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November 6, 2017

The Honorable Laura Garza Jimenez
Nueces County Attorney
Nueces County Courthouse
901 Leopard, Ste 207
Corpus Christi, Texas 78401-3680

BY HAND DELIVERY

Re: Proposal to Represent Nueces County and The Nueces County Hospital
District in Litigation Against the Manufacturers and Distributors of Opioids

Dear Ms. Garza Jimenez:

Enclosed with this letter you will find seven hard copies of the Proposal submitted by the following law firms to represent Nueces County and The Nueces County Hospital District in litigation against the manufacturers and distributors of opioids: The Lanier Firm; The Law Office of James B. Ragan; Reich & Binstock, LLP; Richard Schechter, P.C.; and The Harris Law Firm.

We appreciate your providing us the opportunity to represent the County and the Hospital District and hopefully we will have the chance to work with you on this very important issue.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to give me a call. With kindest regards I am,

Very truly yours,

LAW OFFICE OF RICHARD SCHECHTER, P.C.

Richard Schechter

RS/ay
Encl.

PROPOSAL FOR NUECES COUNTY REGARDING PROSECUTION OF CASE AGAINST MANUFACTURERS AND DISTRIBUTORS OF OPIOIDS

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PROPOSAL TO REPRESENT NUECES COUNTY AND THE NUECES COUNTY HOSPITAL DISTRICT IN LITIGATION AGAINST OPIOID MANUFACTURERS AND DISTRIBUTORS

BACKGROUND

On October 26, 2017, President Donald Trump, speaking from the East Room of the White House, noted "citizens across our country are currently dealing with the worst drug crisis in American history" and declared the opioid epidemic to be a "National Public Health Emergency." In his speech President Trump stated that he "will be looking at the potential of the federal government bringing major lawsuits against bad actors" and reminded the country that "[e]ach of us is responsible to look out for our loved ones, our communities, our children, our neighbors and our own health." It is in this spirit of governmental protection of the community that we urge Nueces County and The Nueces County Hospital District to retain our team to prosecute causes of action against the manufacturers and distributors of opioids for their role in the epidemic that now constitutes "the worst drug crisis in American history."

While we commonly think of this crisis as being concentrated in "Appalachia" and perhaps some of the New England states, in fact, we believe opioid abuse is an issue here in Nueces County. According to a study published by Dr. Jane Maxwell at the University of Texas at Austin School of Social Work, the overdose rate in Nueces County due to the full range of the opioids is 10.4 persons per 100,000, double the rate found in Bexar, Harris and Tarrant counties, and significantly higher than the rate in Dallas County.

Exhibit 3. 2014 Overdose Death Rates per 100,000 in Texas Counties Due to Heroin, Other Opiates, Other Synthetic Opiates, and Methadone

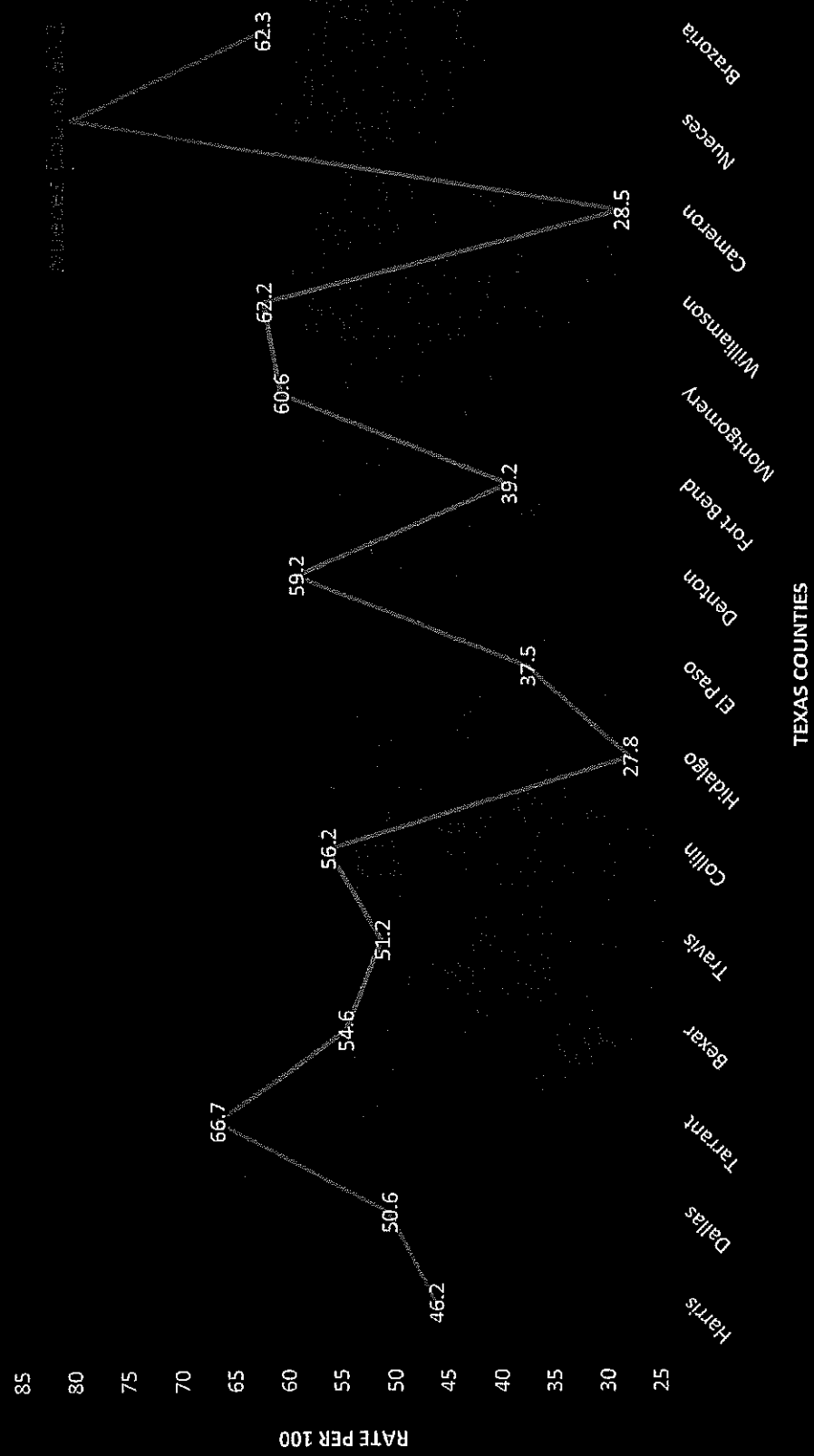
Bexar County	5.1
Collin County	3.7
Dallas County	6.8
Denton County	2.8
El Paso County	3.2
Harris County	5.1
Nueces County	10.4
Tarrant County	4.9
Travis County	2.3

Counties not listed had unreliable rates

Source: CDC Wonder, Data downloaded on March 1, 2016

The Center for Disease Control's Vital Signs report, published in July 2017, found that in 2016, there were over 80 prescriptions for opioids issued per 100 persons in Nueces County. That means that enough prescriptions were issued here to provide almost one whole prescription to each man, woman and child in the County. As shown in the following graph of the 15 most populous counties in Texas, this prescription rate earned Nueces County the unfortunate title of Number One.

2016 Prescription Rate of Opioids Per 100 Persons



THE DEFENDANTS

1. THE MANUFACTURERS

There are several manufacturers the County and Hospital District should consider suing. Among them are:

- **Purdue Pharma**, which manufactures OxyContin, MS Contin, Dilaudid, Butrans Hyslinga ER and Tarioniq ER. There is strong evidence that the Purdue marketing campaign, begun in the 90s, is one of the driving forces behind the opioid epidemic. Since 2009, Purdue has generated between \$2 and \$3 billion annually in the sales of OxyContin alone.
- **Endo Pharmaceuticals**, which manufactures Percocet, Opana and Opana ER. In March 2017 an FDA advisory committee voted to recommend the removal of Opana ER from the market because the risk of addiction exceeds the benefits of the medication. On July 6, 2017, Endo voluntarily agreed to follow the advisory committee's recommendation. Opana ER generated more than \$1 billion in revenue for Endo Pharmaceuticals in 2010 and 2013.
- **Janssen Pharmaceuticals**, a subsidiary of **Johnson & Johnson**, which manufactures Duragesic, Cucynta and Nucynta ER. In 2009 alone gross revenues for the sale of Duragesic exceeded \$1 billion.
- **Insys Therapeutics**, which manufactures Subsys, a spray designed for treatment of cancer patients suffering from excruciating pain. On October 26th its founder, John Kapoor, was indicted for paying bribes and kickbacks to doctors to prescribe this medication to patients without cancer. Kapoor was one of many executives of Insys who have been indicted with respect to the marketing of Subsys. One of Insys's employees has already pled guilty to wire fraud. In 2016 Insys reported in excess of \$215 million in profits.

There are other manufacturers worth investigating with respect to their roles in Nueces County, including Teva Pharmaceuticals, Cephalon and Actavis, but the four listed should receive primary focus.

2. THE DISTRIBUTORS

There are three primary distributors of opioids who account for almost 90% of all revenues from the distribution of prescription medications in the United States. They include:

- **McKesson Corporation**. Headquartered in San Francisco, McKesson generated almost \$200 billion in revenues in fiscal year 2017. In January of 2017 McKesson, after a three year investigation by the United States government, agreed to pay a \$150 million fine for failure to develop and utilize an effective system to detect suspicious orders from pharmacies for painkillers such as Oxycodone. This was the second such fine paid by McKesson, which in 2008 paid a \$13.25 million fine to settle claims made by the DEA that it failed to report suspicious orders from pharmacies around the country.

- **Cardinal Health.** This Dublin, Ohio based firm employs over 50,000 individuals serving over 100,000 locations, and is ranked among the top 25 on the Fortune 500. In 2008 it paid \$34 million in civil penalties to settle DEA allegations that it failed to report suspicious orders of Hydrocodone. When a subsequent DEA investigation was launched, Cardinal Health teamed up with McKesson and AmerisourceBergen and spent over \$13 million lobbying Congress to pass Congressman Tom Marino's "Ensuring Patient Access and Effective Drug Enforcement Act". This Act and the lobbying efforts of the distributors was the subject of an October 2017 joint Washington Post/60 Minutes exposé that revealed how this statute was actually designed to deter DEA efforts to investigate opioid abuse. Rep. Marino, who had been nominated by President Trump as "Drug Czar", subsequently withdrew his name from consideration. Recently Cardinal paid the states of Florida, Maryland and New York \$44 million to settle claims it failed to properly monitor distribution of opioids in those three states.
- **AmerisourceBergen.** With over \$145 billion in annual revenue, AmerisourceBergen is headquartered in Valley Forge, Pennsylvania. It employs approximately 19,000 persons and is ranked number 11 on the Fortune 500 list. Late last year it paid the state of West Virginia \$16 million to settle claims it had improperly failed to monitor the distribution of opioids in that state.

3. KEY OPINION LEADERS

Some of the lawsuits filed around the country have named as defendants physicians who, at the behest of some or all of the manufacturers, in exchange for money, prestige and/or power, advocated aggressive treatment of chronic pain with opioids. Among those who have been sued are Drs. Russell Portenoy, Perry Fine, Scott Fishman and Lynn Webster. None of these physicians lives in Texas, and it is unclear whether personal jurisdiction could be maintained over any of them.

4. RICHARD SACKLER

Sackler was the President of PurduePharma until 2003, when he resigned, although he stayed on as co-chairman of the board. There is evidence that Sackler (and other members of the family) were intimately involved in the OxyContin marketing misrepresentations. Sackler, it turns out, is now a resident of Austin, Texas. If research revealed a sufficient factual basis for alleging causes of action against him personally, this case could be held in state court.

POTENTIAL CAUSES OF ACTION

1. THE MANUFACTURERS

At the end of the day, the claim against the manufacturers is one for fraudulent and deceptive misrepresentations. In order to make more money, they used misrepresentation to create a demand for pain medications and then knowingly misrepresented and/or just plain lied about the safety and efficacy of long-term use of opioids for treatment of non-cancer pain. This was done in a variety of ways, through physician endorsements, phony professional organizations or fake patient advocacy

groups, as well as directly through corporate advertising. Regardless, at the end of the day, the goal of the misrepresentations and deception was to convince doctors it was safe for patients to receive opioids for the long-term care and treatment of chronic pain.

There are a number of possible causes of action that could be brought. We believe the most viable Texas-law claims against the manufacturers include:

- ▶ Violations of the Texas Deceptive Trade Practices Act;
- ▶ Fraud/Misrepresentation;
- ▶ Unjust Enrichment;
- ▶ Negligence and Gross Negligence; and
- ▶ Civil Conspiracy.

2. THE DISTRIBUTORS

The basic claim against the distributors is that they did not properly monitor the distribution of these medications. They allowed suspiciously large orders to be filled by pharmacies and thus opened the tap for the flooding of the geographic market with opioids. Such facts raise claims of:

- ▶ Violation of the federal Controlled Substance Act and its implementing regulations; and
- ▶ Negligence and Gross Negligence.

Other claims are theoretically available, such as for Civil RICO violations or nuisance, but we are uncertain of their realistic viability.

ELEMENTS OF DAMAGE

The County plays many different roles in serving its diverse population of over 350,000 residents. The County is both an employer and an insurer, employing and providing employees, retirees and their dependents health care benefits. To the extent employees are injured in the course and scope of their employment, the County provides worker's compensation benefits. The County works 24/7 to protect its citizens, through both the Sheriff's office and the work of its five Constables. Additionally, the County provides a jail for those arrested. The County runs a justice system, employing prosecutors, public defenders, judges and medical examiners. Finally, a separate but affiliated governmental entity, the Nueces County Hospital District, is a health care provider that in 2016 provided over \$110 million of medical care to the County's most vulnerable residents.

These different roles mean the County and Hospital District have encountered the opioid epidemic in a variety of ways. Most obviously, both have incurred the costs of prescription opioids and treatment for opioid addiction and its sequelae through their worker's compensation and health insurance systems. To the extent the taxpayers have funded treatment for the addicted or children of the addicted born with neonatal abstinence syndrome through the Hospital District, the County's taxpayers have borne the cost of this crisis. The County is also incurring costs as part of the emergency

medical services that it provides in conjunction with the City, including manpower and equipment costs for calls to save those overdosing as well as costs to provide first responders NARCAN/NAXALONE. The County has also suffered in its criminal justice system as a result of the conduct of the opioid manufacturers , including extra police costs, additional costs to operate the jail, the employment of prosecutors and the provision of defense counsel to the indigent and the additional costs of judges and administrative assistants. All of these costs are clearly elements of damage that should be pursued. In short, Nueces County and the Hospital District, at a minimum, should pursue reimbursement for the following elements of damages:

Medical Costs

- ▶ Opioid prescription costs in excess of what was medically efficacious and safe;
- ▶ Cost of opioid prescriptions provided to worker's compensation claimants;
- ▶ Cost of medical care rendered to health insurance beneficiaries as a result of inappropriate prescribing of opioids, including for treatment of addiction;
- ▶ Cost of medical care provided by the Hospital District to those suffering from opioid addiction;
- ▶ Cost of medical care provided to newborns suffering from neonatal abstinence syndrome; and
- ▶ Cost of medical services to jail inmates as a result of opioid issues.

First Responder Costs

- ▶ Additional cost of policing related to opioid epidemic;
- ▶ Cost for EMT services related to responding to opioid-related calls; and
- ▶ Cost of supplying NARCAN/NAXALONE to first responders.

Jail Operation Costs

- ▶ Cost of incarcerating persons accused of crimes related to opioid addiction and
- ▶ Cost of providing health care to those incarcerated with opioid issues.

Criminal Justice Costs

- ▶ Costs of prosecuting and defending those with opioid addiction issues;
- ▶ Cost of operating the drug court;
- ▶ Medical examiner costs related to opioid prosecutions; and
- ▶ Cost of monitoring those on probation, including drug testing.

Social Problems

- ▶ Foster care costs;
- ▶ Costs to provide services to those homeless due to opioid problems; and
- ▶ Cost to community to the extent there are areas of the County that need clean-up or reconstruction as a result of opioid addiction to residents.

Unjust Enrichment Damages

- ▶ To the extent monies have been paid to the drug manufacturers for opioids, the County and Hospital District are entitled to claw back all those funds.

There may well be additional damages the County and Hospital District have incurred that will be more fully revealed in the course of our investigation and conversations.

THE TEAM

The potential defendants in this litigation include some of the country's largest companies, corporations that earn literally billions of dollars from the manufacture and distribution of opioids. They are unlikely to simply rollover and give up. The team hired by Nueces County and the Nueces County Hospital District should bring three things: extensive litigation experience handling cases against the largest corporations in the country; a diverse skill set including trial, discovery and appellate abilities as well as a willingness to spend whatever time is needed with County and Hospital District employees to ensure no element of damage is left unexamined; and a history of trustworthiness and integrity. We believe our team meets all these criteria.

The Lanier Firm, located in Houston and with offices in New York, Los Angeles and Oklahoma City, is led by W. Mark Lanier. Mark has a long history of successful jury verdicts in litigation against pharmaceutical and medical device manufacturers, including a total of \$1.5 billion in verdicts in two 2016 jury trials against DePuy Orthopedics, a subsidiary of Johnson & Johnson, on behalf of a total of 11 individual clients. These verdicts join the \$9 billion verdict he obtained against Takeda Pharmaceutical and Eli Lilly over the diabetes drug Actos and a \$250 million verdict in Texas for an individual plaintiff against Merck related to the pain killer Vioxx. The success of The Lanier Firm in prosecuting these cases has led to its being appointed to leadership roles in many pharmaceutical and product liability multi-district litigation cases. *(For a detailed list, see Footnote No. 2 in the Lanier Law Firm bio under their tab in this book)*. In addition to his legal work, Mark is the founder of the 100,000 volume Lanier Theological Library, which contains one of the nation's largest private theological collections, and he teaches a weekly Sunday school class on biblical literacy to approximately 700 parishioners at the Champion Forest Baptist Church.

James Ragan, of The Law Office of James Ragan located on Coleman here in Corpus Christi, has been selected a Texas Super Lawyer for the past 7 years, and has received Martindale Hubble's highest AV Rating for many years. Ragan is an experienced trial lawyer, having been Board Certified in Personal Injury Trial law since 1986. He focuses on product liability claims, and has handled cases around the United States against the world's leading car manufacturers, tire manufacturers and others. Jim brings a wealth of trial and discovery experience against companies with a reputation for litigating every case to a conclusion. He has tried well over a hundred jury trials, handling cases in venues across Texas, New Mexico, Arizona, Nevada and Louisiana. When not working, Jim devotes his waking hours to fighting and improving the lives of children with pediatric cancers through the Triumph Over Kid Cancer Foundation established in Corpus Christi by his son, James (5/7/1993 – 2/17/2014), and his daughter Mecklin.

Reich & Binstock's founding partner, Dennis Reich brings over 30 years of experience in multi-district litigation, and has served on the Plaintiff's Steering Committee in numerous MDL and class action cases, including in cases against pharmaceutical manufacturers where addiction was an issue. In one such case, Dennis represented hundreds of laxative addicted women in Nueces County and obtained a multi-million dollar recovery against manufacturers of the products, including Purdue Pharma (also the developer of OxyContin) and Novartis. Dennis has also represented numerous governmental entities, most recently serving as lead counsel for Harris County, the City of Houston and the Metropolitan Transit Authority in their suit against British Petroleum for lost sales tax revenues as a result of the BP Horizon oil spill, and was co-lead counsel in *Garza v. Amerada Hess*, in which he represented 5,000 property owners in Nueces County who were exposed to excessive levels of benzene and hexavalent chromium from releases caused by refineries that lacked adequate monitoring and emission control systems. One of the lawyers who serves as of-counsel to his firm, Rachel Rose, serves as a Professor at the Baylor College of Medicine and teaches bioethics. Among the subjects about which she has lectured around the United States is the opioid epidemic.

Richard Schechter of The Law Office of Richard Schechter, P.C. has developed and tried over 100 cases involving the full range of complex civil matters in his 38 years of practice. He has represented clients from across the United States and around the world in courtrooms from Florida to California in all types of personal injury and product liability claims, medical negligence cases, DTPA causes of action involving allegations of fraud and misrepresentations, and federal statutory claims. His work includes litigation against the world's leading car manufacturers and oil and refining companies. In addition to his trial work, Richard has also handled numerous appeals, winning before both the Texas Supreme Court and the Fifth Circuit *en banc*. Richard is board certified in personal injury trial law by the Texas Board of Legal Specialization, is AV rated by Martindale-Hubbell and has been selected as a Texas SuperLawyer® every year since the award was initiated. When not working Schechter spends time with organizations providing educational and job training opportunities for all, including having served as Chair and a member of the Houston Community College Board of Trustees, a member of the SER Board of Trustees and a member of the University of St. Thomas Board of Trustees Student Affairs Sub-Committee.

Michael Harris, founder of The Harris Law Firm, brings a unique background and skill set to the Team. Prior to graduating law school, Harris spent 13 years as an officer with the City of Houston Police Department, ten of those years as a Sergeant. His distinguished service earned him selection as HPD's "Officer of the Year" and he was a recipient of the "Outstanding Texan" award. This training and experience, combined with his years of civil litigation, enable Michael to not only understand the full breadth of the challenges posed by the opioid epidemic to law enforcement officers, but also what to look for in police reports to determine whether the crimes involved may be linked to addiction. During his tenure as a police officer Michael personally observed the damage done to individuals and families by addiction, and as a consequence he dedicates his free time to serving on the Board of the Star of Hope Mission in Houston, where aiding the homeless in their recovery from substance abuse is one of the main goals.

THE PROPOSAL

Counsel propose to represent Nueces County and the Nueces County Hospital District on a contingent fee basis. The Team's attorney's fee would equal 25% of the value of the recovery made by the County and Hospital District. Additionally, the County and Hospital District would reimburse The Team for The Team's expenses in prosecuting this case out of the County and Hospital District's share of the recovery.

I. FIRM EXPERIENCE

The Lanier Firm

- \$1.5 billion in jury verdicts against DePuy Orthopaedics, subsidiary of Johnson & Johnson¹

DePuy Orthopaedics Inc. (“DePuy”) created the Pinnacle hip implant with a metal design socket, rather than a safer ceramic or polyethylene design. The poorly designed product was implanted in tens of thousands of patients worldwide. Following the filing of thousands of lawsuits across the country, the litigation concerning Pinnacle hip implants was consolidated as *In Re: DePuy Orthopedics Inc. Pinnacle Hip Implant Products Liability Litigation*, MDL Case No. 3:11-md-02244 in the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Texas.

Facing one of the largest companies in the world and a blue-chip lineup of defense firms, including Locke Lord LLP, Skadden Arps Slate Meagher & Flom LLP, and Kirkland & Ellis LLP, Mark Lanier and The Lanier Law Firm were selected to prosecute the patient claims in a series of bellwether trials. Notwithstanding the army of opposing lawyers and experts, the results have been overwhelmingly favorable for Lanier, the firm, and its clients. In March 2016, a federal jury returned a verdict of **over \$500 million** in favor of the firm’s 5 clients. Again, in December 2016, another federal jury returned a verdict of **over \$1 billion** in favor of the firm’s six clients at trial.

Arriving at these landmark verdicts included international discovery, thousands of hours of document review, legal research and writing, and coordination with dozens of law firms across the country. Lanier and the firm had the experience, resources, and professionalism to achieve these record setting results, which have prepared it to assist Nueces County in this matter.

- \$9 billion verdict against Takeda Pharmaceutical and Eli Lilly over the diabetes drug Actos

In another milestone pharmaceutical case, Mark Lanier and the firm were selected to prosecute claims against Takeda Pharmaceutical Co. and Eli Lilly & Co. over claims their drug Actos caused bladder cancer. *See In re: Actos [Pioglitazone Products Liability Litigation]*, MDL Case No. 6:11-md-2299 in the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Louisiana. Once again, Lanier faced a well-funded defense by multiple law firms, including Sidley Austin.

In April 2014, however, Lanier received an **over \$9 billion** jury verdict against Takeda and Eli Lilly. As a result of Lanier’s verdict, all claims were settled for approximately **\$2.4 billion** in total settlements. Once again, this case required immense coordination,

¹ Johnson & Johnson is likely a target defendant for Nueces County.

resources, and expertise to litigate. Lanier and the firm engaged in thousands of hours of work and coordination with dozens of law firms across the country. It is this expertise and professionalism that repeatedly results in Lanier and the firm's selection as lead counsel in significant and complex pharmaceutical cases.

- \$4.85 billion settlement in a products liability action over the pain killer Vioxx

The Lanier Law Firm was also the key trial counsel against Merck relating to its drug Vioxx and claims the drug caused heart complications resulting in numerous deaths. The firm played a significant role in obtaining nearly every favorable jury verdict, including the first of **over \$250 million** in August 2005. As a result of Lanier's multiple trial verdicts, the claims were resolved for over **\$4.85 billion** on behalf of consumers.

The firm also obtained the first ever consumer fraud findings against Merck in 2007, establishing that Merck committed consumer fraud by deceiving doctors about the drug's cardiovascular risks and deliberately hiding information about those risks. This experience is very similar to the claims Nueces County may prosecute here concerning opioid manufacturers.

The firm's Vioxx litigation included representation of multiple attorney general offices across the country, including a current action on behalf of the Attorney General of Utah.

Merck's defense of these claims was relentless, spending hundreds of millions of dollars to defend the actions with blue chip defense firms, just as Nueces County is likely to face here. However, Lanier and the firm have repeated experience in taking on these scorched earth defenses and coordinating with opposing lawyers, co-counsel, regulatory bodies and our clients.²

² Lanier and the firm have played significant leadership roles in many pharmaceutical, medical device and product liability MDL litigations, serving either on the Plaintiffs' Steering Committees or in leadership roles in: In re: Toyota Litigation, MDL 2151, C.D. Cal.; In re: Vioxx Litigation, MDL 1657, E.D.L.A.; In re: Bextra and Celebrex Liability Litigation, MDL 1699, N.D. Cal.; In re: Zyprexa Litigation, MDL 1596, E.D.N.Y.; In re: Avandia Litigation, MDL 1871, E.D. Pa.; In re: Neurontin Litigation, MDL 1629, D. Mass.; In re: Levaquin Litigation, MDL 1943, D. Minn.; In re: Heparin Litigation, MDL 1657, N.D. Oh.; In re: Digitek Litigation, MDL 1968, S.D.W.V.; In re: Fosamax Litigation, MDL 1789, S.D.N.Y.; In re: Chantix (Varenicline) Litigation, MDL 2092, N.D. Ala.; In re: Traslolol Litigation, MDL 1928, S.D. Fla.; In re: Viagra Litigation, MDL 1724, D. Minn.; and In re: Gadolinium Contrast Dyes Litigation, MDL 1909, N.D. Oh. The firm has held leadership positions in litigation involving Toyota, Avandia®, Digitek®, Bextra®/Celebrex®, Levaquin®, Heparin®, and Zyprexa®. The firm has also maintained lead roles in state court litigations concerning the following pharmaceutical litigations, such as Vioxx® (Atlantic County, NJ), Bextra®/Celebrex® (New York County, NY), Avandia® (Philadelphia County, PA), Neurontin® (New York County, NY), Levaquin® (Atlantic County, NJ), Fosamax (Atlantic County, NJ), Yaz/Yasmin/Ocella (Atlantic County, NJ), and Chantix® (New York State).

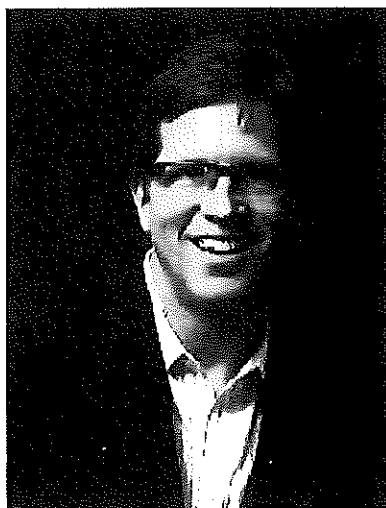
Past examples of The Lanier Law Firm's representation of public entities include:

- Representation of the State of Utah and the Utah Attorney General in the prosecution of claims against Merck relating to Vioxx. This engagement is ongoing and is subject to a contingent fee arrangement. This litigation is similar to the claims here because it involves a large pharmaceutical defendant relating to the improper marketing and sale of a pain drug, including claims for fraud on the state's health care system.
- Representation of the State of Michigan and the Michigan Attorney General in the prosecution of claims against Merck relating to Vioxx. In addition to numerous other states represented by the firm, these claims were resolved by settlement with Merck under a contingent fee arrangement. This litigation is similar to the claims here because it involves a large pharmaceutical defendant relating to the improper marketing and sale of a pain drug, including claims for fraud on the state's health care system.

With offices in Houston, New York, Los Angeles, and Oklahoma City, the firm is able to meet its clients and opponents wherever they may be found:

<u>The Lanier Law Firm Offices</u>	<u>Attorneys</u>	<u>Staff</u>
Houston, TX	34	76
New York, NY	12	27
Los Angeles, CA	3	0
Oklahoma City, OK	2	1

W. Mark Lanier



Attorney, author, teacher, pastor and expert storyteller, **Mark Lanier** is no stranger to the public platform. Since he founded The Lanier Law Firm in 1990, Mark has earned international recognition as one of the top trial attorneys in the United States, with firm offices in Houston, New York and Los Angeles supporting his work for clients across the country.

Mark's courtroom experience is significant and diverse, including:

- In December 2016 Mark earned over a \$1 billion combined jury verdict in a products liability case over defective hip implants against defendant DePuy Orthopaedics Inc., a subsidiary of health care giant Johnson & Johnson.
- In March 2016, Mark secured a multi-million dollar verdict, in the same federal court, in the initial bellwether trial against DePuy and Johnson & Johnson over the metal-on-metal hip implants. This verdict was recognized by the *National Law Journal* as the "*Outstanding Medical Device Award*" for 2016, and as one of the *Top 50 Verdicts of the Year*. The two consecutive verdicts were further ranked the first and second largest verdicts, in Texas, for 2016.
- Mark scored another headline-grabbing verdict in April 2014 against Takeda Pharmaceutical Co. Ltd. and Eli Lilly & Co. over the diabetes drug Actos.
- From the very beginning of his career, Mark has proved again and again that he is not one to slow down or rest on the laurels of his recent victories. Early in 1993, he made a huge impact in the world of courtroom litigation by winning a then-record verdict for a small oil company in a business fraud case against one of the nation's largest oil providers.
- His winning verdict in the nation's first trial over the painkiller Vioxx, *Ernst v. Merck*, set the tone for similar cases nationally.
- Mark followed up the record Vioxx verdict with two wins totalling more than \$50 million over the same drug.
- He obtained a precedent-setting settlement for a national sugar association trade group and several of the largest U.S. sugar manufacturers regarding a false promotion lawsuit against one of the world's leading distributors of artificial sweeteners.

- He also was responsible for reaching a sizeable settlement for syringe manufacturer Retractable Technologies in an antitrust case against Becton Dickinson & Company, which served as the basis for the movie "Puncture," starring Chris Evans.
- His verdict on behalf of 21 asbestos victims is considered one of the largest asbestos liability awards in U.S. history.
- Mark Lanier also secured a settlement for 130 Ingersoll Rand Plc employees in a lawsuit over unpaid bonuses related to the sale of an Ingersoll Rand subsidiary.

Mark's peers and the media consistently recognize him among the country's leading legal minds:

- In May of 2017, Mark Lanier was inducted into the *National Trial Lawyers' Trial Lawyer Hall of Fame*, which recognizes exceptional litigators.
- Twice named *Trial Lawyer of the Year* by *The National Trial Lawyers* as well as by *The Trial Lawyer*
- Twice named *Lawyer of the Year* in Houston by *Best Lawyers in America* – in 2017 for *Personal Injury Litigation* and in 2016 for *Mass Tort Litigation/Class Actions*.
- Repeatedly named to the *Lawdragon Top 500*.
- Mark was named to The Legal 500 "Elite Leading Lawyers" list in 2016.
- In 2015, he earned the *American Association of Justice's Lifetime Achievement Award*.
- *The New York Times* described him as "one of the top civil trial lawyers in America."
- *The National Law Journal* has twice named him one of the nation's *Top 10 Trial Attorneys*, as well as one of the *100 Most Influential Lawyers in America*. The same publication also named Mark and The Lanier Law Firm to the annual *Plaintiff's Hot List*.
- Mark also is the recipient of the coveted *Clarence Darrow Award*.
- He is regularly named in *Chambers USA: America's Leading Lawyers for Business*, where he also received special recognition as a national leader in product liability and mass tort cases.
- Mark has been listed in *S. News and World Report's Best Lawyers in America* list for more than a decade, including previously being named the *2013 Top Class Action Attorney in America*.
- The same publication also recognized him as Houston's *2016 Lawyer of the Year for Mass Tort Litigation/Class Actions*.
- The Lanier Law Firm also has been repeatedly named on the annual list of *Best Law Firms* published by *S. News & World Report*.
- Mark's additional professional honors include his recognition as a *Litigation Star* by *Benchmark Litigation* and *The Trial Lawyer* magazine's *America's 100 Most Influential Trial Lawyers*.

In addition to national recognition, Mark has earned multiple accolades from his legal peers in Texas. In a statewide attorney survey published in *Texas Monthly* magazine, he has earned selection to the annual *Texas Super Lawyers* list since it debuted in 2003, including being named one of the *Top 10 Attorneys in Texas*. *Texas Lawyer* newspaper has selected Mark Lanier as one of the state's *Top 5 "Go To" Personal Injury Plaintiff Attorneys* three different times, in addition to naming him the *Top "Go To" Personal Injury Attorney* in Texas. In 2015, he earned the Texas Bar Foundation's *Ronald D. Secrest Outstanding Trial Lawyer Award*. *Texas Best Lawyers* magazine also has named him on their annual listing for more than a decade. Mark received further recognition in the *Verdict Search/Texas Lawyer Top 50 Verdicts of 2012*. *Texas Lawyer* also named him as one of the *Top 25 Attorneys of the Past Quarter Century* while recognizing The Lanier Law Firm as the *2015 Litigation Department of the Year*.

What the news clips can't measure or define is Mark Lanier's commitment and his passion for his clients. Often motivated by injustice and a sense of fair play, he has sought to even the score whether representing individuals or large corporations. The Lanier Law Firm represents clients from all over the world in courtrooms across the United States.

Mark's courtroom work has resulted in feature articles in *The Wall Street Journal*, *The New York Times*, *Los Angeles Times*, *The Boston Globe*, *Bloomberg News* and the *Houston Chronicle*, among many others. He also is a frequent guest on news shows such as CNBC's "*Squawk Box*" and Fox News' "*Your World with Neil Cavuto*". Mark also is a regular co-host and contributor to Fox Business News' highly rated "*Varney and Company*" with Stuart Varney.

Mark is Board Certified in Personal Injury Trial Law by the Texas Board of Legal Specialization. He is licensed to practice in all Texas state and federal courts, New York state courts and the U.S. Supreme Court. Mark frequently instructs other attorneys in seminars held across the nation about his trial techniques and how to better try cases. He regularly serves as a featured lecturer at many of the nation's top law schools, including Harvard Law School, Stanford Law School, Pepperdine University School of Law, University of Chicago Law School and Texas Tech University School of Law. Mark Lanier was elected to the *American Bar Association's Fellows of the American Bar Association* and was named a *Life Fellow* of the same organization in 2012.

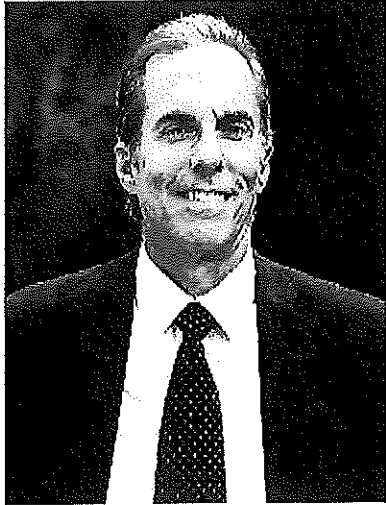
A strong supporter of his alma mater, Mark earned his law degree from Texas Tech University School of Law in 1984. He remains active at Texas Tech by serving on the law school's Foundation Board. He was selected as the *Texas Tech University School of Law Distinguished Alumnus* for 2015 and also was awarded the school's *Distinguished Alumni Award* in 2016.

Mark Lanier is enthusiastically involved in government and community activities outside the practice of law. Chairmen, company presidents and senior executives from major American corporations and universities often call on him for his respected business views on national and international issues. In 2011, Mark was also bestowed the distinguished *Ambassador of Peace* award by the Guatemalan government.

Mark Lanier also is the founder of the Lanier Theological Library (www.LanierTheologicalLibrary.org), one of the nation's largest private theological collections. He teaches a weekly, 700-plus-member Sunday school class focusing on Biblical Literacy at Champion Forest Baptist Church in Houston. Mark is the founder of the Christian Trial Lawyers Association, a non-profit organization whose goal is to create a network of principled attorneys to minister to others through civic-minded endeavors. He serves on the boards of the American Schools of Oriental Research (ASOR) and the Albright Institute. An accomplished author, Mark recently published the book, *Christianity on Trial* (IVP 2014) and a daily devotional book entitled, *Psalms for Living: Daily Prayers, Wisdom, and Guidance* (Baylor University Press 2016).

Mark is the father of five wonderful children and lives in Houston with his wife, Becky.

Richard D. Meadow



Richard "Rick" Meadow has been a practicing trial attorney for more than 30 years. He has represented the rights of individuals who have been injured by pharmaceuticals, medical devices, asbestos, medical malpractice, defective products, construction defects, lead poisoning, and motor vehicles, as well as the negligence of premises owners and municipalities. Mr. Meadow also has extensive experience in the representation of large national insurance companies as an insurance defense attorney. This experience provides a 360-degree perspective of the practice of tort law in the United States.

Mr. Meadow is the National Mass Tort Leader for The Lanier Law Firm, where his responsibilities include overseeing all the firm's pharmaceutical mass tort litigation in addition to promoting and maintaining associated outside relationships at a national level. He has served on the Plaintiffs' Steering Committees for several national litigations and currently acts as the Federal-State liaison in the Yasmin litigations well as the Plaintiffs Negotiating Committee of the Yasmin Litigation.

Mr. Meadow has successfully tried over 25 cases to verdict. He was part of the winning trial team that obtained record-setting plaintiffs' verdicts in the Vioxx litigation. While he was at his former firm, he helped win two significant jury awards recognized by *The National Law Journal* among the nation's largest verdicts in 2002 and 2003. He has settled substantial claims for clients and argued appeals before the New York and New Jersey Appellate Divisions.

Mr. Meadow often is called on as a featured lecturer at many legal forums and conferences. In 2008, Mr. Meadow was asked to testify before the United States Congress based on his expertise regarding to the Sunshine Litigation Bill, which would have effectively amended the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure regarding the use of protective orders in discovery and the use of confidentiality provisions in settlement agreements. He has lectured at numerous legal conferences and he has been appointed to many committees that explore issues germane to the medical and legal communities. He also is a distinguished member of The Sedona Conference.

Prior to relocating to the firm's Houston office, Mr. Meadow was recognized in the annual New York Super Lawyers list for six years straight as one of the top attorneys in New York. He has earned a Martindale-Hubbell® AV Preeminent™ Rating and he is a member of the Million Dollar Advocates Forum.

A graduate of California Western School of Law (J.D. 1984) and Rutgers University (B.A. 1979), Mr. Meadow is licensed to practice law in New York State, New Jersey and Pennsylvania, in addition to numerous Federal Courts. He also is admitted to the Bar of the United States Supreme Court. Born in New York, he currently resides in Houston, Texas, and is the proud father of Ruby and Joshua.

Reagan E. Bradford



Reagan E. Bradford joined the Commercial Litigation section of the Lanier Law Firm in 2016. Mr. Bradford focuses his practice on complex commercial litigation matters, particularly those involving energy, corporate governance, securities, and antitrust. His practice has provided extensive experience in federal and state courts across the country, including class actions and mass tort proceedings, and in arbitration proceedings.

Prior to joining the Lanier Law Firm, Mr. Bradford served as Deputy General Counsel & Assistant Corporate Secretary for a Fortune 500 energy company. This position provided Mr. Bradford experience in the board room as well as in the court room and in high stakes regulatory proceedings. He received a bachelor's degree from the University of Oklahoma and his Doctor of Jurisprudence from the University of Oklahoma College of Law. It was here where he served on the Oklahoma Law Review, founded the Energy and Resources Law Student Association, and graduated Order of the Coif. Mr. Bradford was named a Journal Record 40 Under 40 in Oklahoma City, in 2015.

Mr. Bradford regularly speaks and writes on legal matters relating to energy, corporate governance, and government investigations. His publications and presentations include:

In Search of an Effective Defense to Litigation Fishing Expeditions Into Private, Associational Political Speech

Bloomberg BNA
Co-Author
February 2015

Energy Litigation Newsletter – ABA Section of Litigation

Co-Editor
July 2012 – October 2014

Business Groups Assert Conflict with SEC's Conflict Minerals Rule

Energy Litigation Newsletter – ABA Section of Litigation
May 2013

Critical Steps for Responding to Government Investigations
Chief Litigation Officer Summit
March 2014
Keynote Speaker

Complex Litigation Challenges and Strategies
2nd National Forum on Oil and Gas Litigation
September 2013
Speaker

Mr. Bradford is licensed to practice in Oklahoma and Texas and is also admitted in numerous federal district courts, including the Western, Eastern and Northern Districts of Oklahoma, and the Northern and Southern Districts of Texas, and the Tenth Circuit Court of Appeals.

James B. Ragan

723 Coleman Avenue
Corpus Christi, Texas 78401
(361) 884-7787
Jimragan13@gmail.com

Trial Practice in State Courts of Texas and New Mexico; Federal Courts in the Southern District of Texas, Northern District of Texas, Western District of Texas, and District of New Mexico; District Court of Clark County, Nevada (Pro Hac Vice); United States Eastern District of Louisiana (Pro Hac Vice); In the Superior Court of the State of Arizona in and for County of Maricopa (Pro Hac Vice); Licensed in the United States Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit; and Licensed in the United States Court of Appeals for the Tenth Circuit

EDUCATION

James B. Ragan, born Gallipolis, Ohio, August 9, 1957
Clemson University (B.S. Summa Cum Laude, 1978)
University of Texas (J.D., 1981)
Admitted to Bar 1981, Texas, 2006 New Mexico

PROFESSIONAL

Board Certified Personal Injury Trial Law	Texas Board of Legal Specialization
AV Martindale-Hubbell rating	State of Bar of Texas
State Bar of New Mexico	American Association for Justice
New Mexico Trial Lawyers Association	College of the State Bar of Texas
National Board of Trial Advocacy	Texas Super Lawyers
Bar Association of the Federal Fifth Circuit	Bar Association of the Federal Tenth Circuit
Corpus Christi Bar Association	

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Kleberg, Dyer, Redford & Weil, 1981 - 1983
Latham and Moss, 1983 - 1988
Law Office of James B. Ragan, 1988 – Present

COMMUNITY SERVICE

Volunteered for Big Brothers/Big Sisters, 1980's
Coaching with National Little League, 1990's – early 2000's
Pro Bono Legal Services, 1988 - Present

For the past 10 years I have been extensively involved with pediatric cancer issues, primarily through working with Triumph Over Kid Cancer Foundation in Corpus Christi and its work with Driscoll Children's Hospital and M.D. Anderson Children's Cancer Hospital

DENNIS C. REICH

SUMMARY

Dennis Reich has been involved in many complex and nationally-significant cases, including numerous cases that have been designated as Multi-District Litigation ("MDL") proceedings. Mr. Reich has played a key role in these MDL proceedings and has been appointed to multiple Plaintiff Steering Committees ("PSC").

Currently, Mr. Reich is an active member of the PSC for the Taxotere MDL 2740 Settlement Negotiating Team and also participates in the Science Committee appointed by the Chief Judge of the Eastern District of Louisiana. Additionally, Mr. Reich is an active member of the PSC for the Risperdal Litigation, JCCP 4775.

Previously, Mr. Reich served as lead counsel in the Laxative Litigation against Defendants, including Purdue Pharma, a key player in the opioid litigation.

Other significant appointments include:

- Serving as a member of the Science Committee in the Vioxx MDL 1657;
- Lead counsel for Harris County, City of Houston and Metropolitan Transit Authority of the City of Houston on the BP MDL 2179 litigation for loss of sales tax and hotel tax revenues;
- Representing the State of Connecticut in the Armstrong World Floor Tile bankruptcy;
- Representing the School District and the City of Picher Oklahoma in the Tar Creek Superfund Site litigation.

Mr. Reich attended the University of Connecticut and graduated with a B.A., magna cum laude, in 1972. After obtaining his undergraduate degree, he graduated from the University of Houston College of Law with a J.D. in 1975. He then completed the Hastings College of Law Advocacy Certification Program in San Francisco, California in 1977, and in 1984 he co-founded Reich & Binstock, LLP. In addition to an intense and extensive litigation practice, Mr. Reich actively participates and presents at bar association and law school programs. Examples of some of Mr. Reich's presentations are identified below.

Reich & Binstock, LLP is an AV Preeminent-rated law firm based in Houston, Texas. The firm's practice includes environmental, product liability, commercial, managed care and antitrust litigation. The scope of the practice is broad and has focused on redressing injuries to large numbers of consumers, business and property owners. As evidenced by some of the representative cases listed below, the firm has worked with lawyers throughout the nation in obtaining beneficial outcomes for its clients.

REPRESENTATIVE CASES

ECONOMIC LOSS AND DAMAGE:

- MDL 2179; *In re: BP Oil Spill Litigation*; representing numerous claimants with property and business damage claims; lead counsel for the City of Houston, Harris County and Metropolitan Transit Authority for loss of tax revenues from the BP Oil Spill; serving on the Economic Loss and Damage Committee.
- MDL 1873; *In re: FEMA Trailer Formaldehyde Products Liability Litigation*; U.S. District Court, Eastern District of Louisiana; Served on PSC and lead and co-lead counsel in two trials: *Lyndon T. Wright v. Forest*.
- *River, Inc., et al.*, Docket No. 09-2977 and *Castanel, et al. v. Recreation by Design, LLC, et al.*, Docket No. 09-3251.

DIESEL EXHAUST LITIGATION:

- Cause No. 95-CVQ01439-D3; *Navarro v. Missouri Pacific Railroad Company d/b/a Union Pacific Railroad Company*, 341st District Court of Webb County, Texas.

DIMINISHED VALUE LITIGATION:

- Cause No. 99-2-07850-6; *Moeller, et al v. Farmers Insurance Company of Washington and Farmers Insurance Exchange*; In the Superior Court of the State of Washington, Pierce County.

CONSUMER PROTECTION:

- CV-98-P-1546: *Natasha Claybrook, et al. v. BRK Brands, Inc., f/k/a First Alert; Sunbeam Corporation a/k/a Sunbeam Products, Inc.*; In the United States District Court for the Northern District of Alabama, Western Division; co-lead counsel in a consumer class action involving an education and rebate program for users of residential smoke detectors.

MANAGED CARE CLASS ACTION:

- Master File No. 2:13-cv-20000-RDP; *In re: Blue Cross Blue Shield Antitrust Litigation* (MDL No. 2406); United States District Court for the Northern District of Alabama, Southern Division. Chairman of the Damage Committee for the medical providers in the national antitrust litigation brought as a class action of hospitals and medical providers against Blue Cross and Blue Shield entities for monopolistic and monopsonistic practices.

ENVIRONMENTAL & TOXIC TORT:

- *Rodney Wesley, et al., v. Colonial Pipeline Company*; Civil Action No. CV-97-P-0595-W; United States District Court for the Northern District of Alabama. Co-lead counsel in multistate class action settlement requiring petroleum pipeline to accelerate and upgrade its compliance with Federal regulation and enhanced maintenance practices.
- *Fisher v. Ciba Specialty Chemicals Corp.* 238 F.R.D. 273 (S.D.Ala.2006); Lead counsel. Plaintiffs claimed property damage resulting from DDT emissions from the Defendant's facility in McIntosh, AL. DDT was produced at the plant from 1952 to 1965.
- *Simms, Jr., et al. v. Amerada Hess Corporation, et al.*; Cause No. 93-5767-B; 117th Judicial District Court of Nueces County, Texas. Co-lead counsel. *Amerada* was a property damage case which was certified as a class action against 12 oil refining companies for damages arising out of the escape of pollutants benzene and hexavalent chrome into soil and groundwater for approximately 5,000 properties in the Corpus Christi ship channel.
- *Hayden v. Atochem North America, Inc., Elf Aquitaine, Ind., Elf Atochem North America, Inc.*; C.A. No. H-92-1054. U.S. District Court for the Southern District of Texas, Houston Division. Lead counsel in a class action certified as property damage and medical monitoring with actual implementation of a medical monitoring protocol for thousands of persons exposed to arsenic in their residential soil, air and groundwater.
- *In re: MTBE Product Liability Litigation*, MDL 1358, U.S. District Court, Southern District of New York. Member of the Plaintiffs' Executive Committee from January 2001 to September 2002 in MDL 1358, during which many of Judge Scheindlin's seminal opinions regarding standing and concurrent liability, including market share liability, were written. Involvement focused on the behavior and transport of MTBE in groundwater plumes. Case was successfully resolved.

- *David Mack Albright v. Aeroquip Corp., et al.*; Cause No. B-146,864; 60th Judicial District Court of Jefferson County, Texas. Consolidated action involving more than 100 plaintiffs and multiple defendants stemming from the September 1991 fire at the Imperial Foods Plant in Hamlet, North Carolina, which killed 25 people, injuring more than 80. The incident remains the worst industrial accident ever recorded in North Carolina.
- *Olachukwu Nnadili, et al. v. Chevron U.S.A., Inc.*; Civil Action No. 02-1620 (ESH); U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia. The longest BTEX and MTBE plume in the nation impacting a residential neighborhood due to the release of gasoline from a leaking Chevron station underground storage tank. Several hundred consumers, businesses, and property owners sued for property damage and anxieties associated with living above a contaminated area.
- *Maurice L. McIntire, et al. v. Motorola, Inc.*; Civ 91-2067 PHX WPC; United States District Court for the District of Arizona. Case involved approximately 1,000 persons instituting litigation against Motorola's facilities which had been designated as either a state or Federal superfund site resulting in groundwater contamination and personal injury claims.

GOVERNMENTAL REPRESENTATION:

- Lead counsel for Harris County, City of Houston, and Metropolitan Transit Authority in MDL 2179; *In re: BP Oil Spill Litigation* Oil Spill by the Oil Rig "Deepwater Horizon" in the Gulf of Mexico, on April 20, 2010 MDL No. 2179 In The United States District Court, Eastern District of Louisiana, City of Houston, Texas v. BP, PLC, et al, Civil Action No. 2:13-cv-2968.
- Chairman of Property damage committee and lead counsel for the State of Connecticut in Armstrong World Tile Asbestos Bankruptcy. Case No. 00-04471 (RJN); *In re: Armstrong World Industries, Inc., et al.*; In The United States Bankruptcy Court For The District Of Delaware. Case involved asbestos contamination of buildings caused by vinyl asbestos floor tiles manufactured by Armstrong. Reich & Binstock headed the Property Damage Committee and served as co-lead counsel for numerous homeowners, commercial building owners and governmental entities.
- Lead counsel for City of Picher, Ok. In Tar Creek Superfund site. *Cole, et al v. Asarco Incorporated, et al*, No. 4:2003cv00327 - 320 (N.D. Okla. 2010).

REPRESENTATIVE PRESENTATIONS

- 2014 Mason Judicial Education Program on The Economics of Access to Civil Justice. "Whether Public Nuisance Claims are Good for Public Policy." Law and Economics Center, George Mason University School of Law, Dana Point, California.
- 2012 Judicial Symposium on Scientific Evidence in the Courts. "Neighborhood Environmental Exposure Cases (including Hexavalent Chromium)." Law & Economics Center, George Mason University School of Law, Fairfax, Virginia.
- 1999 Houston Bar Association Energy & Environmental Law Institute. "After the Dust Settles: Clearing the Air in the Debate over the Carcinogenicity of Diesel Exhaust to Humans." Houston, Texas.
- 1995 South Texas College of Law Seminar: 5th Annual Environmental Law Symposium. "What Works and What Doesn't in Settling Mass Tort Claims – Problems and Pitfalls in Initiating an Environmental Cause of Action." Houston, Texas.

BAR ADMISSIONS

1975 State Bar of Texas; 1976 State Bar of California; 2008 New York State Bar; 1993 U.S. District Court of Arizona; 2014 Central District of California; 2015 Northern District of California; 1976 U.S. District Court, Southern District of Texas; 1982 U.S. District Court, Eastern District of Texas; 2002 U.S. District Court, Western District of Texas; 1982 U.S. District Court, Eastern District of Texas; 1997 U.S. Court of Appeals, United States Court of Appeals for the Tenth Circuit; and, 1981 United States Court of Appeals, Fifth and Eleventh Circuits

MEMBERSHIPS

State Bar of Texas; Houston Bar Association; Texas Trial Lawyers Association; The Association of Trial Lawyers of America; The American Bar Association

HONORS AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- University of Houston Law Center, Member of the Order of the Barons
- Past member of Editorial Board of Mealey's (Lexis-Nexis) Toxic Tort Law Reporter
- Adjunct Professor and Lecturer at the University of Houston Law School
- Frequent speaker at various State Bar of Texas and various legal seminars

CERTIFICATIONS

- Texas Board of Legal Specialization in Personal Injury
- Martindale Hubble AV Preeminent Rated (Highest)

SPECIAL QUALIFICATIONS OF COUNSEL

- BA Degree, Cum Laude, 1972, University of Connecticut
- JD Degree, Order of the Barons, University of Houston Law Center
- Admitted State Bar of Texas 1975
- Admitted State Bar of California 1976
- Admitted State Bar of New York 2008
- Admitted U.S. Court of Appeals, Fifth, Tenth and Eleventh Circuits
- Admitted U.S. District Court, Arizona
- Admitted Central and Northern District of California
- Admitted U.S. District Court, Southern, Eastern and Western Districts of Texas
- Certification – Texas Board of Legal Specialization in Personal Injury
- Martindale Hubble AV Preeminent Rated (Highest Rating)
- Board Certified in Personal Injury Law: Texas Board of Legal Specialization

Rachel V. Rose, JD, MBA is a Principal with Rachel V. Rose – Attorney at Law, P.L.L.C. (Houston, TX).

Ms. Rose has a unique background, having worked in many different facets of healthcare, securities and international law and business throughout her career including: work in acute care hospitals including the operating room and dietary departments; consultative work as a top performing representative for the pharmaceutical and medical device industry; work for the Chairman of the Reform and Oversight Committee on Capitol Hill; intern at the Department of Health and Human Services; and compiling policy papers at the Royal College of Nursing in London. She has worked on Wall Street and at one of the Big Four consulting firms.

Prior to opening her law firm, she was Director of Business Development and Assistant General Counsel for a healthcare advisory company. She is published and presents on a variety of healthcare topics including: Dodd-Frank, the False Claims Act, the Foreign Corrupt Practices Act, physician reimbursement, ICD-10, access to care, anti-kickback and Stark laws, U.S. Supreme Court cases impacting the medical device industry, international comparative healthcare laws, and the HIPAA/the HITECH Act. Her practice focuses on a variety of cybersecurity, health care and securities law issues related to industry compliance, transactional work and Dodd-Frank/False Claims Act whistleblower claims, which remain under seal. She has also handled complex class actions, including the BP *Deepwater Horizon* Medical Benefits Class.

In relation to the opioid crisis, Ms. Rose has presented and published on the subject, in addition to filing cases, which remain under seal. Examples of her articles and presentations include:

- *Physician Takeaways from Current Events* (Neurology Times, July 13, 2017);
- *The Comprehensive Addiction and Recovery Act of 2016: The Potential Impact on Physicians and Combating the Opioid Epidemic* (Nevada State Medical Board Newsletter, Sept. 2016); and
- *Prescription Drugs: Three Issues to Watch: Doctor Prescribing Patterns, Recent Legislation on Required Protocols and Case Law on Doctors' Liability* (myLawCLE, Dec. 5, 2016).

Ms. Rose holds an MBA with minors in healthcare and entrepreneurship from Vanderbilt University, and a law degree from Stetson University College of Law, where she graduated with various honors, including the *National Scribes Award* and *The William F. Blews Pro Bono Service Award*. Ms. Rose is licensed in Texas. Currently, she is on the Executive Committee of the Federal Bar Association's *Qui Tam* Section and a member of the Government Relations Committee, the co-editor of the American Health Lawyers Association's *Enterprise Risk Management Handbook for Healthcare Entities* (2nd Edition) and Vice-chair of the Distance Learning Committee for the Health Law Section of the American Bar Association, as well as a co-author of the book *The ABCs of ACOs* and *What Are International HIPAA Considerations?* Ms. Rose is an Affiliated Member with the Baylor College of Medicine's Center for Medical Ethics and Health Policy, where she teaches bioethics.

Ms. Rose is also involved in a variety of not-for-profit endeavors. She performs pro-bono legal work for veterans through the Houston Bar Association, has served Vanderbilt University in a variety of capacities including past-president of the Houston Alumni Chapter and current Alumni

Council Member, UNICEF SW Regional Board Member, and served on the Board of the Tri-Delta Alumnae Chapter as Recording Secretary for three years. Ms. Rose has also served on the Auction Committee for the March of Dimes Chef's Gala 2015 and in a variety of roles with the Junior League of Houston for the past four years.

RACHEL VERONICA ROSE

P.O. Box 22718
Houston, TX 77227
(713) 907-7442
rvrose@rvrose.com

SUMMARY

- Having successfully been involved in various types of litigation (i.e., *BP Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill*), False Claims Act, Dodd-Frank and IRS Whistleblower cases that remain active and under seal with the U.S. Government, and assisted a multitude of different companies with cybersecurity risk assessments, contractual issues and government audits, I have a unique perspective on a variety of issues and assist individuals, corporate clients and law firms in addressing these areas.
- Domestic and international healthcare policy experience in Congress, at The United States Department of Health and Human Services, and at a British Royal College.
- Medical malpractice and certificate of need law firm experience with drafting Memos, Proposed Recommended Orders, and legal briefs for both Federal and State Courts.
- Exceptional oral and written skills as evidenced by the multitude of publications and presentations on a variety of legal and regulatory issues related to health care and securities, including two co-authored articles that were accepted by *JAMA* for publication in early 2016.

EDUCATION

STETSON UNIVERSITY COLLEGE OF LAW

Gulfport, FL

Juris Doctor, May 2010

- Editor, *The Journal of International Aging Law and Policy*
- Honors – Fall 2008, Spring 2009, Fall 2009 (Studied Abroad London, England)
- Special Honors - *National Scribes Award, Leadership Award, William F. Blews Pro Bono Service Award*

VANDERBILT UNIVERSITY

Nashville, TN

OWEN GRADUATE SCHOOL OF MANAGEMENT

Master of Business Administration, May 2005

Major: General Management; Minors: Health Care and Entrepreneurship (Project in China)

THE PENNSYLVANIA STATE UNIVERSITY

University Park, PA

Bachelor of Arts, May 1996

Major: History

- Dean's List – 1991, 1995
- Phi-Alfa Theta (Honor Society)
- President of the Mock Trial Team

EXPERIENCE

01/2014 – Present

BAYLOR COLLEGE OF MEDICINE

Houston, TX

Affiliated Member – Center for Medical Ethics & Health Policy

- Teach first year and upper level medical students bioethics in small group lecture settings.
- Present at Journal Club and Grand Round events to other faculty colleagues.
- Publish on a variety of bioethics and health policy issues in notable medical journals and periodicals, including the American Medical Association's *Journal of Ethics*.

- 01/2012 – Present **RACHEL V. ROSE – ATTORNEY AT LAW, PLLC** **Houston, TX**
- A boutique law firm specializing in healthcare and securities law in relation to regulatory compliance, litigation and Regulation D issuances.
 - Successfully filed a combination of more than five SEC Dodd-Frank Whistleblower claims and False Claims Act claims, which remain active and under seal.
 - Advise a variety of health care industry clients on a variety of issues including: HIPAA/HITECH Act risk assessments and responses to government inquiries, physician joint venture contracts and compound pharmacy issues.
 - Contract with a variety of other law firms, including The Nations Law Firm on the *Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill* case, where I oversee the complex claims process for all clients and conduct legal research on a variety of motion topics.
 - Represent renowned photojournalist and artist, Jeremy Lock as both an agent and a lawyer.
 - Of Counsel to Reich and Binstock, LLP and Of Counsel to The Nations Law Firm.
- 12/2010-12/2011 **BCE HEALTHCARE ADVISORS** **Houston, TX**
Assistant General Counsel/Director of Business Development
- Reviewed, revised, and created relevant internal and external contractual items.
 - Developed website text, educational briefs on ICD-10 and other relevant health policy topics.
 - Created and executed company operations and marketing manual, corporate protocols for HIPAA and HITECH compliance and sales training program.
 - Project leader on rebranding corporate image, new website development and launch.
 - Cultivated new client relationships through meetings and presentations with hospital executives.
- Spring 2010 **THE HONORABLE LINDA ALLAN** **Clearwater, FL**
Sixth Judicial Circuit Court of Appeal – Judicial Intern Clerk
- Drafted memos and orders.
 - Researched relevant case and statutory law as required by individual cases.
- Fall 2009 **ROYAL COLLEGE OF NURSING** **London, England**
Policy Department – Legal Intern
- Compiled a policy paper to present before Parliament entitled *What Constitutes a Public Consultation?*
 - Researched relevant UK legislative and judicial opinions.
 - Attended tribunal hearings, relevant presentations, and shadowed a nurse manager at a National Health Service Hospital.
- Summer 2009 **DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES** **Washington, DC**
Office on Women's Health - Intern
- Drafted proposal and RFA for a new health prevention initiative for publication in the *Federal Register*.
 - Created a new educational pamphlet for patients and providers on disease awareness and testing mechanisms.
- 2008-2009 **BOONE, BOONE, BOONE, KODA, & FROOK, P.A.** **Venice, FL**
Law Clerk
- Drafted a complete Proposed Recommended Order (PRO) and Memo of Law for a Florida hospital Certificate of Need, which was cited in the subsequent DOAH Opinion.
 - Researched applicable case law and relevant information relating to hearing testimony.
 - Reviewed opposing submissions, researched cited case law, and constructed synopsis to verify relevance and accuracy of a property law case.

- Summer 2008 **GULFCOAST LEGAL SERVICES, INC.** Sarasota, FL
Legal Intern
- Researched relevant law and drafted client responses to Medicaid, Social Security, and credit issues.
 - Worked as a legislative liaison contacting all Florida representatives and advocating for the bankruptcy "cram down" legislation.
 - Interviewed clients and assisted them with medical billing issues.
- 2006 **PRICEWATERHOUSE COOPERS, LLC** Dallas, TX
Associate - Consulting
- Assisted with end stage renal disease reimbursement research and analysis to advise clients.
- 2004-2005 **JUNCTA JUVANT, LLC** Nashville, TN
Founder and Consultant
- Prepared and presented white papers for a start-up company specializing in physician owned acute care hospitals.
 - Assisted start-up company president in relaying a position on physician owned specialty hospitals and physician joint ventures to Congressional Offices and Committee staff.
- Summer 2004 **GOLDMAN SACHS & COMPANY** Chicago, IL
Summer Associate- Private Wealth Management
- Worked with summer associate teams to complete valuation and risk projects.
 - Assisted established teams with research.
- 2003-2004 **DAVID RANDOLPH SMITH AND ASSOCIATES** Nashville, TN
Law Clerk
- Assisted attorneys in preparing research and legal briefs for Federal and State Courts.
 - Assisted attorneys in interviewing new clients and medical professionals to serve as expert witnesses.
- 2001-2002 **MEDTRONIC (represented by Rummer Medical Distributors)** Dallas, TX
Sales Representative
- Advised surgeons and operating room staff on spinal instrumentation and surgical techniques.
- 1998-2001 **SYNTHES SPINE** Nashville, TN/Chicago, IL
AO/ASIF Consultant
- 1999 "Rookie of the Year" (ranked 1/121 Consultants for highest percent of growth).
 - Co-instructed residents and operating room staff on spinal instrumentation and surgical techniques during in-services and at continuing education courses.
- 1997-1998 **ELI LILLY AND COMPANY** Atlanta, GA
Professional Sales Representative
- Specialty Focus Representative who promoted Axid, Lorabid, Humulin, Humalog, and Prozac.
- 1996-1997 **CONGRESSMAN WILLIAM F. CLINGER, JR.** Washington, DC
Intern and Staff Assistant
- Responded to and routed inquiries from constituents, congressional offices, and agency representatives.
 - Attended Congressional hearing and researched legislative issues.
- 1992-1996 **MT. NITTANY MEDICAL CENTER (formerly: Centre Community Hospital)** State College, PA
Operating Room Aide and Dietary Aide
- Prepared rooms and instruments for surgical procedures.
 - Participated on a consultative task force aimed at reducing costs in the dietary department.

PROFESSIONAL LICENSE

Texas Law License

PROFESSIONAL APPOINTMENTS

Billing and Coding Magazine - Editorial Board (Present).

Dove Press Medical Journals – Peer Reviewer (Present).

American Bar Association – Vice Chair of the Publication Committee (Health Law Section) (2012-2014); Vice Chair of the Distance Learning Committee (2014-2015); Policy Liaison for the Fraud and Compliance Interest Group (Present).

American Health Lawyers Association – Enterprise Risk Management Task Force Vice Chair of Strategic Activities (2011-2012); Social Media Coordinator (2012-2013).

The Federal Bar Association – Corporate and Association Counsel Division (CACD) – Vice Chair Publications (2012-2014); CACD – Chair (2014-Present); Nominations and Elections Committee Member (2014-2015); Government Relations Committee Member (1. of 18 Individuals appointed to a 3-Year Term (Present)).

Nashville Young Leaders' Council (Class 44).

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

UNICEF – Southwest Regional Board Member (present)

Vanderbilt University – Houston Chapter Steering Committee Co-President (2012); Alumni Council Representative for the Owen Graduate School of Management (Present).

March of Dimes – Auction Committee Member for the Annual Houston Chef's Gala (2015).

Tri-Delta Houston Alumnae Chapter – Board Member, Recording Secretary (2012-2014).

The Junior League of Houston – Member (2012-Present).

Mt. Nittany Medical Center- State College, PA (patient floor and emergency room volunteer 1986-1996).

Dole - Kemp National Campaign - Washington, DC (volunteer - 1996).

PRESENTATIONS/PUBLICATIONS

These publications and presentations reflect a small portion of my portfolio.

Presentations

ICD-10 Presentations: TXHIMA (June 2011); Northwest Texas Hospital Association (July 2011); American Health Lawyers Association (Webinar, Sept. 2011); HAHIMA (Sept. 2011); Austin Bar Association Health Law Section (Sept. 2011); TXHIMA (Oct. 2011); HFMA CO Chapter (Webinar, Dec. 2011); TORCH (Dec. 2011); HAHIMA (Dec. 2011); HFMA Gulfcoast Chapter (Webinar, March 2012); HFMA Texas Chapter (Webinar, September 2012); ICD-10 Compliance and RAC Implications – Rachel V. Rose, JD, MBA, Dallas Bar Association (Feb. 20, 2013).

HIPAA/HITECH Presentations: Dallas Bar Association (Jan. 2012), American Health Lawyers Association (April 2012 – in relation to state apology laws), Healthcare Financial Management Association – Gulfcoast Chapter (May 2012), TXHIMA (June 2012); AHIMA National Convention - "Emerging Topics on Data Privacy and Security" (New Orleans, LA) (Sept. 29, 2015).

Other Presentations: *When Monitoring Risks – Consider the False Claims Act* – Rachel V. Rose, JD, MBA, American Health Lawyers Association, Jan. 10, 2013 (Webinar); *In-house Counsel Panel Discussion with Joseph Clark (General Counsel, Investigations, Hewlett-Packard); Neuman Leverett (Sr. Corporate Counsel, Compliance, Tyco Int'l); Rachel V. Rose, JD, MBA (Chair of the FBA's In-house Counsel Division (CACD)); Timothy Wilson (Sr. Intellectual Property Counsel, SAS Institute); and Karla Palmer (Moderator and Director, Hyman, Phelps & McNamara, PC)* - Federal Bar Association's Litigation Conference, Washington, DC (Oct. 27, 2015); *Whistleblowing and The Dodd-Frank Act – What Counsel Need to Know* – Rachel V. Rose, JD, MBA, Dallas Bar Association, Employment Law Section, Dallas, Texas (Oct. 19, 2015); *The Affordable Care Act and the Impact of Hobby Lobby and King* – Rachel V. Rose, JD, MBA, Federal Bar Association Annual Meeting, Salt Lake City, UT (Sept. 11, 2015).

Television Appearances: *Minding Your Business – A Show For Artistic, Business and Social Entrepreneurs*, New York, NY (Dec. 12, 2014 and Nov. 24, 2015)

Books

Societal Ethics in Medicine, Chapter Title: Human Research Subjects: The National and International Role of Investigational Review Boards in the Approval of Medical Devices and Pharmaceuticals – R. Rose and J. Kass (2016).

American Bar Association, *What Are International HIPAA Considerations?* – R. Rose, J. Tomes, L. Rose (2015).

American Bar Association, *The ABCs of ACOs* – R. King, R. Rose, J. Okray, M. Merritt (2014).

American Health Lawyers Association *Enterprise Risk Management Handbook for Healthcare Entities* (Second Edition), Editor (2013).

Articles

“Learning From the SEC What Counsel Need To Know About Cybersecurity” *The Federal Lawyer*- Rachel V. Rose (Sep. 2015)

“Key Insights into Dodd-Frank Margin Requirements for Uncleared Swaps for Counsel and Compliance Officers - *The Federal Lawyer*- Rachel V. Rose and Anna Kuhn (March 2015)

“Approaching Internal Audits From An Enterprise Risk Management Perspective” EDPACS - Rachel V. Rose, JD, MBA. (Jan. 2015)

“Patient Care, The Pharmaceutical Industry and Anti-trust Law” - The Nevada State Board of Medical Examiners Newsletter - Rachel V. Rose, JD, MBA (Dec. 2014)

“The Impact of Hobby Lobby on Compliance Evaluations” - Rachel V. Rose, The EDP Audit, Control and Security Newsletter (Nov. 14, 2014).

“Select healthcare sector M&A trends and the failing firm defense” - Rachel V. Rose, Becker's Hospital Review (Oct. 29, 2014).

“The impact of FDA violations on stock price” - Rachel V. Rose, Becker's Hospital Review (Oct. 9, 2014).

“Appreciating Data Privacy Laws in Canada, The United Kingdom and The United States” - Rachel V. Rose and Lance H. Rose, EDPACS (May 2014).

“The Role of Informed Consent and Utilizing Medical Devices and the FDA's Humanitarian Device Exemption” Rachel V. Rose, Nevada State Medical Board Newsletter (June 2014).

“The Basics of Fraudulent Transfers and Reverse Stock Splits” - Rachel V. Rose, Federal Bar Association's *Corporate Articles* (Summer 2014)

“The JOBS Act - An Interview with Peter Hans, Co-Founder and CEO of Harvest Exchange Corp.” - Rachel V. Rose, Federal Bar Association's *Corporate Articles* (Summer 2014).

“An Interview with Graeme Tunbridge, Head of Medical Devices EU Policy - Medicines and Healthcare Products Regulatory Agency” - Rachel V. Rose, Federal Bar Association's *Corporate Articles* (Summer 2014).

“HIPAA Highlights: Interpreting the New Rules and Modifications” - Rachel V. Rose, JD, MBA, Physician's Practice (Feb. 14, 2013).

“The False Claims Act: What it is and Why Should Physicians Care” - Rachel V. Rose, JD, MBA, Physician's Practice (Jan. 24, 2013).

“Legal Issues Physicians Need to Know About in 2013” - Rachel V. Rose, JD, MBA, Physician's Practice (Jan. 17, 2013).

“How Does HIPAA and the HITECH Act Impact Medical Device and Pharma Companies?” – Rachel V. Rose, JD, MBA, Becker’s Hospital Review (Jan. 11, 2013).

“Five Ways to Mitigate Risk Related to Protected Health Information” – Rachel V. Rose, JD, MBA, HFMA Magazine (Jan. 2013).

“Is Emailing Patients Truly Legally Risky and Emailing Protected Health Information? Prevent Lawsuits” - Rachel V. Rose, JD, MBA, Physician Risk Management, Vol. 1, No. 5 (Interview - Nov. 2012).

“Learning from Wall Street: How Healthcare Providers Can Benefit from JPMorgan’s London Trading Experience.” Rachel V. Rose, JD, MBA, Becker’s Hospital Review (Oct. 24, 2012).

“The Silver Lining for Non-Profit Hospitals: Utilizing Bond Derivative Swaps to Control Costs and Generate Revenue.” Rachel V. Rose, JD, MBA, Becker’s Hospital Review (Sept. 7, 2012).

“HIPAA/HITECH Risk Assessments: Are the Standards Being Met?” Rachel V. Rose, JD, MBA, Becker’s Hospital Review (Aug. 15, 2012).

Due Diligence Mitigates Liability Exposure Under HIPAA and the HITECH Act. Rachel V. Rose, JD, MBA, Becker’s Hospital Review (May 16, 2012).

“Considering ICD-10 in Light of RAC Audits” – Rachel V. Rose, JD, MBA, Michael R. Linkins, MBA, CPC, CMPE, American Academy of Orthopedic Surgeons (May 2012).

“Preparation is Key: Approaching ICD-10 Strategically May Assist Providers with 60-day Repayment of Overpayments.” Rachel V. Rose, JD, MBA, American Health Lawyers Weekly (March 12, 2012) – reprint Healthcare Financial Management Association, Texas Gulfcoast Chapter, Vol. 26, Issue 3, Spring 2012.

“Was That Really Necessary? The Impact of ICD-10 on Medical Necessity” – Rachel V. Rose, JD, MBA, Michael R. Linkins, MBA, CPC, CMPE – American Health Lawyers Association, Health Lawyers Weekly, Vol. IX, Issue 47 (Dec. 9, 2011).

“Another Crack in the Thin Skull Plaintiff Rule: Why Women with Post Traumatic Stress Disorder Who Suffer Physical Harm from Abusive Environments at Work or School Should Recover from Employers and Educators” – Rachel V. Rose, MBA, JD, Arlie N. Wallace, MPH, DO, and Ann M. Piccard, JD, LLM – The University of Texas’ Journal of Women and the Law (Fall 2011).

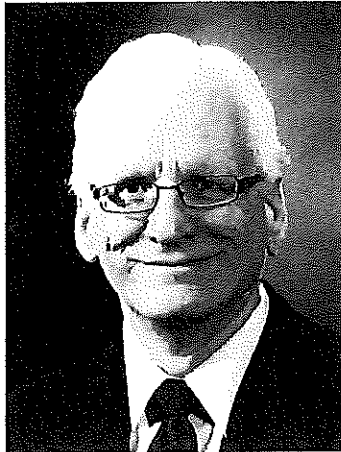
“The United States, Canada, and the United Kingdom – a Comparative Analysis of Healthcare Policies and Their Impact on the Elderly” – Lance H. Rose, LFACHE, MHA, MS and Rachel V. Rose, MBA, JD (May 2010) – Stetson University College of Law’s Journal on International Aging Law and Policy (2010).

“Poor Prognosis: the End Game Scenario that May Arise Through the Use of the Contracts Dispute Act of 1978 and Physician Exodus from Medicare”- Rachel V. Rose, MBA – 3rd Place, EpsteinBeckerGreen Twelfth Annual Health Law Writing Competition (2010).

“Cutting Funds for Oral Contraceptives: Violation of Equal Protection Rights and the Disparate Impact on Women’s Healthcare” – Rachel V. Rose, MBA – American University’s The Modern American, (Spring 2009).

“Balancing Corporate Governance, Patients’ Interests, and Physicians’ Fiduciary Roles in the Healthcare Arena – What Would the Reasonable Person Do?” – Rachel V. Rose, MBA – The North Carolina Central University Biotechnology and Pharmaceutical Law Review, (Spring 2009).

“U.S. Consumer Protection: Striking a Balance Between the FDA Approval Process and State Tort Law Claims Through the Medical Device Safety Act of 2009” – Rachel V. Rose, MBA – American Health Lawyers Association, Health Lawyers Weekly, Vol. VII, Issue 43 (Oct. 30, 2009).



RICHARD SCHECHTER
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Houston, Texas 77046
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EDUCATION AND TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Richard Schechter grew up in Austin and is a 1976 graduate of Rice University, where he was on the President's Honor Roll, selected to Who's Who in Colleges and Universities and served as Chairman of the Program Council. After graduating he enrolled at the University of Texas School of Law, where he was inducted into the academic honor society and recognized for his outstanding contributions to the law school. He served as a lecturer in Legal Research and Writing as a third year student, won the Hildebrand Moot Court Competition, Best Advocate and the Best Brief Award, and graduated with honors in 1979. Schechter later went on to teach Admiralty and Maritime Law for a decade as an adjunct professor at the Thurgood Marshall School of Law.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

After serving for one year as a law clerk for Judge Sam Johnson on the United States Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit, Richard Schechter began the private practice of law in 1980. Since 1986 he has headed his own firm, and has been responsible for developing and trying the full range of complex civil cases, including product liability and medical negligence cases, Deceptive Trade Practice-Consumer Protection Act causes of action, federal statutory claims, maritime litigation, all types of personal injury cases, and business tort and contract claims. Defendants he has faced include the world's leading car manufacturers, oil companies, and drilling and shipping companies. Schechter has litigated cases from Florida to California and around the State of Texas. He has started trial in over one hundred jury cases and has tried cases to verdict before a range of fact-finders, including federal and state juries, federal and state judges and magistrates, and administrative law judges. His skill, experience and reputation have earned him the honor of being selected by his peers as a Texas Monthly "Texas Super Lawyer" each year since the establishment of that honor in 2003. He is the author of numerous articles, speaks regularly at legal seminars around the United States, and has testified before committees of both the United States Senate and the United States House of Representatives. Schechter is a Certified Civil Trial Specialist by the National Board of Trial Advocates and Board Certified in Personal Injury Trial Law by the Texas Board of Legal Specialization.

COMMUNITY SERVICE

Member, SER Board of Trustees

Member, Board of Trustees, Houston Arts Alliance .

Chairman and Member of the Board of Trustees, Houston Community College

President of the Houston Chapter of the American Jewish Committee and Advisory Board member of the national organization

Founder and Chairperson of the Houston Chapter of the American Constitutional Society

Senior Fellow of the American Leadership Forum and member of the Selection Committee

Member, Advisory Board, Career and Recovery Resources, Inc.

Member, Houston Police Advisory Commission

Chairman, State Bar of Texas Grievance Committee

Officer and Board Member of the Board of Trustees, Congregation Emanu El

Member, Board of Trustees of Houston Hillel

Member, Shared Decision Making Committee at Jones High School

Member, University of St. Thomas' Board of Trustees Student Affairs Sub-Committee

Member, Texas Supreme Court Committee on Judicial Appointments

Chairman, Admiralty Section of the American Association of Justice

Testified before both United States House of Representatives and Senate committees

Testified before the Texas Supreme Court regarding proposed rule changes

Served on various committees of the American, Texas and Houston Bar Associations; the American Association of Justice; and the Texas and Houston Trial Lawyers Associations

Provider of Bro Bono legal services through the Houston Volunteer Lawyers program

MICHAEL R. HARRIS, J.D.

Michael Harris' service, dedication and commitment to the City of Houston, its constituents and the people at-large began as a Police Sergeant for the Houston Police Department in 1986. Since that time, commitment and community involvement has been evidenced in every area of his work, profession and career. Harris is known throughout the City and State in business, legislative, political and community arenas. This lends well to his ability to network, connect and organize people collectively to work toward targeted causes. While on the police force, Harris received the honor and distinction as "Officer-of-the-Year" and was also recognized with law enforcement's "Outstanding Texan Award."

Harris brings over 20 years' business management, community relations, government affairs, public finance, public policy and public service to his law practice at The Harris Law Firm. A 1996 graduate of the Texas Southern University Thurgood Marshall School of Law, Harris earned his degree while working as a Sergeant with the Houston Police Department.

After graduation from law school, he became an associate with Barnes & Turner Law Firm and served as a government affairs consultant with Locke, Liddell & Sapp, LLP.

In 2003 Harris founded The Harris Law Firm; he represents and counsel clients in all areas of Texas law. This work includes tending to the day-to-day functions of advising, defending and strategically planning individual caseloads for individuals, businesses and governmental entities. Both corporate and business law complements Harris' legal practice where he engages in various civil litigations in State and Federal Courts. Primarily representative of clients in lawsuits involving catastrophic injuries as a result of individual, manufacture, and health care provider's negligence.

Civic and educational causes are equally important to Harris, where he is involved with organizations such as the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP), Urban League, United Negro College Fund, National Head Start Program, Texas Children's Hospital, Gulf Coast Community Service Association, My Brother's Keeper Outreach Center, Star of Hope Mission, The 100 Club, Texas Association of Business, Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, and the Greater Houston Partnership.

Michael and his wife Tammy are active members of Christian Tabernacle Church and are the proud parents of two children, Hannah and Sydney.

MICHAEL R. HARRIS

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E-mail: mharris@theharrislawfirm.com

EDUCATION

LAW SCHOOL **Thurgood Marshall School of Law**
Texas Southern University, Houston, Texas
Juris Doctorate, December 1996

UNDERGRADUATE **Texas Southern University, Houston, Texas**
Bachelor of Science
Major: Administration of Justice
Minor: Telecommunications

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

2004 – 2009 **Locke Liddell & Sapp LLP, AUSTIN, TX**
Government Affairs Consultant on various city, county and state issues. Primarily providing comprehensive government affairs and public policy representation that includes planning the strategy and providing counsel to properly develop and present a client's positions and projects in the public arena.

2003 – Present **The Harris Law Firm, Houston, TX**
Engaged in various of advising, defending and strategically planning individual case loads for both individuals and businesses. Both corporate and business law complements the firm's practice area.

The Harris Law Firm's Public Law Section specializes in state and local government relations where we provide counsel and planning regarding government relations and regulation of interest to our clients and its subsidiaries. This work includes developing strategies and undertake activities to gain support for client's legislative initiatives.

1992 – 2003 **Barnes & Turner Attorneys at Law, Houston, TX**
Trial Attorney engaged in various civil litigations in State and Federal Courts. Primarily representative of clients in lawsuits involving catastrophic injuries as a result of individual, manufacture, and health care provider's negligence.

2003 – 2005 **Harris County Constable - Precinct 7, Houston, TX**
Deputy Constable (Reserve). Held the primarily responsibility for reviewing legal documents and advising Constable Butler on pending legal matters.

2000 – 2002 **Golden Eagle Leadership Academy, Houston, TX**
Instructor teaching Arrest, Search and Seizure; Criminal Procedures; and U.S. Constitution First Amendment Rights.

1986 – 1999 **City of Houston Police Department, Houston, TX**
Police Sergeant (1989 – 1999), primarily responsible for supervising and assisting Police officers in their efforts to achieve the goals and objectives of the Houston Police Department; conducting roll call orientation, and preparing assessments and job performance evaluations. Police Officer (1986 – 1989), chiefly responsible for responding to citizens' requests for police service.

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

- Member, State Bar of Texas
- Member, American Bar Association
- Member, National Bar Association
- Member, Houston Bar Association
- Member, Houston Lawyers Association
- Harris County Precinct Judge Precinct 147 (1991 - 2007)
- National Organization of Black Law Enforcement Executives (NOBLE)
- National Head Start Association
- Member, Houston Police Officers Association (1989 – 1997)

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

- Gulf Coast Community Service Association
- Head Start Board Member (Chairman)
- National Head Start Program
- National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP)
- Houston Urban League
- United Negro College Fund
- Greater Houston Partnership
- Greater Houston Black Chamber
- League of United Latin American Citizens (LULAC)
- Boys to Men of Texas Mentoring Organization
- My Brother's Keeper Outreach Center
- Greater Northside Youth Alliance
- Texas Children's Hospital
- Blue Triangle Community Center
- Young Women's College Preparatory Academy
- Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc.
- Alpha Phi Alpha Merit Foundation
- The 100 Club of Houston
- Texas Association of Business
- Christian Tabernacle Church

HONORS AND POLITICAL AFFILIATIONS

- Admitted to practice law in the State of Texas
- Admitted to practice law in the United States Federal District Court for the Southern District of Texas
- Houston Police Department "Officer-of-the-Year"
- "Outstanding Texan" Award
- African American Achiever of Houston
- State Democratic Executive Committee
- 2000 Democratic National Convention, Delegate
- 2000 Democratic State Convention, Delegate
- 2004 Democratic National Convention, Delegate
- 2004 Democratic State Convention, Delegate
- 2008 Democratic National Convention, Delegate
- 2008 Democratic State Convention, Delegate
- 2012 Democratic State Convention
- 2012 Democratic National Convention