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CONFERENCE Medical Staff Leaders and the Law 2013

Speaker Bios

Lowell Brown is a partner in the health care practice group at Arent Fox. He advises hospitals, health systems, long-term care facilities, medical groups and other health care provider organizations in business, regulatory and medico-legal matters, with an emphasis on laws relating to operational issues, including the design and implementation of compliance programs, practitioner credentialing, peer review, disciplinary hearings, Medicare certification, licensing and accreditation issues, and related policies and procedures. He is an author of multiple articles and papers, and frequently is a guest lecturer to medical staff organizations, professionals and his peers.

Debra Albin-Riley has significant experience before judges, juries, and other decision makers, which allows her to take matters to trial or skillfully negotiate positive resolutions for her clients prior to trial. Debra's practice focuses on complex multiparty litigation, including complicated health care matters, sophisticated contract disputes, class actions, consumer fraud, product liability, and construction cases. She has represented clients in the health care, pharmaceutical and financial industries in trials, arbitrations and mediations throughout the country, including matters in California, New York, Texas, and Illinois.

Mary Carter Andrues' practice focuses on white collar criminal defense; internal corporate investigations; anti-corruption and bribery compliance, defense and investigations; international and domestic export compliance and enforcement; health care fraud and abuse; and complex commercial litigation. She has extensive experience defending complex white collar criminal cases, particularly in matters involving the Foreign Corrupt Practices Act, export enforcement, including the Arms Export Control Act, International Traffic in Arms Regulations, International Emergency Economic Powers Act, Export Administration Act, and health care fraud and abuse.

Sarah Benator is counsel in the health care practice group at Arent Fox. She advises a broad range of health care clients, including hospitals, health systems, long-term care facilities, medical groups, and durable medical equipment suppliers in regulatory, operational, and medico-legal matters. She regularly advises health care organizations on peer review matters, practitioner credentialing, disciplinary hearings, state licensing, Medicare certification, Joint Commission accreditation, medical staff bylaws, EMTALA, governing body bylaws, bioethics, medical records, and consent and confidentiality.

Jon S. Bouker serves as co-manager of the government relations practice group at Arent Fox. He has extensive experience in the US Congress, where he worked as committee counsel to Congressman Henry Waxman (D-CA), now ranking member of the House Energy and Commerce Committee (with jurisdiction over heath care matters), and chief counsel to Congresswoman Eleanor Holmes Norton (D-DC). Jon represents a wide variety of health care clients, including hospitals and other providers, trade associations, international health advocacy organizations and patients' groups, before Congress, the White House, federal agencies and local governments.

Ray Casciari is the Chief Medical Officer at St. Joseph Hospital of Orange, where he has held the position since 2007. He is triple board certified in internal medicine, pulmonology and critical care medicine. He is a past Chief of Staff and has held multiple medical staff leadership positions.













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Erin Muellenberg is counsel in the health care practice group at Arent Fox. She advises a broad range of health care clients, including hospitals, surgery centers, health systems, and physicians on regulatory matters, medical staff matters, bylaws, general and focused practitioner reviews, external reviews, peer review hearings and physician employment matters. She is a frequent speaker to medical staff professionals and medical staff organizations.

Susanna Hathaway Murphy is counsel in the health care practice group at Arent Fox. Susie advises a broad range of health care clients, including hospitals, health systems, medical groups, health plans, local government entities and long-term care facilities in regulatory and business transactional matters. She regularly counsels clients regarding adverse events, licensing and clinical operational issues, and interfaces with regulatory agencies.

Peggy Nakamura, RN, MBA, JD, DFASHRM, CPHRM is vice president, chief risk officer and associate counsel for Adventist Health. In this role, she oversees a comprehensive Risk Management Department, including self-administered/self-insured programs in workers' compensation, professional, general and managed care liability. She also regularly lectures on the topics of consent, enterprise risk management and other operational issues.

Jane Zack Simon has been a Deputy Attorney General with the California Attorney General's Office, Department of Justice for more than 20 years. Jane has worked in the Health Quality Enforcement Section (HQE) in San Francisco since 1992. She represents a number of health licensing boards, primarily the Medical Board of California. Jane has worked closely with Medical Board investigative staff and has served as Lead Prosecutor under the Board's Vertical Enforcement Program. She has worked extensively on issues pertaining to Section 805 reporting and the relationship between peer review and licensing boards.

Dr. Lisa Vasak is Chief Medical Officer, and past Chief of Staff at St. John's Health Center in Santa Monica, California, and practices as an internist at the California Health and Longevity Institute. Dr. Vasak has held multiple medical staff leadership positions and has served as an associate clinical professor of medicine at UCLA. She interacts daily with the executive management team and medical staff and counsels her colleagues and staff on a variety of challenging issues.

Jim Watson serves as Deputy General Counsel for St. Joseph Health ("SJH"). In his role, Jim is responsible for advising executive leadership and governing bodies on all legal issues related to SJH; proactively facilitating achievement of strategic and operational objectives and identifying, mitigating and managing risk. He supports the General Counsel in overseeing all legal services, ensuring that relevant legal and regulatory issues are understood and that the legal perspective is integrated into the development of policies, practices and strategies. Jim provides primary oversight of attorneys and staff providing legal support to SJH and its ministries.











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He also manages the day-to-day operations of the Office of General Counsel which maintains an aggregate caseload of over 500 open matters. Jim graduated from Loyola Law School in Los Angeles. He also holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in Political Science from Hofstra University in New York. He is a member of the California State Bar, California Society for Healthcare Attorneys, American Health Lawyers Association and the Association of Corporate Counsel. Jim has proudly participated in several formation programs sponsored by SJH including Mission & Mentoring, Ministry Leadership Center and the Public Juridic Personality collaborative program.

Jade Kelly is an associate in the Los Angeles office, where she is a member of the health care practice group. She advises health care organizations on regulatory, transactional, and corporate compliance matters, and has worked on numerous health care business transactions, including setting-up health care entities and integrated delivery systems, mergers and acquisitions, and negotiating and drafting agreements for management and professional services. Jade also has extensive experience in counseling large institutional providers and other entities regarding compliance with privacy and security, substance abuse and mental health laws and regulations.

