

35th Annual Health Law Conference
April 18-19, 2024 • Royal Sonesta Hotel Houston • Houston, TX
April 18-19, 2024 • Live Webcast

Thursday Morning, Apr. 18, 2024

Presiding Officer:

Yvonne K. Puig, Norton Rose Fulbright US LLP - Austin, TX

7:30 am In Houston Only	<p>Registration Opens</p> <p>Includes continental breakfast.</p>
8:20 am	<p>Welcoming Remarks</p>
8:30 am 0.75 hr	<p>Significant Federal and State Policy Disruptors: Impacts on the Private Healthcare Marketplace</p> <p>Hospitals and Pharmacy Benefit Managers (PBMs) have been under increased scrutiny from policymakers in Austin and Washington for their perceived role in rising healthcare costs and lack of transparency. Policymakers are debating legislation that could have a significant impact on the private healthcare marketplace. Discuss current federal and state regulatory and legislative proposals related to the hospital and PBM industry sectors including enhanced price transparency, government price controls, limitations on rebates, and the elimination of site-neutral payments.</p> <p>Moderator: Michelle "Missy" Apodaca, Apodaca Advocacy Group, LLC - Austin, TX</p> <p>Panelists: Freddy Warner, Memorial Hermann Health System - Houston, TX Katherine Yoder, Parkland Health and Hospital System - Dallas, TX</p>
9:15 am 1.00 hr	<p>Managed Care Payment Issues and Litigation Update</p> <p>An overview of trends, practices, and tips across roles in disputes between physicians/health systems and payers, particularly in navigating the provider/hospital services agreements. This presentation includes highlighted opportunities for improved positioning when resolving such disputes.</p> <p>Mackenzie Wallace, Thompson Coburn LLP - Dallas, TX Jeff Wurzburg, Norton Rose Fulbright US LLP - San Antonio, TX</p>
10:15 am	<p>15-Minute Break</p>
10:30 am 0.75 hr	<p>The Good, The Bad, and The Ugly of Cybersecurity</p> <p>Cybersecurity continues to presents itself as a significant obstacle for the health care industry, both in terms of compliance and operational aspects. To combat this constantly evolving threat, it is imperative to establish a robust cybersecurity program that encompasses prevention, detection, and mitigation strategies. Delve into the legal considerations and optimal approaches for implementing internal controls and best practices, thereby safeguarding your organization against potential data breaches.</p> <p>William A. Phillips Jr., University Health - San Antonio, TX Serina Rivela, University Health - San Antonio, TX</p>

11:15 am 0.75 hr	<p>Workplace Safety and Violence Prevention: A Changing Reality, Both Operationally and Legally</p> <p>Discuss two public health systems' efforts to fight the rise in workplace violence, address challenging patient behaviors, and create a safe workplace for nurses and other healthcare workers.</p> <p>Jacqueline Brock, Harris Health System - Houston, TX Brad Nitschke, Parkland Health & Hospital System - Dallas, TX</p>
12:00 pm In Houston Only	<p>Pick Up Lunch</p> <p>Included in registration.</p>


Thursday Afternoon, Apr. 18, 2024

Presiding Officer:

Carolynn R. Jones, Harris Health System - Houston, TX

LUNCHEON PRESENTATION

12:20 pm 0.75 hr	<p>Employment Law Considerations for Health Care Transactions</p> <p>First the basics, then the details. What you need to know about employment law before you do a health care transaction.</p> <p>Marissa Marquez, Houston Methodist Hospital - Houston, TX Linda C. Schoonmaker, Seyfarth Shaw LLP - Houston, TX</p>
1:05 pm	<p>10-Minute Break</p>
1:15 pm 1.00 hr	<p>Trends and Innovations in Managed Care and Healthcare Delivery</p> <p>The regulatory changes, COVID-19 impact, and the ever-increasing complexity of the cost landscape drive innovative approaches to healthcare. Discuss trends and strategies in hospital and ambulatory care to improve patient outcomes and provide high-value solutions with an emphasis on care coordination and patient satisfaction.</p> <p>Sheryl T. Dacso, Greenberg Traurig, LLP - Houston, TX Anna G. Taranova, University Health - San Antonio, TX</p>
2:15 pm 0.75 hr	<p>Healthcare Transactions: How to Ensure Compliance and Successfully Complete the Deal!</p> <p>Modern healthcare transactions are complex and increasingly involving more parties and more issues than other transactions. Discuss real world issues regarding transactions, addressing compliance concerns, and pitfalls to watch for.</p> <p>Moderator: M. Ramana Rameswaran, Katten Muchin Rosenman LLP - Washington, DC Panelists: Jonathan A. Porter, Husch Blackwell LLP - Washington, DC Nancy Weisling, The Braff Group - Chicago, IL</p>
3:00 pm	<p>10-Minute Break</p>

<p>3:10 pm 1.00 hr</p>	<p>Where Have all the Medical Staff Gone, Why Are They Going, and What Are the Effects of a Decreased Force?</p> <p>Hospitals, urgent care facilities, clinics, and imaging centers are all experiencing staffing issues. This staffing crisis significantly affects patient care, workplace satisfaction, and the bottom line of providers. Discuss the various reasons for the shortage, its real effects, and what providers should be doing in response.</p> <p>Kathy L. Poppitt, King & Spalding - Austin, TX Hilary H. Young, Joy & Young LLP - Austin, TX</p>
<p>4:10 pm 1.00 hr 0.50 hr ethics</p>	<p>Enforcement Trends Across the Healthcare Industry</p> <p>The federal government and various states continue to investigate and litigate healthcare fraud cases across all sectors of the industry. Hear an overview of the latest trends in enforcement, including insight from a leading government attorney, and learn what the new theories and trends mean for 2024 and beyond.</p> <p>James Gillingham, U.S. Attorney's Office for the Eastern District of Texas - Tyler, TX Wilson G. Jones, Bracewell LLP - Dallas, TX B. Scott McBride, Morgan, Lewis & Bockius LLP - Houston, TX</p>
<p>5:10 pm</p>	<p>Adjourn</p>
<p>In Houston Only</p>	<p>Networking Reception (from 5:10 p.m. - 6:10 p.m.)</p> <p>Join us for drinks and hors d'oeuvres with program faculty and attendees.</p> <p>Thank You to Our Sponsor</p> 

Friday Morning, Apr. 19, 2024

Presiding Officer:

Kathy L. Poppitt, King & Spalding - Austin, TX

In-House Counsel Hot Topics (Limited to in-house counsel only)

<p>7:00 am In Houston Only 1.50 hrs</p>	<p>In-House Counsel Hot Topics (Limited to in-house counsel only)</p> <p>Limited to in-house counsel only. Participate in an interactive discussion and sharing among in-house counsel panelists and participants. Hear about hot topics for in-house counsel, including updates on state and federal legislation, legal operational matters, and health law regulatory and enforcement matters.</p> <p><i>This presentation will not be recorded or broadcast via the live webcast. It will only be available to those in-house counsel who attend in person.</i></p> <p>Moderator: Lance Lightfoot, Texas Children's Hospital - Houston, TX</p> <p>Panelists: W. Christopher Shea, Memorial Hermann Health System - Houston, TX L. Sara Thomas, Harris Health System, Office of the Harris County Attorney - Houston, TX Steve Wohleb, Texas Hospital Association - Austin, TX</p>
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8:30 am In Houston Only	In-House Counsel Hot Topics Adjourns
8:30 am In Houston Only	Conference Room Opens Includes continental breakfast.
9:00 am 0.75 hr	Legal and Operational Challenges for Providers: Two Years after <i>Dobbs</i> This presentation describes and addresses the many challenges facing reproductive health providers in the almost two years since the Supreme Court’s <i>Dobbs</i> decision. The speakers discuss various developments around reproductive health care, with a particular focus on operational challenges and hurdles for physicians and providers. Adam H. Laughton, Greenberg Traurig, LLP - Houston, TX Judy Levison, Houston, TX
9:45 am 0.75 hr	Navigating the Waters of Digital Health: Structuring and Operational Considerations Hear a discussion of advanced case study and legal risks and considerations when structuring and operationalizing various types of digital healthcare arrangements such as telehealth and/or remote patient monitoring. Consider state and federal regulatory requirements such as HIPAA, state privacy and security laws, licensing requirements, corporate practice of medicine prohibitions, and data ownership, data sharing and cybersecurity risks. Moderator: Jennifer L. Rangel, Holland & Knight LLP - Austin, TX Panelists: Lisa M. Frenkel, Children's Health - Dallas, TX Elizabeth Rogers, Michael Best & Friedrich LLP - Austin, TX
10:30 am	15-Minute Break
10:45 am 1.00 hr	Operational Impact of Significant Cases Take an in-depth look at the key legal developments and significant cases affecting healthcare operations, including credentialing and liability issues, which impact health systems and other providers. The written materials represent a comprehensive annual survey of noteworthy cases from around the country. Yvonne K. Puig, Norton Rose Fulbright US LLP - Austin, TX
11:45 am 1.00 hr	Hospital Operational Opportunities and Challenges Hospitals are at the intersection of the nation’s political, social, and health policy. While navigating that reality, they still must meet their core responsibilities as providers and employers. Explore the opportunities and challenges that hospitals face due to these current conditions. Trent Krienke, Reed, Claymon, Meeker, Krienke & Spurck, PLLC - Austin, TX Daphne Walker, JPS Health Network - Ft. Worth, TX Kenya S. Woodruff, Katten Muchin Rosenman LLP - Dallas, TX
12:45 pm	Adjourn