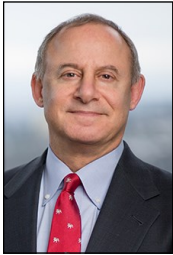


Ronald J. Friedman



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ATTORNEY PROFILE

Ron Friedman's practice focuses on regulatory and healthcare compliance, white collar criminal defense, pharmacy law, complex litigation, and professional license defense. Ron regularly serves in the capacity of local counsel assisting national firms when addressing legal issues in the Pacific Northwest. Ron entered private practice after a distinguished career with the United States Department of Justice, serving 22 years as a federal prosecutor in Seattle where he gained exposure to a variety of legal issues. Ron prosecuted hundreds of cases, supervised federal grand juries for 6 years, and successfully tried many cases. Ron is responsible for developing multiple highly successful and nationally recognized law enforcement programs, including Operation Stolen Valor focusing on armed services fraud, and Operation Midnight Express focusing on drug diversion.

Ron's private practice is very diverse and he enjoys helping people navigate difficult and challenging problems. He handles a variety of complex regulatory, civil, and criminal matters on behalf of individuals and businesses. Ron regularly assists clients with compliance issues, and advises and defends clients facing government investigations of all types, civil and criminal. Ron represents individuals and companies in a variety of contexts, including clients who are the target or subject of regulatory investigations, clients wishing to implement compliance and due diligence protocols, clients who are witnesses in grand jury proceedings, and clients accused of criminal wrongdoing at all stages of proceedings. In criminal matters, Ron has helped many clients successfully avoid charges and fines entirely, reduced their exposure, or obtained dismissal of charges. While the results achieved in any case may vary, persistence, reasonableness, and commitment to principle have been key to this success.

Ron has extensive experience in healthcare and pharmaceutical compliance and licensing. Ron represents many companies at all levels of the healthcare and pharmaceutical distribution chain, as well as food and medical device manufacturers and distributors. In addition, Ron assists healthcare providers and practitioners with successful resolution of regulatory issues, including disciplinary proceedings. In addition, Ron has substantial experience defending civil qui tam

and false claims actions, and responding to financial fraud and business practice issues and investigations.

MAJOR AREAS OF PRACTICE

Litigation, Healthcare, White Collar Criminal Investigations & Defense, Pharmaceutical & FDA Compliance

RECOGNITION

Best Lawyers in America[®], White Collar Criminal Defense, 2011-2021

"Washington Super Lawyer," *Super Lawyers Magazine*[®], White Collar Criminal Defense, 2013-2014, 2017-2021

Director's Award, United States Attorney General—for excellence in a case involving foreign corporations conducting unauthorized business in the U.S. in violation of U.S. law.

ADMITTED TO PRACTICE

Washington State Bar
District of Columbia Bar

EDUCATION

J.D., Harvard Law School
Massachusetts Public Defenders (1983)
Harvard Defenders (1980-1982)
B.A., with highest distinction, University of Virginia

JUDICIAL CLERKSHIP

Law Clerk to the Honorable Martin L.C. Feldman, U.S.
District Judge, ED, Louisiana

REPRESENTATIVE MATTERS

Represented regional drug chain in False Claims Act action brought by U.S. Department of Justice. Matter settled for 4% of government's demand.
Represented healthcare diagnostic laboratory in HIPAA compliance action; no charges brought.
Represented national drug manufacturer in civil action by state Attorney General alleging negligence, public nuisance, violations of state consumer protection act.
Represented the president of a hospital services corporation in federal criminal case alleging securities fraud and market manipulation
Represented national retail drug chain in DEA compliance investigation
Represented national drug wholesaler in board of pharmacy compliance investigation

Represented a major league sports franchise in DEA regulatory investigation; no charges brought

Represented pharmacist in dispute with Kansas Board of Pharmacy challenging an order revoking the license of the pharmacist. The order was vacated in its entirety and dismissed

Represented the president of an environmental inspection company in federal criminal case alleging conspiracy to defraud and violations of Clean Air Act; all felony charges dismissed

Represented local compounding pharmacy in Florida Board of Pharmacy investigation resulting from FDA inspection. No charges brought.

Represented national drug distributor in Board of Pharmacy compliance proceedings

Represented specialty pharmacy in PBM dispute. Complete recovery made

Represented clinic-based pharmacy in FDA compliance investigation. Successfully resolved

Represented compounding pharmacy in FDA compliance investigation. Successfully resolved

Represented national drug manufacturer in federal civil action relating to alleged false claims

Represented national pharmacy retail chain in DEA compliance investigation

Represented corporate employee in "insider trading" investigation; no charges brought following federal investigation

Represented a retail drug store chain and pharmacists in DEA and state regulatory investigation alleging noncompliance and records violations

Represented a national food manufacturer in FDA action seeking a recall; recall averted

Represented mega-church in federal criminal investigation; no charges brought

Represented an aircraft parts supplier in due diligence FCPA investigation

Represented national engineering firm in Qui Tam civil fraud investigation; fraud charges dismissed

Represented CFO of a national labor corporation in whistleblower investigation alleging accounting fraud

Represented CFO of a national engineering company in Department of Defense fraud investigation; no charges brought

Represented national drug distributor in DEA criminal investigation related to 21 CFR compliance. No charges brought.

Represented closed door hospice and specialty pharmacies with variety of business, regulatory, and licensing issues

Represented several out of state pharmacies, including compounding and specialty pharmacies in regulatory board of pharmacy proceedings in their states

Represented numerous physicians in responding to Medical Quality Assurance Commission investigations and developing due diligence protocols

Represented medical trauma training center in DEA regulatory compliance investigation

Represented physician in criminal investigation alleging unlawful inducement/kickbacks. No charges brought

Represented physician in criminal investigation alleging unlawful distribution of a controlled substance. No charges brought.

Represented multiple pain clinics and physicians in DEA and state board compliance investigations across the United States

Represented CEO of an oil drilling company conducting business overseas in a criminal case alleging wire fraud and tax evasion

Represented a chain of health care clinics and a corporate officer in an FDA investigation alleging unlawful importation of a misbranded drug, sale of an unapproved new drug and false statements

Represented a national medical product wholesaler in an FDA investigation alleging misbranding and improper sale of merchandise. Recall averted; product deemed compliant

Represented a national environmental company in an investigation alleging violations of the Clean Water Act, RCRA and FIFRA; no charges brought following federal investigation

Represented a Washington State political party official in a federal criminal investigation alleging fraud and false statement; federal indictment dismissed

Represented a national drug wholesaler and distributor in an FDA criminal investigation alleging the sale of stolen merchandise; no charges brought following lengthy DOJ investigation

Represented a financial investment advisor in a federal criminal case alleging bank fraud, breach of fiduciary duty, and unlawful conversion; no charges brought

Represented a public school fiscal officer in an investigation alleging theft and public corruption; no charges brought

Represented a seafood processing company in a State investigation alleging criminal violations of fisheries law

Represented a media representative in an FBI investigation alleging unauthorized disclosure of classified information

Represented pharmacies, pharmaceutical, and health care companies in licensing matters and regulatory compliance

IN THE MEDIA

Quoted in McKnight's Long-Term Care News, regarding DEA compliance, "[*Is the Clock Ticking on faxed Orders.*](#)" January 15, 2021

Quoted in Chronicle-Tribune article, "America's war on prescription drug abuse," May 19, 2016

Quoted in national food journal regarding federal indictments of dietary supplement manufacturers, "Emails Highlighted as Incriminating Evidence in USPlabs Indictment," *National Products Insider*, November 30, 2015

Quoted in *Seattle PI* article, "Feds drop charges against Eastside developer's son, daughter-in-law," July 31, 2013

Quoted in *New York Times* article, "Risky Investment, Made Unwittingly," October 21, 2011

PUBLICATIONS

"2020 Update Regarding the Importation of Prescription Drugs: Pathway to Importation from Canada Initiated, Risk Remains," American Bar Association Health Law Section Newsletter, *ABA Health eSource* (January 2020).

- "Update Regarding the Importation of Prescription Drugs: Canadian Importer, President Plead Guilty" American Bar Association Health Law Section Newsletter, ABA Health eSource (April 2018)
- "Importing Prescription Drugs Remains Risky Business Due to FDA and DEA Regulation," American Bar Association Health Law Section Newsletter, *ABA Health eSource* (March 2018)
- "Ethics and Our Criminal Justice System," *Compliance & Ethics Professional* (June 2016)
- "Be Careful What You Wish For: DOJ's Recent Guidance Prioritizing Prosecution Of Individuals For Alleged Corporate Wrongdoing", American Society of Pharmacy Law Newsletter (January/February 2016)
- "New, Final DEA Drug Disposal Rules Are Shady on Details," *Law 360* (September 19, 2014)
- "Beware Pharmacy Record-Keeping Violations," *Law 360* (April 9, 2013)
- "The Case for Compounding Pharmacy," *Law 360* (November 9, 2012)
- "DEA Audits: Coming to a Theater Near You," American Bar Association Health Law Section Newsletter, *ABA Health eSource* (October 2011)
- "Lessons from the Failed Prosecution of In-House Pharmaceutical Counsel," American Bar Association Criminal Litigation Section Newsletter, Co-author (Fall 2011)
- "Understanding the New Washington State Pain Medication and Opioid Rules," Washington State Pharmacy Association Website (June 2011)
- "A Knock at the Door: Responding to Government Investigations," *Physicians Risk Management Update* (January 2011)
- "Increased Scrutiny of Medical Providers: A Cause for Reflection and Diligence," American Academy of Pain Management's quarterly magazine, *The Pain Practitioner* (Summer 2010)
- "When is a Kickback a Kickback? - Navigating the Perilous Road of Marketing Incentives in the Pharmaceutical Industry," *Contract Pharma Magazine* (May 2010)
- "Swallowing the Wrong Pill—Criminal Drug Diversion by Medical Professionals, a Prosecutor's Perspective," *Pain Medicine News Magazine* (May 2009)
- "Don't Take the Money and Run—Be Careful When a Client Pays in Cash," *National Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers Magazine* (July 2007)
- "Controlled Substances 101: Introduction to Fundamentals," American Conference Institute's Summit on Controlled Substances (February 4, 2019)
- "Demystifying Buprenorphine Opioid Addiction Treatment," American Society for Pharmacy Law Annual Conference (November 2, 2018)
- "Prescription Audits: When the DEA or AG Come Knocking," Strafford Live CLE Webinar, Co-presenter (August 17, 2017)
- "Addressing the Bouncing Ball of Prescription Drug Abuse: What have we Learned?", Marion General Hospital, Marion, Illinois (May 18, 2016)
- "Cracking the Code: Pharmaceutical & Controlled Substance Compliance for Remote Healthcare," Webinar (March 31, 2016)
- "Law Enforcement Responses to Fraud Rings, Burglaries and Robberies," National Rx Drug Abuse Summit, Co-presenter (April 7, 2015)
- "Representing Clients Targeted by Law Enforcement for a Voluntary Interview," Muslim Advocates Webinar (June 3, 2014)
- "Drugs R Us': Navigating the Perilous Road Between Patient Needs and Government Scrutiny Involving Controlled Substances," Oregon Health Care Association Annual Conference (September 16, 2013)
- "Impact of Guidelines in Federal Healthcare Fraud Cases," National Federal Sentencing Guidelines Conference (May 23, 2013)
- "2013 Regulatory Enforcement Update," Washington State Pharmacy Association's Annual New Drugs New Laws Conference (February 10, 2013, April 21, 2013)
- "2012 Regulatory Enforcement Update," American Society for Pharmacy Law Annual Conference (November 16, 2012)
- "Protect Your DEA Registration And Your Revenue's Practice," DecisionHealth Webinar, Host (January 26, 2012)
- "Navigating the Difficult Road of Effective Pain Management: Understanding the New Opioid Rules," Evergreen Hospital Medical Center Continuing Medical Education (December 16, 2011)
- "DEA Decisions: Making Sense of Dissonant Decisions When Representing Pharmacists," American Society for Pharmacy Law Annual Conference (November 18, 2011)
- "Avoiding Responding to Government Investigations of Medical Providers Who Prescribe Controlled Substances," Washington State Society of Healthcare Attorneys' Winter Quarterly Presentation (March 1, 2011)
- "Defending a Financial Fraud Case and Getting a Good Result," Northwest Fraud Investigators Association Conference (November 5, 2010)
- "Responding to Audits and Investigations of One's Medical Practice," Washington Society of Addiction Medicine Conference (March 4, 2010)

PRESENTATIONS

- "Addressing Challenges Posed by A Pandemic (COVID-19) to the Practice of Pharmacy", American Society of Pharmacy Law Annual Conference (November 5, 2020)
- "New Objects of Addiction," American Conference Institute's Third National Summit on Controlled Substances (July 22, 2020)
- "Regulatory Compliance Involving Ekits and Navigating the Theft/Loss Reporting Requirement In The Long Term Care Sector", American Society of Pharmacy Law Annual Conference (November 8, 2019)
- "Pharmacy Law Regulatory Update: Red Flags, Suspicious Orders, and PDMP Programs ," National Association of Specialty Pharmacy (NASP), Annual Conference (September 12, 2019)
- "Medical-Assisted Treatment in Opioid Addiction Setting," American Pharmacists Association Annual Meeting (APhA2019) (March 23, 2019)
- COMMUNITY & PROFESSIONAL INVOLVEMENT
Executive Committee, Board of Directors, Holocaust Center for Humanity, a nonprofit educational organization dedicated to promoting ideals of tolerance, and preventing hate, bigotry and genocide (2011-Present)
University of Chicago, Leaders in Philanthropy (2019)
Communications Committee, American Society for Pharmacy Law (2016-Present)