



McKenna S. Cloud

Associate

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McKenna Cloud is an associate in Baker Donelson's Jackson, Mississippi office and a member of the Firm's Health Law Group.

Mrs. Cloud concentrates her practice on assisting health care organizations in a variety of transactional matters, including mergers and acquisitions and other corporate matters. She assists clients throughout all phases of the timeline of transactions, from due diligence to closing. Her clients include a variety of entities in the health care industry, such as hospitals, ambulatory surgery centers, behavioral health facilities, and physician-owned practices.

Mrs. Cloud has experience in hospital and physician practice acquisitions, physician compensation and compensation models, hospital-physician alignment and affiliation structures, joint ventures, and physician-hospital organizations. She also handles mergers and acquisitions, health care tax exemption issues for hospitals and other exempt organizations, private offerings and securities compliance matters, as well as corporate, limited liability company, and partnership matters. Her practice also includes business, corporate, and federal and state health care regulatory compliance matters for exempt, governmental, or for-profit health care providers. This includes the Stark law, the Anti-Kickback Statute, civil monetary penalties, and the corporate practice of medicine. Additionally, she also has experience researching and advising organ procurement organizations on federal and state regulatory and compliance issues, analysis and implication of proposed rules, and other distinct legal matters.

Prior to joining Baker Donelson, Mrs. Cloud served as a judicial law clerk to the Honorable Leslie H. Southwick of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit. During law school, she was a legal extern to U.S. District Court Judge Kristi H. Johnson for the Southern District of Mississippi.



Representative Matters

- Represented a hospice provider in the sale of its companies to a private equity-backed buyer, with a transaction value of approximately \$25 million.
- Represented a regional non-profit health system in acquiring numerous primary care and specialist physician practices, including structuring fair market value, wRVU-based, and collections-based compensation models.
- Represented an academic medical center in a joint venture with a regional health care system.



Professional Honors & Activities

- Treasurer – Mississippi Chapter of the Federal Bar Association (January 2025 – present)
- Board of Directors – Jackson Young Lawyers (April 2024 – present)
- Golf Committee Chair – Capital Area Bar Association (July 2024 – present)
- Coach – Mississippi College School of Law's Health Law Transactional Competition Team
- Secretary – Mississippi Chapter of the Federal Bar Association (January 2024 – January 2025)
- Member – Mississippi Bar Admissions Ceremony Committee (2023 – 2024)
- Speakers Chair, Jackson Young Lawyers (April 2022 – April 2023)
- Law Student Liaison, Mississippi Chapter of the Federal Bar Association (2023)
- American Jurisprudence Awards for the highest average in 21 courses, including Healthcare Law, Healthcare Fraud and Abuse Law, Business Associations, and Administrative Law



Publications

- "60 Days After *Loper*: Health Care Impact of *Chevron* Deference's End" (August 2024)
- "Loper Bright Enterprises v. Raimondo: How the End of Chevron Deference Will Impact Health Care," *American Health Law Association Health Law Weekly* (July 2024)
- "*Chevron* Deference Discarded: SCOTUS Decision in Fisheries Cases Leaves Administrative Law Reeling," republished July 23, 2024, in *Daily Business Review* (June 2024)
- "What the Supreme Court's '*Chevron* Deference' Ruling Could Mean for Health Care Law" (June 2024)
- "New OIG Opinion on Patient Assistance Programs: A Checklist for Maintaining a Compliant PAP," Streamline Verify Blog (May 2024)
- "'At Risk' or Not? Fifth Circuit Creates Circuit Split over ADA and *Olmstead* Interpretation," *American Health Law Association Health Law Weekly* (March 2024)
- "DEA and HHS Extend Telemedicine Flexibilities for Controlled Substance Prescriptions Through 2024" (October 2023)
- "A Year by the Bench: Reflections of Two Outgoing Judicial Law Clerks," *Jackson Young Lawyers Newsletter* (September 2023)
- "Discrimination and Disparity: Violating *Olmstead v. L.C.* Discriminates Against the Psychiatrically Vulnerable and Fosters Racial/Ethnic Socioeconomic Mental Health Disparities," 40 *Mississippi College Law Review* 131 (August 2022)



Speaking Engagements

- "*Loper Bright Enterprises v. Raimondo*: How the End of Chevron Deference Will Impact Health Care," Mississippi College School of Law Health Law Society (October 2024)
- "Why Pursue a Judicial Clerkship?," Mississippi College Law Review (October 2024)
- "The Intersection of Organ Donation & Reproductive Rights After *Dobbs*," Baker Donelson Health Law Group (January 2024)



Education

- Mississippi College School of Law, J.D., 2022, summa cum laude
 - First in Class
 - Editor-in-Chief – *Mississippi College Law Review*
 - Health Law Certificate
- University of Southern Mississippi, B.S., 2019, summa cum laude



Admissions

- Mississippi, 2022
- Mississippi Supreme Court
- U.S. District Court for the Southern District of Mississippi
- U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit