

COMPLIANCE TODAY

HCCA

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A publication for
health care compliance
professionals



meet
Tobi X. Tanzer

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REGISTER TODAY!

FOR THE HCCA/AHA HIPAA FORUM, BOSTON, MA-JUNE 12-14, 2002 *For more information go to*
http://www.hcca-info.org/html/hipaa_boston.html *See page 27 for details.*

Letter from the CEO

ROY SNELL

Volunteers— The soul of the machine

Volunteers have made the Health Care Compliance Association—HCCA—what it is today. Thousands of people have made an impact on the success of this association. There are too many to mention but we will attempt to capture some of their accomplishments. Volunteers are the heart and soul of this machine and volunteers will determine our future. Our founding volunteers dedicated thousands of hours to get the association started and volunteers have devoted 10's of thousands of hours to keep the machine running. Volunteers have spoken at conferences, introduced speakers, started Special Interest Groups, managed regions, coordinated taskforces, developed surveys, filled out surveys, written articles, provided suggestions for improvements, written books, developed videotapes, and accomplished many other important tasks. The volunteers, oversee the financial statements, bylaws, policies, procedures, product development, strategic planning, and the selection of future leaders. They have done all of this while trying to perform one of the most difficult jobs there is, as a health care compliance professional. The volunteers make dozens of decisions every day; decisions are then implemented and followed up on by volunteers.

Regions

Our regions have matured significantly in the past year. The leadership is strong. Regional Presidents have provided an array of inexpensive local networking and education for their regions. More than two dozen meetings have been held around the country each year. Local members get together to share ideas and hear from peers, the enforcement community, and industry leaders.

Important issues affecting their area of the country are discussed and debated.

SIGs

In the last year volunteers have initiated the development of new Special Interest Groups (SIGs). Whereas Regions address the needs of our members geographically, SIGs address the diversity of health

care systems. We have SIGs for Hospital Systems, Academic Research, Long Term Care, Home Care, Behavioral Health, and the Pharmaceutical industry. The SIGs are developing audio conferences, pre-conferences, articles, and Web pages for the exchange of ideas.

Although they are in their infancy, they have the potential to address the subspecialty needs of our members, which is increasingly important as the compliance industry matures. Typically associations the size the HCCA do not attempt to manage regions and SIG's due to staffing requirements. Some will facilitate the staffing of these types of activities by charging for participation. Our association is heavily reliant on volunteers to accomplish these tasks and thereby have kept costs to a minimum. We have a long way to go and we have big aspirations but what our volunteers have accomplished in six years is simply amazing.

Website

Our Website has blossomed within the last year. It is filled with information; Regions meetings and newsletters, SIG's, back issues of **Compliance Today**, conference information, our e-magazine, products, and association activities. Thousands of people visit the HCCA Website 10's of thousands of time a year. We have begun several Web-based initiatives that will increase its utility and the number of visitors. The Website not only provides valuable information for members but also helps us streamline operations. It also attracts many new members each year. If you ask what three things it takes to have a successful Website you will be told "Content, content, content." Our volunteers have given us significant content and contributed to its success.

Compliance Today

The HCCA newsletter, now a magazine, is one of the finest in the business. This year volunteers began interviewing members and major industry players. Volunteers communicate to their peers through articles, helping them with practical operational compliance advice. Our leaders communicate their vision to the members through **Compliance Today**, HCCA's magazine. Volunteers provide helpful compliance statistics and other information each month that is not only useful but provides a diversity of practical information.



Conferences

HCCA volunteers will coordinate over 40 meetings this year. Our local conferences are intended to attract new members and provide local low-cost networking and education. Our national conferences are intended to provide education, networking, attract new members and generate funds to improve the services provided by the association to its members. Many other associations have asked us how we provide so many successful well-attended meetings. The answer is always simple, "Lots of hard work by volunteers." They have been particularly envious of HCCA's accomplishments as cutbacks have occurred in health care spending and travel. Few if any associations can claim the degree of conference activity that we do. Our volunteers partner with other prominent associations such as the American Hospital Association, American Healthcare Lawyers Association, and the Healthcare Financial Management Association. Most of all, our conferences are successful because volunteers select speakers who provide practical operational case examples.

HIPAA and compliance documents

Volunteers have donated 1,000 pages of HIPAA documents and 500 pages of compliance documents. These documents cover all aspects of HIPAA and Compliance, such as education, policies, procedures, risk assessments, auditing, monitoring, etc. Recipients of these documents have used them to improve their compliance program and reduce their development costs. These documents are given to attendees of HCCA meetings. This valuable set of tools has increased attendance at the meetings and brought in new members. The increase in meeting attendance and membership has helped provide more benefits to the members.

Products

In the last year volunteers have developed a book on auditing and a videotape for HIPAA Privacy training. Both of these products took hundreds of hours to develop. We have several products that were developed by volunteers in the past that are still selling well including an award-winning audio-tape.

Collaboration with the government

Our volunteers have coordinated several roundtable meetings with the Office of Inspector General (OIG). Approximately 100 volunteers have met with the OIG in DC at each of these meetings. The impact of this collaboration has been significant and is one of our volunteers' most significant accomplishments to date.

The Board and officers

Our volunteer Board of Directors members meet three times a year in person and two times via conference calls. Volunteer attendance at board meetings is frequently near 100%, which is remarkable given the demands on their time. The officers meet monthly and guide the daily operations of the association. The officers and Board members are all involved in task force meetings, product development, conference management, and many other time-consuming activities that are critical to the success of this organization. The soul of our machine is our volunteers. They decide and implement every aspect of our operation. It would take an hour to mention all of their names and accomplishments. Although we cannot list them all we send our sincere appreciation on behalf of all of the members who benefit from their activities. From 0 to 3,000 members and national recognition in 6 years. Absolutely incredible. ■

SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS

To get involved, or ask a question, just email or call the following SIG chairs; be sure to include your telephone and fax numbers, and best time to contact you:

Home Care

Chris Anderson, 631/501-7390
chris.anderson@gentiva.com

Long Term Care

William Altman, 502/596-7161

william_altman@kindredhealthcare.com

Managed Care/Payor

Vickie McCormick, 612/204-4156
vmccormick@halleland.com

Behavioral Health

John Ciavardone, 610/260-4610
Jciavardone@nhsonline.org

Pharmaceutical

Charles Brock, 847/937-5210
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Academic/Research

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Or call HCCA's National Office in Philadelphia, PA at 888/580-8373 or email info@hcca-info.org. ■