

PRESENTER AND PANELIST BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION

Rick Abrams, JD, Executive Vice President, Medical Society of the State of New York. Rick is the chief staff officer for the third largest statewide organization representing physicians in the country. Rick is a lawyer by academic training who has spent most of his professional career in government relations and health policy. He represented the facility-based long-term care profession in New Jersey and in Washington, DC from 1990-2004. He also served in the administration of former New Jersey Governor Thomas H. Kean in various positions for almost all of Governor Kean's two terms.

Joseph P. Awad, JD, Partner, Silberstein, Awad & Miklos. Joseph P. Awad is current elected President of the New York State Trial Lawyers Association, Governor of the American Association for Justice, Board Certified by the National Board of Legal Specialty, and recent recipient of the full Academic Law Scholarship and the Outstanding Academic Achievement Award. Mr. Awad has an excellent record of achievement in trial and appellate advocacy on behalf of consumers in matters including medical malpractice, construction site injury, premise security, automobile accidents, municipal liability and unsafe products. His experience includes million-dollar recoveries in more than forty cases, including the highest jury and appellate award in a single year.

Paul Barringer, JD, MPA, General Counsel, Common Good. Paul Barringer is general counsel at Common Good, the legal reform coalition. He speaks frequently at conferences and events, and has testified before Congress and at the state level. He has published articles in the *National Law Journal*, *American Outlook*, and numerous other publications. Before joining Common Good, he worked as a health consultant with Accurium, Inc. and practiced health law with the firms Hogan & Hartson, LLP in Washington, D.C. and Smith Anderson, LLP in Raleigh, N.C. He has bicycled across the United States as well as the length of the United Kingdom and New Zealand, and has completed the Appalachian Trail.

Richard L. Berkowitz, MD, Professor, Obstetrics & Gynecology and Director of Resident Education, Division of Maternal Fetal Medicine, Attending OB/GYN, New York-Presbyterian Hospital. Dr. Berkowitz is an internationally known expert in fetal diagnosis and therapy. He joined the Columbia University College of Physicians and Surgeons after serving for 18 years as the Chairman of the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology at the Mt. Sinai School of Medicine. He has special expertise in the management of high order multiple pregnancies, including those with one or more abnormal fetuses, and is noted for his skill in performing a wide range of invasive diagnostic and therapeutic procedures. Dr. Berkowitz has trained a generation of MFM Fellows, many of whom have gone on to become national leaders in the field. He was a senior Board examiner in general OB/GYN and MFM for many years, as well as the past president of the New York Obstetrical Society. In 2005, Dr. Berkowitz also assumed the responsibility of Resident Education. Dr. Berkowitz has published over 200 articles in peer review journals, as well as authoring or editing more than 35 books and book chapters.

Allen B. Kachalia, MD, JD, Assistant Professor, Brigham and Women's Hospital and Harvard Medical School. Dr. Allen Kachalia is a faculty member at Brigham and Women's Hospital and Harvard Medical School. He practices and teaches hospital medicine, his clinical area of expertise. His interests are focused on improving the quality and safety of patient care, for which he maintains leadership roles in several hospital and department wide quality initiatives, as well as pay for performance measures. He also conducts research in patient safety improvement and related health care issues.

Ernestine C. McLaughlin, Cancer Patient, Mentor and Advocate. Ernestine has been living with Stage IV Breast Cancer for seven years. That survival she credits to her faith, positive attitude and involvement with her treatment. In her nine years with breast cancer, she has experienced twelve different chemotherapies. She freely shares her knowledge and experience by mentoring new and veteran cancer patients. She does this through networking with the North Fork Breast Care Coalition and the South Fork Breast Health Coalition. Since having achieved her level three Certificate as a Reiki Master, Ernestine freely offers her healing ability to other patients. Cancer is not Ernestine's life but it has become her vocation.

Michelle Mello, MPhil, JD, PhD, C. Boyden Gray Associate Professor of Health Policy and Law, Harvard School of Public Health. Drawing on dual training in law and health services research, Dr. Mello conducts empirical research into issues at the intersection of law, ethics, and health policy. She has authored more than 70 articles on the medical malpractice system, patient safety, research ethics, mass tort litigation, the obesity epidemic, pharmaceuticals, clinical ethics, and other topics. Dr. Mello is Director of the Program in Law and Public Health at HSPH and Co-Chair of the HSPH Human Subjects Committee. She teaches courses in public health law and public health ethics at HSPH and Harvard Law School. She is currently a Greenwall Faculty Scholar and in 2006 received the Alice S. Hersh New Investigator Award from AcademyHealth for outstanding promise in the field of health services research.

Peter J. Millock, JD, Partner, Nixon Peabody LLP. Peter Millock focuses his practice in affiliations and networks of physicians, hospital and other health and mental health providers; regulatory and enforcement matters before state agencies; and legislative lobbying on health care issues. Between 1980 and 1995, Mr. Millock was general counsel at New York State Department of Health. He was the chief legal advisor to the Commissioner of Health and provided advice to state policy makers on all health related matters. In 1993, he served on the President's Task Force on Health Care Reform as a member of the Legal Audit Team. Mr. Millock is an associate professor at the State University of New York at Albany, School of Public Health. Recognized for exceptional standing in the legal community in "Chambers USA: America's Leading Lawyers for Business 2007" for health care work. Mr. Millock received his AB and JD from Harvard University.

Donna M. Montalto, MPP. Donna Montalto has served as the Executive Director for the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists, (ACOG), District II/NY, since 1998 having previously served as ACOG's lobbyist from 1991 to 1994. As the statewide chief executive officer, she is responsible for managing the College office for New York State and overseeing administrative, legislative, fiscal, grants and legislative activities. Donna works with ACOG's elected officers to chart a course that meets the purely educational mission of the more than 4,200 OB/GYN members. Donna holds a masters degree in Public Policy from the Rockefeller College of SUNY Albany. She is a graduate of the leadership programs of both the Empire State Society of Association Executives and Saratoga County Chamber of Commerce. She maintains board appointments and memberships in numerous women's health organizations.

Phillis Oeters, Corporate Vice President of Government and Community Relations, Baptist Health South Florida. As part of the largest not-for-profit multi-hospital health care system in the region, Ms. Oeters is responsible for strategic planning of government and community relations, development of state and federal legislative agendas to include issues of health care funding, insurance regulation and general health policy development, as well as family and work life issues. Currently Ms. Oeters serves on many community boards, including, the Greater Miami Chamber of Commerce, Beacon Council, United Way, Coral Gables Community Foundation, and Nat Moore Foundation. Ms. Oeters is Vice Chairman of the Orange Bowl Committee and will ascend to Chairman in 2009. She is also Chairman of the Board of the Neurologically Injured Compensation Fund for the State of Florida, a billion dollar fund responsible for caring for children injured at birth. Ms. Oeters came to Miami in 1981 to attend Barry University where she received her Masters Degree in Social Work.

Thomas Ryan, FCAS, MAAA, Principal, Consulting Actuary, Milliman. Tom has nearly 20 years of experience within the property-casualty insurance industry with extensive experience in the pricing and reserving of medical malpractice business. His clients include insurance companies, reinsurance companies and legislative/regulatory bodies. He is currently the appointed actuary for Medical Liability Mutual Insurance Company (MLMIC), the largest writer of medical professional insurance in New York and one of the largest writers of this business in the country. Tom is also the Chairman of the Casualty Actuarial Society's Committee on Reserves.

Kenney Shipley, JD, Executive Director, Florida Birth Related Neurological Injury Compensation Association (NICA). Kenney Shipley is the former Chair of the Florida Healthy Kids Corporation Board, and serves on the Florida KidCare Coordinating Council Board and the Children's Medical Services Network Advisory Council. Before coming to NICA, Ms. Shipley served as Deputy Commissioner of Insurance for Florida, and prior to that was the Assistant Insurance Commissioner in Colorado. She has served on a number of working groups at the National Association of Insurance Commissioners and has had extensive health care and insurance experience from both a private and public perspective. A Florida native, she is a graduate of the University of West Florida and attended Law School at the University of Miami.

Robert N. Swidler, JD, General Counsel, Northeast Health. Robert Swidler has over 25 years of experience in law, with a focus on health care. He joined Northeast Health in 1998. Prior to that, he was a partner in Hiscock & Barclay, LLP, directing the firm's health law practice. Swidler also has served as deputy commissioner and counsel to the New York State Office of Mental Health, assistant counsel to former New York Governor Mario Cuomo, staff counsel to the New York State Task Force on Life and the Law, and was recently appointed to the Empire State Stem Cell Board. Swidler has a master's degree in U.S. history from SUNY Binghamton and a JD from Columbia Law School. He is a member of the New York State Bar Association, and is editor of its Health Law Journal. He is also a member of the American Health Lawyers Association, and American Society of Law and Medicine. Swidler has published articles for a variety of law and health publications, including the *NYS Bar Association Health Law Journal*.

Richard Waldman, MD, FACOG, Associates for Women's Medicine. Dr. Richard Waldman is a Diplomat of the American Board of Obstetrics and Gynecology and a Fellow of the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists. Dr. Waldman has received several honors including a United States Air Force Commendation Medal, a District Service Award and a Section service award from the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists, and an award for community service from the Onondaga County Medical Society. Dr. Waldman currently serves at St. Joseph's Hospital as the Director of the Performance Improvement Committee and is a member of the Medical Executive Committee. Currently he is the Chairman of District II of the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists and Chairman of the Council of District Chairs of the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists in Washington, D.C. and is a Consultant to the International Childbirth Education Association. Recently, he was appointed to the Board of Directors of the Medical Liability Insurance Company. He currently is listed in the "2007 Best Doctors in America."

Susan Waltman, Esq, Executive Vice President and General Counsel, Greater New York Hospital Association (GNYHA). Ms. Waltman is responsible for all legal, regulatory, and professional affairs matters involving GNYHA and its affiliated corporations and is the Compliance Officer for GNYHA Ventures and its subsidiaries. In addition, she is responsible for overseeing GNYHA's emergency preparedness and response activities on behalf of its members. Ms. Waltman has taught health law courses at New York University School of Law and Brooklyn Law School. Prior to joining GNYHA in January 1987, Ms. Waltman had been General Counsel at the Medical College of Pennsylvania and had worked at the Philadelphia law firm of Drinker, Biddle and Reath. Ms. Waltman earned her JD degree from Columbia University School of Law and holds AB and MSW degrees from the University of Georgia.