

Kenneth Schoetz

Vice President, Healthcare Association of Western & Central New York

Ken Schoetz is Vice President of the Healthcare Association of Western and Central New York, representing over 40 hospital and hospital system members located in WNY, the Finger Lakes, and New York's Southern Tier.

For more than four decades, he has pursued an extensive and wide-ranging career in law, government and public policy. He served as Erie County Attorney, Director of the Buffalo Office of the New York State Attorney General, Chairman of the Peace Bridge Authority, trustee and deputy mayor of the Village of Hamburg and held executive positions under three New York state governors with Empire State Development. His early experience included work on Capitol Hill with Reps. Jack Kemp and Richard Gephardt.

Before leading HAWCNY, he was president and CEO of the Western New York Healthcare Association. He also served as general counsel and executive vice president of development for Innovative Health Services of America. In that capacity, he advised physician staffing companies, urgent care centers and non-emergency transportation companies.

His work as a private and public attorney includes matters of significant public import – a \$500 million judgement against American tobacco companies, negotiating Erie County's NFL lease with the Buffalo Bills, successfully representing the City of Buffalo against litigation to halt construction of Pilot Field, and defeating a class action claim by the Seneca Nation of Indians seeking ownership of Grand Island, NY.

A native of Western New York, he is a graduate of Williams College and the University of Buffalo Law School where he was editor-in-chief of the *Buffalo Law Review*.