



Kazuhilo Kikawa

Partner

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Mr. Kikawa has twelve years of experience at the Public Prosecutors' Offices and at the Ministry of Justice. For the past twelve years, since 2012, he has been in private practice, mainly handling the following areas:

Regulations on advertising, representation, and marketing

Mr. Kikawa provides a wide range of legal services, from preventive compliance advice to administrative investigation defense, regarding matters of advertising, representation, and marketing, including matters governed by the Misleading Representation Act, the Pharmaceuticals and Medical Devices Act, the Medical Care Act, the Unfair Competition Prevention Act and the Specified Commercial Transactions Act.

E-commerce

Mr. Kikawa handles various legal issues arising from e-commerce (EC) such as online shopping, internet media, portal sites, and booking websites.

He has vast experience in providing advice on advertising expression, articles in the media, terms of use, and privacy policies and in handling disputes with consumer groups.

Healthcare-related regulations and Medical disputes

In addition to providing a wide range of advice on matters governed by medical, pharmaceutical and healthcare law and regulations, such as those governed by the Medical Care Act, the Medical Practitioners' Act, the Pharmaceuticals and Medical Devices Act, and the Health Promotion Act, Mr. Kikawa represents medical institutions in medical disputes.

Administrative investigation defense

Mr. Kikawa defends clients from administrative investigations in the context of various regulatory laws. He focuses on defensive strategies to avoid the issuing of serious administrative dispositions against his clients, such as revocations of their business licenses or permits, or monetary penalties. These defense strategies are implemented during client hearings, exculpatory proceedings, and provisional injunctions.

Criminal law

Mr. Kikawa handles criminal matters and criminal cases focusing on provision of advises to his clients on criminal matters including those related to regulations on bribery and gambling and extradition proceedings and on representation of his clients on criminal complaints against their executives and employees for misconduct such as embezzlement, breach of trust, and the unauthorized acquisition of trade secrets.

Internal investigations

Drawing on his experience as a prosecutor, Mr. Kikawa conducts investigations of internal corporate wrongdoings and malpractice. In particular, he has vast experience with issues on product quality, safety, and test data.

Immigration

Mr. Kikawa was in charge of the 2009 amendment to the Immigration Control and Refugee Recognition Act. Based on this experience, he is able to provide decisive advice on legal issues relating to the obtaining of visas and residence status for foreign nationals.

Practice Areas

Government Investigations and Crisis
Management

Dispute Resolution

Topics

Achievements Apr 18, 2024	The Best Lawyers in Japan™ • Best Lawyers: Ones to Watch in Japan™ (2025 Edition)
Achievements Jan 17, 2024	The Legal 500 Asia Pacific 2024
Achievements Apr 20, 2023	The Best Lawyers in Japan™ 2024

Practice Groups

Corporate Crisis Management Practice Group Dispute Resolution Group Life Sciences and Health Care Practice Group

Background

Mar 1998

Kyoto University (LL.B.)

Apr 1998 - Mar 2000

The Legal Training and Research Institute of the Supreme Court of Japan

Apr 2000	Tokyo District Public Prosecutors Office
Jun 2000	Takamatsu District Public Prosecutors Office (Investigation Department/Special Investigation Department)
Apr 2001	Naha District Public Prosecutors Office (In charge of international crime/mafia crime)
Apr 2003	Tokyo District Public Prosecutors Office
Apr 2003	The Ministry of Justice, Criminal Affairs Bureau (Inmate Death Record Investigation Team)
Apr 2004	Yokohama District Public Prosecutors Office (Special Investigation Department/Trials Department)
Apr 2005	Okayama District Public Prosecutors Office (Instructor of legal trainees/In charge of international crime)
Apr 2007	The Ministry of Justice, Immigration Bureau, Adjudication Division (In charge of administrative litigation/refugee recognition)
Apr 2008	The Ministry of Justice, Immigration Bureau, Office of Counselor (In charge of 2009 immigration reform)
Apr 2010	Tokyo District Public Prosecutors Office (Chief Prosecutor of Medical Affairs at Investigation Division)
Apr 2012	Registered as a private practitioner
Jul 2014	Graduate study, University of California, Berkeley, School of Law (LL.M.)
Sep 2017	Member of "Study Group on Appropriate Medical Information," Health Policy Bureau of the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare
May 2018	Member of "Study Group on advertisements of massage and shiatsu practitioners, acupuncturists, moxibustion practitioners and judo therapists," Health Policy Bureau of the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare
Sep 2023	Member of "Subcommittee on Medical Function Information Provision System, Medical Advertisement, and Other Related Affairs," Health Policy Bureau of the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare

Publications

Japan: Trends & Developments	Chambers and Partners	Mar 2021
Legal Matters regarding Life Sciences and Health Care - Navigation regarding Regulations, Intellectual Properties and Corporate Matters (Second Edition)	Shojihomu Co., Ltd.	Oct 2020
Introduction to Advertising & Marketing Law	CHUOKEIZAI-SHA, INC	Jun 2020
Government Investigations 2020 (Japan Chapter)	Lexology Getting The Deal Through	Sep 2019
Getting the Deal Through - Government Investigations 2019 (Japan Chapter)		Sep 2018
Legal Matters regarding Life Sciences and Health Care - Navigation regarding Regulations, Intellectual Properties and Corporate Matters	Shojihomu Co., Ltd.	Sep 2018
Getting the Deal Through - Government Investigations 2018 (Japan Chapter)		Sep 2017

Lectures

Series of seminars on Government Investigation & Crisis Management - Second seminar : Administrative Monetary Penalties for Misleading Representations under the Unjustifiable Premiums Act and for False or Exaggerated Advertising under the Pharmaceutical and Medical Device Act	Anderson Mori & Tomotsune	Jun 10, 2020
International Consumer Protection Developments Japan, Singapore and Taiwan	American Bar Association	Nov 30, 2018

Achievements

Apr 18, 2024	The Best Lawyers in Japan™ • Best Lawyers: Ones to Watch in Japan™ (2025 Edition)
Jan 17, 2024	The Legal 500 Asia Pacific 2024
Apr 20, 2023	The Best Lawyers in Japan™ 2024
Jan 11, 2023	The Legal 500 Asia Pacific 2023
Apr 14, 2022	Best Lawyers 2023
Jan 13, 2022	The Legal 500 Asia Pacific 2022
Apr 15, 2021	Best Lawyers 2022
Jan 13, 2021	The Legal 500 Asia Pacific 2021
Apr 9, 2020	Best Lawyers 2021

Professional Admissions

Professional and Academic Associations

Dai-ichi Tokyo Bar Association

Languages

Japanese (first language)	English
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