

Physician Practice Workgroup Meeting Minutes

March 10, 2022

Meeting Date	Meeting Time	Location
March 10, 2022	5:00 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.	Webinar and Conference Call

Participant Name and Attendance

Physician Practice Workgroup Members					
Rod Acosta		Lou Fiorillo		Atique Mirza	
Jean Ahn	X	Khuram Ghumman	X	Robin Gail Oshman	X
Rich Almada	X	Richard Goldstein	X	Theresa Riordan	X
Marjorie Breen	X	Chris Hyers		Robert Russo	
Ronald Ciesones	X	Dinesh Kapur		Michael Steinmetz	X
Jeff Cohen	X	Alan Kaye	X	Lisa Trumble	X
Alan Coker	X	Steven Lazarus	X		
Rachel Davis	X	Leland McKenna			
Others Present					
Members Absent					
Rod Acosta		Dinesh Kapur		Robert Russo	
Lou Fiorillo		Leland McKenna			
Chris Hyers		Atique Mirza			

	Agenda	Responsible Person(s)
1	Call to order and motion to open meeting	Steven Lazarus
	The March scheduled meeting of the Physician Practice Workgroup was held on Thursday, March 10, 2022, via Zoom. The meeting convened at 5:00 p.m. Steven Lazarus presiding. Attendance taken by roll call by Ron Ciesones. Steven then welcomed everyone and asked for a motion to open the meeting. Marjorie Breen made a motion to start the meeting and a second motion was followed by Lisa Trumble. The meeting was officially opened.	
2	Approval of the February 10, 2022, Meeting Minutes	Steven Lazarus
	Steven Lazarus asked for a motion to accept the meeting minutes of the February 10, 2022, meeting. Marjorie Breen made a motion to approve the minutes and a second motion was followed by Robin Oshman. The minutes from the February 10, 2022, meeting were officially approved.	
3	Public Comment	Steven Lazarus
	There was no public comment	
4	Presentation by Attorney General's Office staff.	Rachel Davis - Assistant Attorney General

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Steven Lazarus introduced Rachel Davis, Assistant Attorney General who provided the group with a presentation on how the Office of Attorney General (OAG) reviews Material Change of Ownership transactions.

Below are some of the items discussed in the presentation.

- Links to the Office of Health Strategy (OHS) Notification and Filings Portal along with the location of the Notifications and Filings on the OAG website.
- Statute Section 19a-486i related to certain mergers, acquisitions and other transactions.
- Statute Section 35-42 related to the antitrust act and investigations.
- A description of the different types of review the OAG office does when receiving a Notice of Material Change (Initial Review, Substantive Review, and Antitrust Investigation);
- A review of the Notice of Material Change forms which show the following:
 - a.) The date of notice showing the party submitting, effective date of the transaction, and a description of the transaction;
 - b.) The names of the parties to a transaction and their contact information;
 - c.) Information on the group practice subject to the proposed transaction and who will practice medicine with the resulting organization including the name of each physician, group practice(s) in which physician practices and specialties of each physician;
 - d.) Data on business entities that will be providing services following the effective date including the business names, address of each service location, description of services provided at each location, and the primary service area served by each.
- Contact information to reach someone at the OAG's office.

A PDF of the presentation is available on the OHS website by clicking on the following link which will bring the user to the March 10, 2022, Physician Practice Workgroup page.

<https://portal.ct.gov/OHS/Content/Health-Care-Cabinet/Physician-Practice-Workgroup/Meeting-Agendas>

A discussion related to the data in the presentation took place between members of the workgroup related to the forms and statutes presented. For more information, please see the meeting recording link on the March 10, 2022, Physician Practice Workgroup page noted above.

Steven Lazarus thanked Attorney Rachel Davis for her presentation and answering questions from the workgroup members.

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5	News articles related to the workgroup	Steven Lazarus
	<p>Steven Lazarus asked Robin Oshman to summarize some of the articles she had recently provided to the group which resulted in a discussion amongst the group members regarding the shortage of doctors in Connecticut. The group spoke about how to help physicians in private practice so more residents don't leave Connecticut to practice in another state.</p>	
6	Next steps for the workgroup	Steven Lazarus
	<p>Steven indicated that he and Ron Ciesones are working on setting up presentations for the next few months. He indicated that for April, he wants to have a presentation from hospital members of the group. In May, the workgroup will be looking to have a presentation from the physician members of the group.</p> <p>In the months of June, July and August, members will be broken into smaller groups to discuss all of the data that's been presented and to begin drafting suggestions on how to better improve oversight and regulation of physician groups in Connecticut.</p>	
7	Adjourn	Steven Lazarus
	<p>The motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Alan Kaye and a second motion was made by Marjorie Breen. The motion passed with no one abstaining and the meeting was officially closed. The meeting adjourned at 6:30 p.m.</p>	