



# FHIMA

Florida Health Information Management Association

HOME  
SEARCH  
BULLETIN  
BOARD

PRESIDENT'S  
MESSAGE

FHIMA NEWS

ARTICLES

AHIMA UPDATE

## e-Coastlines

### President's Message

May/June 2001

#### INFORMATION MANAGEMENT: NAVIGATING THE SEAS of CHANGE

*Jacque Jones, MBA, RHIA, CPHQ*



Your FHIMA Board met on April 6, 2001 in Orlando to discuss the current status of several ongoing projects and review the financial status of the organization. Here's a quick synopsis:

#### SHAPER COMMITTEE

This group of educators and regional shapers, led by Sharol Noblejas, RHIA has come up with a blueprint for attracting students to this dynamic profession. A contest to RENAME the SHAPER PROGRAM is underway. We added a colorful marketing portfolio and plan to WORK with ONE High School: Orange Park High School in Jacksonville, Florida to test out our ideas.

What we heard from the national organization and our own educators is that there are fewer people going into the support programs and health sciences. On a national level, the objective is to market to adults looking for a second



career. On a state level, we are GLAD for the HIM STUDENTS seeking a new career, but wondered why NOT high school. What our profession needs, is the proverbial shot in the arm...new blood...love of computers...and self-confidence.

At the Annual Meeting in June, we will have a STUDENT GATHERING which concentrates just on our students. The Board will spend time encouraging a bi-directional dialogue. Introducing the "gang" to the wonders and education of the Exhibit Hall, and asking for feedback as to how we can attract and KEEP energetic, happy and intelligent students.

#### **AHIMA Liaison**

South Florida's own IRENE TRAMONTE, RHIA has been working with AHIMA to prepare for the National Convention in October 2001. We will be SELLING SHIRTS in June 2001 at our annual meeting in Orlando for ANYONE INTERESTED IN VOLUNTEERING at National. This is great experience! The shirt will cost \$25 and would readily identify our FLORIDA MEMBERS! Please consider purchasing a shirt and signing up to work at least 2 hours in the Hospitality area if you are planning on attending the AHIMA Annual meeting in Miami.

#### **BYLAWS**

Thanks to the detailed overview of the current bylaws by Iliana Magunagoiechea, RHIA, CCS, we concur that the bylaws need some "tweaking." All Delegates and Regional Presidents will be receiving the proposed bylaw changes. The proposed bylaws will also be available for review on the web page. This material will be discussed in the House of Delegates.

The issue groups for this year's **House of Delegates** were also voted upon:

**Issue #1** Proposed 2001 Revisions to the Standards for Maintenance of Certification. Discussion will include proposed changes, the intent of the revision, and a dialogue on how HIM can continue to work towards recognition and image. Board Facilitators are Pam Rollins, RHIA, Chief Delegate and Julie Shay, RHIA, Director.

**Issue #2.** How can we ensure HIM's leadership in the coding Industry? Discussion will include coding shortages, other credentials, and automation and changing technology. Board Facilitators are: Sue Hitchens, RHIT, Director and Pat Schnering, RHIA, Director.

**Issue #3.** How can the state, national and regional associations best work together to serve members? With decreasing member participation at the regional level, should our structure for allocating delegates change? Do

we change the HOD? How can COP's benefit the associations? Board Facilitators are: Ashlyn Dellenger, RHIA, Director and Liz Hurst, RHIT Director.

**Issue #4.** How can AHIMA/FHIMA help our members seize the important opportunities afforded HIM by the new privacy regulations? Discussion will include the privacy rule and regulation. Board Facilitators are: Coleen Buchinsky, RHIA, Director and Diane Evangelista, RHIA, Past President.

#### **Arrangements & Program**

Behind the wheel for Arrangements, Tanya Kuehnast, RHIA is working to shave a few thousand dollars off the expenses to get closer to budget. The Caribe raised their rates this year, and pursuant to a 6 month notification clause, we are trying to ascertain what to keep and what to cut.

THOSE MEMBERS DRIVING IN each day, please eat breakfast at home! The Caribe offers a substantial breakfast free as part of the room rate, so we opted not to put food out. Also, the breaks will be water, coffee and one ice cream social! The hotel has cantinas on the lower level atrium with snacks and sodas but it will take you outside of the convention area.

Program lost a co-chair to wedded bliss. The Board recognizes Beth Simmons, RHIA for all her help this year. Thankfully, our co-chair, Mindi Rogers, RHIA is ready with a great committee and superb speakers. Don't forget, you can register on-line via [www.fhima.org](http://www.fhima.org).

It's been a busy year for the FHIMA Board. We are trying hard to "think" outside the box. The phrase I remember from a recent article on leadership is that "Sensational leadership is about stirring the pot rather than putting on the lid." I can tell you honestly, that this Board has stirred the pot this year.

But as a professional in the work environment, Are you stirring the pot? Are you taking students? Are you making the experience interesting or just doing what's on the outline? (I would vote to throw those outlines away!!) Remember, each of us holds the key to the immortality of the association and profession. Share your passion and energy and love for this field with students, staff and other professionals. Learn from every experience. We have to WOW people to create that legacy we all dream of creating. Think about how you can WOW!

Hope to see you ALL in June!!

The World's Best-Selling Speech Recognition Software Just Keeps Getting Better

Dragon NaturallySpeaking 9/Medical

AMAZINGLY ACCURATE!  
REDUCE OR ELIMINATE MANUAL TRANSCRIPTION!  
FASTER THAN TYPING!  
NETWORK READY!  
BLUETOOTH SUPPORT!

For More Information Call Polly @  
**813-962-3829**

Buy Online Today  
**1st-dragon.com**

# FHIMA

Florida Health Information Management Association

- HOME
- SEARCH
- BULLETIN BOARD

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

FHIMA NEWS

ARTICLES

AHIMA UPDATE

## e-Coastlines

### FHIMA News

May/June 2001

#### FHIMA ANNUAL CONVENTION - 2001

#### HIM ODYSSEY - EXPLORING THE SEAS OF CHANGE

*Tanya Kuehnast, RHIA  
Arrangements Chairperson*

**One Stop  
Record  
Services, Inc.**

**407-523-6511**

*Serving Florida's ROI  
needs for over 15 years*



**Date:**  
June 19-22, 2001

**Place:**  
[Caribe Royale Resort Suites & Villas](#)  
8101 World Center Drive  
Orlando, FL 32821  
407-238-8000 or 1-800-823-8300

*T*  
Times New Roman; mso-ansi-language: EN-US; mso-fareast-language: EN-US; mso-bidi-l

The World's Best-Selling Speech Recognition Software Just Keeps Getting Better

Dragon NaturallySpeaking 9/Medical

AMAZINGLY ACCURATE!  
REDUCE OR ELIMINATE MANUAL TRANSCRIPTION!  
FASTER THAN TYPING!  
NETWORK READY!  
BLUETOOTH SUPPORT!

For More Information Call Polly @  
**813-962-3829**

Buy Online Today  
**1st-dragon.com**



# FHIMA

Florida Health Information Management Association

HOME  
SEARCH  
BULLETIN  
BOARD

PRESIDENT'S  
MESSAGE

FHIMA NEWS

ARTICLES

AHIMA UPDATE

## e-Coastlines

### Articles

May/June 2001

**Legislative  
Question & Answers**  
*Damon Newton, RHIA  
Legislative Chairman*

**One Stop  
Record  
Services, Inc.**  
**407-523-6511**  
*Serving Florida's ROI  
needs for over 15 years*



**It seems that more often than not, HIM Directors are being subpoenaed for depositions which consumes a great deal of time. What can we do about it?**

- a. Designate a specific person (i.e., a records release clerk) to be the official records custodian.
- b. Charge the requesting attorney for the deposition time, including travel (provided it involves a civil and not a criminal case).
- c. Require the deposition to be taken at your place of business (most judges will agree that witnesses should not be inconvenienced any more than is necessary).

**HIPAA is becoming a motivating factor for institutions to tighten up measures related to privacy of patient**

**information. Is there any existing legislation in the state of Florida on patient privacy?**

Yes. Actually, there are several pieces of legislation including those in Florida's Constitution:

- ▶ 381.026 Florida Patient's Bill of Rights and Responsibilities
- ▶ 384.22 Sexually transmissible diseases
- ▶ 390.014 Termination of pregnancies
- ▶ 400.0069 Local long-term care ombudsman councils; duties; membership
- ▶ 400.0073 State and local ombudsman council investigations
- ▶ 409.920 Medicaid provider fraud
- ▶ 456.057 Ownership and control of patient records; report or copies of records to be furnished
- ▶ 627.736 Required personal injury protection benefits; exclusions; priority; claims
- ▶ FL CONST Art. 1 2 Basic rights
- ▶ FL CONST Art. 1 23 Right of privacy

**Are there any State Statutes regarding Step-Parents being able to sign record releases for minor children and receive copies of the children's medical records?**

Yes.

FS 395.3025 is the basis for release of records. However, in the absence of a parent, release of information on a minor should follow FS 743.0645:

743.0645. Other persons who may consent to medical care or treatment of a minor

(1) As used in this section, the term:

(a) "Blood testing" includes Early Periodic Screening, Diagnosis, and Treatment (EPSDT) testing and other blood testing deemed necessary by documented history or symptomatology but excludes HIV testing and controlled substance testing or any other testing for which separate court order or informed consent as provided by law is required.

(b) "Medical care and treatment" includes ordinary and necessary medical and dental examination and treatment, including blood testing, preventive care including ordinary

immunizations, tuberculin testing, and well-child care, but does not include surgery, general anesthesia, provision of psychotropic medications, or other extraordinary procedures for which a separate court order or informed consent as provided by law is required.

(c) "Person who has the power to consent as otherwise provided by law" includes a natural or adoptive parent, legal custodian, or legal guardian.

(2) Any of the following persons, in order of priority listed, may consent to the medical care or treatment of a minor who is not committed to the Department of Children and Family Services or the Department of Juvenile Justice or in their custody under chapter 39, chapter 984, or chapter 985 when, after a reasonable attempt, a person who has the power to consent as otherwise provided by law cannot be contacted by the treatment provider and actual notice to the contrary has not been given to the provider by that person:

(a) A person who possesses a power of attorney to provide medical consent for the minor.

(b) The stepparent.

(c) The grandparent of the minor.

(d) An adult brother or sister of the minor.

(e) An adult aunt or uncle of the minor.

There shall be maintained in the treatment provider's records of the minor documentation that a reasonable attempt was made to contact the person who has the power to consent.

The World's Best-Selling Speech Recognition Software Just Keeps Getting Better

Dragon NaturallySpeaking 9 Medical

AMAZINGLY ACCURATE!  
REDUCE OR ELIMINATE MANUAL TRANSCRIPTION!  
FASTER THAN TYPING!  
NETWORK READY!  
BLUETOOTH SUPPORT!

For More Information Call Polly @  
**813-962-3829**

Buy Online Today  
**1st-dragon.com**

# FHIMA

Florida Health Information Management Association

- HOME
- SEARCH
- BULLETIN BOARD

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

FHIMA NEWS

ARTICLES

AHIMA UPDATE

## e-Coastlines

### AHIMA Update

May/June 2001

**One Stop Record Services, Inc.**  
**407-523-6511**  
*Serving Florida's ROI needs for over 15 years*



**Vote For FHIMA Members on AHIMA Ballot**



***Council On Certification - RHIT Educator:***  
**BARBARA A. FORTUNA, EdD, RHIA**  
HIM Program Director  
Miami Dade Community College  
Miami, Florida



***Council On Certification - RHIT Practioner:*****LINDA T. STONE, RHIT**

Director of HIM Operations

ChartONE

Orlando, Florida

---

**Current News in Washington,DC**

President Bush makes a commitment to protect the rights of citizens to keep their medical records confidential. [www.ahima.org/dc/index.html](http://www.ahima.org/dc/index.html)

---

**AHIMA Audio and Internet Seminars**

AHIMA brings audio or internet format seminars to you. Upcoming seminars include:

- May 23 JHITA HIPAA Conference: Real World Strategies
- June 5 Notice of Privacy Practices
- June 12 Preemption & State Laws
- June 14 Clinical Update: Emergency Department Coding
- June 22 SCC Meeting
- June 24 Assembly on Education Summer Symposium

For more information, visit [www.ahima.org](http://www.ahima.org) and click on Products. Or call FaxLink at (888)424-4040 and request document #736.

---

**JCAHO Accreditation Standards & Experiences**

FAQ's on JCAHO, Articles, Practice Briefs, Research and Benchmarks. [www.ahima.org/hot.topics/](http://www.ahima.org/hot.topics/)

---

**2001 Certification Guides Available**

Download certification guides online for the RHIA/RHIT and CCS/CCS-P examinations at [www.ahima.org/certification/index.html](http://www.ahima.org/certification/index.html). Also, on the website are sample questions, suggested reading lists, content outlines, test sites and more. Good Luck future HIM professionals!

---

**Attention New & Upcoming Graduates**

AHIMA provides information on salaries, degrees, certification, and various careers at [www.ahima.org/careers/](http://www.ahima.org/careers/).

---

**HIPAA Privacy Regulations**

The Final Rule for HIPAA Privacy Regulations were published in the Federal Register, December 28, 2000. Visit <http://aspe.hhs.gov/admsimp/> to download a copy for your review.

---

**Contacting AHIMA**

For general queries, email [info@ahima.org](mailto:info@ahima.org). For professional practice questions, go to the AHIMA Online practice forums at <http://www.ahima.org/bibs/index.html> or send email to: [proprac@ahima.org](mailto:proprac@ahima.org).

If you'd like to update your mailing address or email address, include your full name, member ID number and your new information - send to: [info@ahima.org](mailto:info@ahima.org). For general questions, contact [AHIMA Online](#).