

Katie Cownie

Partner

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Des Moines – 515.699.3261



Katie Cownie has more than 20 years of legal experience, representing a variety of health care providers, including: skilled nursing facilities, assisted living facilities, hospitals, mental health providers, as well as physician and dental practices on the full range of business and regulatory matters.

Katie's practice includes Certificate of Need matters, regulatory issues involving state and federal agencies, as well as a broad range of transactional work. Katie's transactional experience spans contracting, joint ventures, mergers and acquisitions across the health care continuum. She is recognized for helping providers navigate complex regulatory environments while supporting strategic growth and operational compliance. Her work focuses on practical, legally sound solutions that support providers in meeting legal obligations and organizational goals.

Accolades

- *Great Plains Super Lawyers*®, 2026
- *Best Lawyers in America*®, Health Care Law, 2016-2027
- Best Lawyers Des Moines Healthcare Law "Lawyer of the Year", 2019
- Recognized as a U.S. News and World Report Best Lawyer in Healthcare, 2016
- Selected as one of the Business Record's Forty under 40, 2012

Charitable & Civic Involvement

- Member of the American Health Lawyers Association and the Iowa Society of Healthcare Attorneys.
- Current President Elect of the Rotary Club of Des Moines.
- Immediate Past President of the Dowling Riptide Swim Club Board.

Select Presentations

- *Tenant Rights and Occupancy Agreements*, Iowa Health Care Association Assisted

Education

- University of Iowa College of Law (J.D., 1999)
 - Editor, Journal of Gender, Race and Justice
 - Member of the Client Counseling Board
 - Comparative Law Program, Arcachon, France
- Chaminade University of Honolulu (B.A., 1996)
 - *magna cum laude*

Bar Admissions

- Iowa

Living Management Certification Program (April 2026)

- *Staying Ahead of Risk – Legal and Regulatory Hot Topics in Long-Term Care*, Iowa Health Care Association 2026 Spring Conference (March 2026)
- *Tenant Rights and Occupancy Agreements*, Iowa Health Care Association Assisted Living Management Certificate Program (April 2025)
- *CMS Mid-Cycle Revalidations: Are You Ready?* Iowa Health Care Association (April 2025)
- *Distress in Long Term Care*” American Health Law Association Long Term and Post-Acute Care Law and Compliance (February 2025)
- *LeadingAge Iowa Spring Conference: Legal Updates for Aging Services*, Leading Age Iowa Spring Conference (May 2023)
- *Legal Issues for Hospital Physician Leaders: An Overview of the Law & Discussion with Health Lawyers in the Trenches*, Iowa Hospital Association (April 2023)
- *Hospital Transactions and Strategic Development*, Iowa Hospital Association Governance Series (November 2022)
- *Legal Updates for Aging Services*, LeadingAge Iowa Spring Conference (May 2022)
- *Legal Updates for Long-Term Care Providers in Iowa*, LeadingAge Iowa Fall Conference (September 2021)
- *Legal Updates for Aging Services*, LeadingAge Iowa 2021 Spring Conference (May 2021)
- *Medicaid Transitions from FFS to MCO*, Iowa Dental Association (April 2021)

Dorsey Health Law

June 2, 2023

Iowa Governor Signs Legislation Impacting Iowa’s Long-Term-Care Industry

February 10, 2021

Nursing Facilities and CMPs: The Latest Fight