Health Care Reform: The Sequel," Dorsey & Whitney LLP, June 13, 2011

- "Good Governance: Implementing Recommended Practices and Principles," LarsonAllen Annual Nonprofit and Foundation Conference, May 12, 2011
- "Joint Ventures Between For Profits and Nonprofits," MSBA Nonprofit Law Conference, March 9, 2011
- "Negotiating a Contract for Employment," University of Minnesota - Advanced Practice Nursing Student Conference, February 25, 2011
- "Mergers, Consolidations, Hospital Alliances, Joint Ventures and Other Group Activities," Medical Group Management Association 2010 Annual Conference, October 24, 2010
- "Legal Basics for Grantmakers," Minnesota Council on Foundations Conference, October 6, 2010
- "Dissolving Family Foundations: Breaking Up Is???", St. Paul Foundation, September 8, 2010
- "Health Care Reform and Its Impact on Providers," Dorsey U, June 23, 2010
- "The 2010 Charities Review Council Standards," MSBA Nonprofit Law Conference, March 9, 2010
- "Negotiating a Contract for Employment," University of Minnesota - Advanced Practice Nursing Student Conference, February 26, 2010
- "Accountability Standards – Panel Presentation," Joint Conference Minnesota Council on Nonprofits, Minnesota Council on Foundations, November 6, 2009
- "Legal Basics for Grant Makers," Minnesota Council on Foundations, September 29, 2009
- "Physician Employment Contracting Issues," Regions Hospital Emergency Medicine Residents, June 25, 2009
- "Negotiating an Employment Contract," Minnesota Young Ophthalmologist Society's meeting, May 14, 2009
- "Citizen Lawyer CLE Panel," Hennepin County Bar Association, May 13, 2009
- "Negotiating a Contract for Employment," University of Minnesota - Advanced Practice Nursing Student Conference, March 14, 2009
- "Contracting Issues," Regions Hospital Emergency Medicine Residents, July 10, 2008
- "Prepare for the New 990," Nonprofit clients, co-presenter Karen Gries of LarsonAllen, June 9, 2008
- "Good Governance: Implementing Recommended Practices & Principles," LarsonAllen's Nonprofit & Foundation Conference, co-presenter Sara Peterson of LarsonAllen, May 13, 2008
- "Legal Basics for Grantmakers," MN Council on Foundations, March 20, 2008
- "Negotiating a Contract for Employment," University of Minnesota - Advanced Practice Nursing Student Conference, February 29, 2008
- "Good Governance: Implementing Recommended Practices & Principles," National Television Academy, February 7, 2008
- "Physician Employment Issues," Regions Hospital Emergency Room Physicians, August 29, 2007
- "Street Smarts – Legal Issues for Trustees," Minnesota Council on Foundation, May 16, 2007
- "Healthcare Professional Employment Issues," Advanced Practice Nursing Student Conference, February 23, 2007
- "Topp 10 Best Practices in Governance and Management of Nonprofits," Nonprofit Management Class at Humphrey Institute, February 21, 2007

- "Revisions to Pension Protection Act," Minnesota Council on Foundations Grantmakers Networking Forum, January 31, 2007
- "Nonprofit Governance in the Post-Enron Environment," presented as a workshop to delegates from Education Minnesota, July 6, 2006
- "Physician Employment Issues," Regions Hospital Emergency Room Physicians, July 5, 2006
- "Doing Business Overseas: Issues and Guidance on Legal Structures, Tax Implications, and Compliance with U.S. Laws," National Association for College and University Attorneys, June 25, 2006
- "Overview of Charitable Giving," Meristem Family Office, June 13, 2006
- "Physician Employment Agreement Issues," Minnesota Medical Association, May 6, 2006
- "Donor Advised Funds," Society for Financial Professionals, May 4, 2006
- "Nonprofit Governance in the Post-Enron Environment," Board of Trustees of Johnson C. Smith University, April 22, 2006
- "Donor Advised Funds," Swenson/Anderson Financial Group Advanced Planning Study Group, April 20, 2006
- "Making the Most of Your 990-PF," national teleconference sponsored by the Regional Conference of Grantmakers, March 7, 2006
- "Legal Issues in Philanthropy," Minnesota Council on Foundations, March 9, 2006
- "Healthcare Professional Employment Issues," Advanced Practice Nursing Student Conference, February 24, 2006
- Panel presentation on changes in philanthropy, Financial and Estate Planning Council of St. Paul, January 17, 2006
- Minnesota Council on Nonprofits-- Nonprofit Legal and Accountability Conference, November 4, 2005
- "Physician Employment Issues," Regions Hospital Emergency Medicine Residents, July 6, 2005
- "Foundations 101," Association of Small Foundations, May 18, 2005
- "Hot Issues Update for Exempt Organizations," LarsonAllen's Annual Nonprofit and Foundation Conference, May 11, 2005
- "Physician Contracting," Minnesota Academy of Ophthalmology, March 12, 2005
- "Topp 10 Best Practices and Governance and Management of Nonprofits in Post-Enron Environment – An Executive Directors' View," presented to 20 Executive Directors of health charity members of Community Health Charities (January 12, 2005)

Dorsey Health Law

June 7, 2023

New Minnesota Health Care Transaction Oversight Law Imposes Additional Requirements on Nonprofit Health Care Entities

June 24, 2020

Top Three Current Revenue Stream Considerations for Tax-Exempt Organizations Providing Elder Care

April 23, 2020

HHS Announces Additional Allocations of CARES Act Provider Relief Fund

April 1, 2020

What All Employers Should Know About Disaster Relief Funds to help with COVID-19

March 27, 2020

CARES Act Summary of Provisions that Support America's Health Care System

January 11, 2019

FDA Testing New Approaches for Review of Digital Health Device Applications

January 11, 2019

"Pathways to Success" - CMS Finalizes Overhaul of National ACO Program

January 22, 2018

OIG Issues Favorable Advisory Opinion Addressing Gainsharing CMP Arrangement

Insights

August 23, 2021

Dorsey Infrastructure Alert No. 1

April 7, 2021

Dorsey Partner Claire Topp Explains Medical Boards 501(c)(6) Status

January 5, 2021

White Paper: Understanding the Final Rules to Revise the Anti-Kickback Statute and Beneficiary Inducement Civil Monetary Penalty Regulations

January 5, 2021

White Paper: Understanding the Final Rules to Revise the Stark Law Regulations

March 27, 2020

CARES Act Summary of Provisions that Support America's Health Care System

November 19, 2019

Sweeping Proposals Issued By CMS To Revise Stark Law Regulations

November 1, 2019

Sweeping Proposals Issued By OIG To Make Changes To The Anti-Kickback Statute Safe Harbors And Add An Exception To The Civil Monetary Penalty Law

Governing Beneficiary Inducements