



**LASHLY & BAER, P.C.**  
ATTORNEYS AT LAW

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**Richard D. Watters**

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Richard D. Watters advises all types of health care clients from large hospital systems to individual physicians, nurses and other health care professionals on various matters including general health care laws and regulations, business operations, contracting, governance and corporate issues, licensing/regulatory compliance, the Stark Law, fraud and abuse, EMTALA, Certificates of Need, medical staff issues, practice and business acquisitions, joint ventures, Medicare and Medicaid conditions of participation, and reimbursement and contract negotiations.



Mr. Watters has considerable experience in obtaining Certificates of Need for hospitals, nursing homes and imaging centers. He has also obtained numerous multi-million dollar verdicts for his hospital and nursing home clients in Medicaid reimbursement appeals. He often represents health care institutions and individual professionals before regulatory agencies, licensing bodies, professional organizations, medical staff committees, PROs, Medicare and managed care.

Rick has been selected by his peers for inclusion in *Best Lawyers in America*<sup>®</sup> in the field of Health Care Law, for the last 30 years, most recently in 2021. In 2011, he was awarded the Health Care Lawyer of the Year for the St. Louis area by *Best Lawyers in America*<sup>®</sup>. He has been included in the group of *Missouri & Kansas Super Lawyers* lists for the field of Health Care Law each year since 2005, including Top 50 St. Louis Lawyers in 2007, and Top 50 and 100 Lawyers in 2005. In 2020, Rick received the ICON award from Missouri Lawyers Media for his distinguished service to the practice of law in St. Louis. He earned his J.D., *cum laude*, from Saint Louis University School of Law.

**Primary Practice Areas**

- Health Care
- Business & Corporate

**Bar Admissions**

- Supreme Court of Missouri, 1976
- Supreme Court of Illinois, 1977

**Education & Academic Honors**

- J.D., *cum laude*, Saint Louis University, 1976
- B.S.I.E., Bradley University, 1973

**Professional Associations**

- American Health Lawyers' Association
- American Bar Association, Forum Committee on Health Law



- The Missouri Bar, Health and Hospital Law Committee, Administrative Law Committee
- Illinois State Bar Association, Health Law Section
- The Bar Association of Metropolitan St. Louis
- Missouri Society of Health Care Attorneys, President, Board of Directors, 1990-1991
- St. Louis Health Care Lawyers

### **Representative Clients**

- Missouri Foundation for Health
- Missouri Nurses Association
- Murray County Medical Center
- Saint Francis Medical Center
- Scotland County Memorial
- Tenet Healthcare Corporation
- Washington County Memorial Hospital

### **Lectures & Legal Publications**

- "Certificate of Need Process to get a New Facility Approved and Initial Licensing," Senior Living Forum Seminar
- "The Future of Medicine," *St. Louis Business Journal* Seminar
- "New Face to Face Requirements for Home Health Services," client presentation
- "Interpreting Joint Rules and Regulations Applicable to Collaborative Practices Between Physicians and Nurses," University of Missouri – St. Louis College of Nursing
- Co-author of "Annotated Guide to Missouri Nursing Laws and Regulations 1<sup>st</sup> Edition," published 2010 by Missouri Nurses Association
- "New Rules for APRN Collaboration and PA Supervisor Agreements," Medical Group Management Association of Missouri
- "Impact of New Networks on Hospital-Physician Relationships," St. Louis Metropolitan Medical Society
- "Expanded Practice for Nurses and Pas," Saint Louis University School of Law
- "The Collaborative Practice Act and Related Issues," Fourth Annual Medical-Legal Symposium
- "Credentialing & Privileging: New Issues, New Challenges," Hospital Services Group
- "The National Practitioner Data Bank: Is It a Necessary House of Horrors?" The Bar Association of Metropolitan St. Louis and the St. Louis Metropolitan Medical Society

### **Community Service & Awards**

- ICON Award, Missouri Lawyers Media, 2020
- Martindale-Hubbell, AV Preeminent<sup>®</sup> Peer Review Rating
- *Best Lawyers in America*<sup>®</sup> Health Care Law, 1991 - Present
- *Best Lawyers in America*<sup>®</sup> St. Louis Health Care Lawyer of the Year, 2011
- *Missouri & Kansas Super Lawyers* Health Care, 2005 - Present
- Top 50 Attorney in St. Louis, 2005 & 2007
- Top 100 Attorney in St. Louis, 2005
- "Leadership - St. Louis," 1988-1989

- United Cerebral Palsy Association of Greater St. Louis, President and Chairman of the Board, 1985-1986
- Medical Ethics Committee of DePaul Health Center, 1990-2005
- Saint Louis University, Instructor in Law, Continuing lecturer at the School of Nursing, 1977-1979

**Employment History**

- Lashly & Baer, P.C.  
Member, 1982 - Present  
Associate, 1976 - 1981