



## ROBERT J. ESTEP

### ASSOCIATE

St. Louis, MO

314.342.8064

[restep@armstrongteasdale.com](mailto:restep@armstrongteasdale.com)



Robert Estep is an associate in the firm's Corporate Services practice group, where he advises clients on general corporate law, primarily in the health care and life sciences industries. In his practice, he counsels clients in response to legal and business challenges and opportunities in the rapidly evolving U.S. health care system.

As a former assistant attorney general, Robert has significant experience prosecuting matters in Missouri Circuit Courts involving health care providers, including physicians, dentists, hospitals, nursing homes, and personal care and home health providers.

His deep understanding of health care investigations and prosecution enables Robert to provide a unique perspective on everything from compliance and regulatory standards to operational and management issues.

### BACKGROUND

Prior to joining the firm, Robert served as assistant attorney general at the Missouri Attorney General's Office in the Medicaid Fraud Control Unit. In his role as a state prosecutor, he managed cases alleging Medicaid fraud, patient abuse and exploitation. Robert handled criminal investigations and prosecutions in St. Louis County, St. Louis City, Jackson County and Jasper County, among others.

In addition to his criminal experience, Robert litigated civil health care matters on behalf of the Missouri Medicaid Audit and Compliance Unit (MMAC). At the Administrative Hearing Commission and in Missouri Circuit Courts, he defended MMAC's sanctions against providers including hospices, hospitals, laboratories, pharmacies, dentists, physicians and psychiatrists,

During law school, Robert served as a legal intern for the U.S. Department of Justice in the Antitrust Division, where he assisted in investigations of health care antitrust issues.

### EDUCATION

- Saint Louis University School of Law (J.D., 2015)
  - Health Law Certificate
  - Academic Excellence Award for Highest Grade in Administrative Law
  - SLU Health Law Semester in D.C. Program
  - UM Carey School of Law Health Law Regulatory and Compliance Competition
- Susquehanna University (B.A., 2011)

### SERVICES AND INDUSTRIES

Corporate

White-Collar Criminal Defense  
and Government

Investigations

Health Care and Life Sciences

Internal Investigations and

Regulatory Compliance

Litigation

Antitrust and Trade Practices

### ADMISSIONS

Missouri

- Political Science
- Hobart and William Smith Colleges (2009)
  - Biology

#### **PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES**

- American Health Lawyers Association
- St. Louis Health Lawyers Association

#### **CHARITABLE AND CIVIC INVOLVEMENT**

- Motion for Kids

## **EXPERIENCE**

#### **Prosecuted Personal Care Provider in Medicaid Fraud Case**

Successfully prosecuted a personal care provider in St. Louis County, Missouri. The defendant pled guilty in July 2018 to one felony count of Medicaid fraud.

#### **Successfully Prosecuted Personal Care Provider in Three-Day Trial**

Successfully prosecuted a personal care provider in Jackson County, Missouri. After a three-day trial in June 2018, the jury returned guilty verdicts on all counts; two felony counts of Medicaid Fraud and one felony count of Financial Exploitation of an elderly person.

#### **Won Appeal in Missouri Medicaid Audit and Compliance Unit Case**

Won an appeal of a Missouri Medicaid Audit and Compliance Unit (MMAC) provider sanction against a home health and adult day care provider. After a bench trial in Jefferson City, Missouri, the Administrative Hearing Commission upheld MMAC's suspension of the provider from Medicaid.

#### **Negotiated Settlement for Physician's Clinic**

Negotiated a settlement for a physician's clinic that reduced MO HealthNet's alleged overpayment by 95 percent.

## **THOUGHT LEADERSHIP**

February 14, 2019

#### **Major EHR Technology Settlements Signal More Investigations on the Horizon**

November 28, 2018

#### **Physician's Media Interview Violates HIPAA, Leads to \$125,000 Settlement**