



## **SPBA Spring Meeting 2023 March 27th – 28th**

In-Person and Online  
The Renaissance Hotel – Washington, D.C.

*Meeting Time is Eastern Standard Time*

### **Monday, March 27**

**12:15 – 12:30 - Welcome, Opening Announcements** - Chairman Dan Roslokken, President Anne Lennan.

**12:30 – 1:15 - Keynote Speaker: How to Accelerate Performance and Profitability** - Bob Prosen, CEO, The Prosen Center for Business Advancement.

**1:15 – 1:30 - DOL Assistant Secretary for Employee Benefits Security Administration Lisa Gomez** will share the Department's enforcement priorities.

**1:30 – 1:45 - Transparency of Hospital Billing Act** - Hospital-clinician consolidation is a troubling and well-documented trend that decreases competition and makes health care services unaffordable for millions of Americans. This legislation is designed to protect patients, employers and taxpayers from the wasteful practice of dishonest billing that can occur when hospitals acquire clinician practices. *SPBA's Director of Federal Affairs Erin Reiter.*

**1:45 – 2:45 - The No Surprises Act Independent Dispute Resolution Process** - Hear the latest developments and learn how to prepare. In the period from April 15 to September 15, 2022, about 90,000 disputes were initiated and the filing activity continues to increase. This session will cover 2023 updated processes and mechanics, IDR cases and examples and strategies, and IDR portal and pre-eligibility and reviews. *Scott Bennett, The Phia Group. Moderator: Dan Roslokken. (Eligible for CEC Credit)*

**2:45 – 3:00 - BREAK** In person and on-line viewer

**3:00 – 4:00 - What TPAs need to Know About DOL MHPAEA Audits** - The U.S. Department of Labor has vowed to continue its aggressive enforcement of a law requiring employer health plans to provide equal coverage for mental health and addiction treatments and other types of medical care. In particular, the DOL was directed to audit plans and ensure they provide analysis showing that their plan limitations comply with the law. According to DOL Assistant Secretary Lisa M. Gomez, "enforcement of the MHPAEA is our priority and EBSA is pursuing enforcement through investigations into parity violations by plans." Learn what the DOL is looking for and how to comply with these audits. *Amber Rivers, EBSA, DOL, Jen Berman, MZQ Consulting and Jen McCormick, The Phia Group. (Eligible for CEC Credit)*

**4:00 – 4:55 - What kind of Exposure does a TPA have when a Client is Slow Paying their Claims** - Risk management for clients. Under ERISA, health care plans are required to establish a reasonable claims and appeals procedure to enable claimants and plan participants to receive full and fair review of their claims. What happens if an employer fails to make funds available for claims to be funded? The DOL Claims Procedure Regulations and other laws provide tools for

TPAs to ensure compliance with ERISA when their clients are slow to provide funds for claims payments. *Cynthia Marcotte-Stamer, Esq., P.C. (Eligible for CEC Credit)*

**4:55 – 5:10** - Table discussion. Online viewers take a break.

**5:10 – 5:25** - **Congressman Pete Sessions (TX-17)**

**5:25 - 6:30** - **Cocktail Reception**

## **Tuesday, March 28**

**7:00 – 7:45** - **Continental Breakfast**

**7:45 – 8:30** - **Court Cases** - This session will cover recent court cases impacting TPAs and group health plans, including gender reassignment claims, manufacturer/copay assistance programs, and more. *Ashley Gillihan, Alston & Bird. (Eligible for CEC Credit)*

**8:30 – 9:15** - **End of COVID Related Health Plan Requirements** - The National Emergency and Public Health Emergency are ending soon. This impacts numerous Covid related requirements: no cost OTC tests, no cost Covid testing prescribed by a health care provider, no cost Covid vaccines provided by an out of network provider and the outbreak period. *Ashley Gillihan, Alston & Bird. (Eligible for CEC Credit)*

**9:15 – 9:30** - **BREAK** In person and on-line viewer.

**9:30 – 10:30** - **RxDC reporting** - A team of CMS and Department of Labor regulators will join us for a discussion of RxDC reporting requirements following the first reporting cycle. The regulators will provide a summary of the reporting requirements and will answer questions from attendees. This is an opportunity to provide feedback to the team on how the reporting process went the first time and how the agencies can assist moving forward. *Christina Whitefield and Julie McCune, CMS, HHS. Mark Combs, Healthcare Reporting.*

**10:30 – 10:50** - Table discussion with rotation.

**10:50 – 11:00** - Share table discussion with audience

**11:00 – 11:45** - **Form 5500 Overview** - The U.S. Department of Labor will discuss the 2022 Form 5500.

**11:45 – 12:45** - **Lunch.** Emerging Professionals Dedicated tables for you to network.

**12:45 – 1:30** - **Gag Clause** - The Consolidated Appropriations Act 2021 prohibits group health plans from entering into agreements with networks or providers that would directly or indirectly restrict a plan from providing provider-specific cost or quality information through a consumer engagement tool to the plan sponsor or participants. *Ashley Gillihan, Alston & Bird.*

**1:30 – 2:15** - **How TPAs are Handling Genetic Derived Drugs, Car-T Cell Therapy and other High-Cost Specialty Drugs** - Robert Shelley, Leaf Health, LLC. *(Eligible for CEC Credit)*

**2:15 – 2:30** - Table discussion and sharing.

**2:30 – 2:45** - Break to move to the Workshops.

**2:45 – 3:30 - Workshops - In person only**

- **Workshop A - TPA CEO/President/COO** - Marc Paulson + Richard Mousty
- **Workshop B – Operations** - Co-Discussion Leaders: Jill Hayward + Jared Delacerda
- **Workshop C - Stop Loss and TPA Discussion** - Dan Rego + Michou Reichelsdorfer

**3:30 – 3:45** - Break to return to the ballroom.

**3:45 – 4:30 - Legislative/Regulatory/Judiciary Outlook** - This session will provide an update on the outlook for various legislative, regulatory, and judicial developments impacting employer-sponsored health plans and TPAs. *Diana McDonald, Senior Policy Advisor, Groom Law Group.* [\(Eligible for CEC Credit\)](#)

**4:30 – 4:50 - Legislation on Supreme Court Dialysis Case and SPBA Participation in Strategic Coalitions.** *SPBA's Director of Federal Affairs Erin Reiter.* [\(Eligible for CEC Credit\)](#)

**4:50 – 5:35 - Medical Technology Acceleration** – Payors are struggling with how to handle the torrent of new medical technologies and innovations being put into clinical use. The large payors have relied upon proprietary, well-funded and professionally-staffed committees. This session will describe how TPAs can take the lead in research that will assess the value and utility of new AI-supported genomic-based diagnostics. Richard Nicholas, Founder of the TPA Network Research Consortium, Ltd.

**5:35 – 5:40 - Closing Remarks**

**5:40 – 6:45 - Cocktail Reception**