A Look at the Arizona Ethics & Compliance Council

Healthcare Compliance Today

1. Keeping Current on the Regulatory requirements of the Affordable Care Act
2. Balancing the requirements of the HITECH Act and ever changing technology
3. Addressing the challenges of health systems mergers and acquisitions—Impact on Compliance Culture

Who has Time or Energy to think about other industries’ Compliance and Ethics issues?!?!?
What is the Arizona Ethics & Compliance Council?

- The Arizona Ethics and Compliance Council (AECC) was created in September 2011
- The council was formed to bring together local compliance and ethics professionals with responsibility for corporate or regulatory compliance to provide a forum to discuss and share best practices and information
- The group meets on a quarterly basis at different locations throughout the Phoenix area

What is the Arizona Ethics & Compliance Council?

- Subject matter for each meeting focus’ on an ethics, compliance and/or regulatory issue(s) that are timely and pertinent
- All companies are welcome including public, private, not-for-profit as well as local, state and federal regulators
Representative Membership of the AECC-Industries

- Healthcare
- Insurance Companies: Physical, Behavioral Health, and Dental
- Hospitals/Health Systems
- Emergency Transport
- Physician Groups
- Medicare and Medicaid Regulators
- Pharmacy Benefit Managers
- Education – Not for Profit and For Profit Schools
- Technology
- Manufacturing
- Mining
- Non Healthcare Insurance
- Oil and Gas
- Retail and Service
- Airlines

Representative Membership of the AECC-Positions

- General and Associate General Counsel
- Chief Compliance and or Risk Officer
- Regulatory Affairs Officer
- Investigators
- Other Compliance Professionals
- Internal Auditors
- Regulators:
  - AHCCCS
  - ADHS
  - FDIC
AECC-How I Found Value

• **Shared Experiences**
  • Shared established policies & procedures
  • Enhanced our Compliance Plan
  • Identified areas that were lacking in our Compliance Plan
  • Improved Compliance Education Program
  • Expertise on international & FCPA Issues

• How to better communicate Compliance and Ethics to all members of the workforce
• How to get the message across when geographically dispersed
• How others dealt with increased focus on Data Breaches
• Valuable as the increased frequency of health system mergers results in an increased challenge of melding cultures that have different perspectives and priorities for ethics and compliance
AECC-How I Found Value

- How to better address issues regarding the SEC and Sarbanes-Oxley requirements when there is a merger with a publicly traded company
- How do non-healthcare organizations deal with anti-kickback issues—the risk of Stark rule violations have significantly increased
- How to deal with a whole new set of rules when your healthcare system wants to go international

AECC-How We Provide Value

- Opportunity to share the Compliance and Ethics challenges we face in Healthcare
- These challenges are unique and other industries can better understand the impact of our issues on their employees healthcare costs
- We get to showcase and market our organization
- They get to feel our pain!
AECC-Win/Win

• Network, Network, Network!!!!
• Learn of and communicate openly legal/regulatory/compliance positions
• Discuss best practices
• Make contact with industry leaders
• Get leads on Consultants and other resources

Lagniappe!

Defined as: a small gift given a customer by a merchant at the time of a purchase; broadly : something given or obtained gratuitously or by way of good measure

Through the AECC you can obtain CPE, CLE and CCB credits!!
Questions??

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