# **SheppardMullin**



# → Maria Malas

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Maria Malas is an associate in the Governmental Practice in the firm's Washington, D.C. office and a member of the Healthcare Industry team.

#### **Areas of Practice**

Maria advises healthcare industry clients across the healthcare sector on a wide range of regulatory issues that impact their business operations. Her areas of expertise include helping health plans, providers, and life sciences clients navigate complex and rapidly evolving regulatory frameworks surrounding federal health care program participation, including traditional Medicare fee-for-service frameworks as well as federal government contract programs such as the Medicare Advantage Program, the Medicare Prescription Drug Benefit, the Federal Employees Health Benefits Program and Medicaid managed care. Maria's representative experience includes advising clients undergoing government audits and investigations, representing clients in administrative appeals including appeals involving determinations made by the Centers of Medicare & Medicaid Services ("CMS") and its contractors, assessments of overpayment determinations, and Star rating/quality bonus payment determinations.

Maria's deep knowledge of healthcare regulatory frameworks also includes extensive experience advising clients on market access and reimbursement strategies across the medical device, pharmaceutical, digital health, clinical laboratory, and health care services sectors. She has a proven track record of success in guiding clients through matters that include the development and execution of market access strategies for new and existing technologies; advocacy with federal and state agencies, including CMS; matters related to Medicare and Medicaid coverage, coding, and reimbursement; and compliance with federal and state fraud and abuse laws.

Maria is a member of the American Health Law Association and the American Bar Association Health Law Section. Prior to joining the firm, Maria was a healthcare regulatory associate in the Washington, D.C. offices of two global law firms with nationally ranked healthcare practices.

#### **Articles**

#### **Healthcare Law Blog Posts**

 "Proposed Rule on Medicaid Tax Waivers: CMS Moves to Close a Loophole Shifting Costs to the Federal Government," May 28, 2025

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- "CMS Proposes Medicare Payment Policies for Hospital Inpatient Services for Federal Fiscal Year 2026," May 6, 2025
- "CMS Issues CY 2026 Medicare Advantage and Part D Final Rule," April 17, 2025
- "Key Proposals from the CY 2026 Medicare Advantage and Part D Proposed Rule," December 16, 2024

#### **Events**

Key Proposals in the CY2026 Medicare Advantage and Part D Proposed Rule 01.08.2025

## **Memberships**

American Health Law Association

American Bar Association Health Law Section

### **Podcasts & Webinars**

Key Proposals in the CY2026 Medicare Advantage and Part D Proposed Rule 01.08.2025

## **Practices**

Governmental

Healthcare

Women in Healthcare Leadership Collaborative

### **Education**

J.D., Duke University School of Law, 2018 B.A., University of Virginia, 2012

#### **Admissions**

**District of Columbia**