

**From:** HIMSS NCA Chapter <info@himss-nca.org>

**Subject:** HIMSS NCA Chapter - 2011 Winter Edition

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## ONC Issues Final Rule for Permanent Certification Program for Health IT

The Final Rule for the Establishment of the Permanent Certification Program for Health Information Technology was released by HHS on January 4th. This permanent certification program will eventually replace the temporary certification program that was previously established by a final rule. The National Coordinator will use the permanent certification program to authorize organizations to certify electronic health record (EHR) technology, such as Complete EHRs and/or EHR Modules.

[Read the final rule at hhs.gov](#)

## Upcoming Events

### **February 1, 2011 (10:00 am-5:00 pm)**

[Virginia HIMSS Day at the General Assembly](#)

MCV Alumni House - Richmond, VA

### **February 17, 2011**

[Maryland HIMSS State Advocacy Day](#)

Annapolis, MD

### **February 20 - 24, 2011**

[HIMSS 11th Annual Conference & Exhibition](#)

Orlando, FL

### **February 21, 2011 (7:00 pm-10:00 pm)**

[Chapter Reception at Annual Conference](#)

[Taverna OPA Orlando](#)

9101 International Dr Ste 2240

Orlando, FL 32819

RSVP to Emily at [emily.kneipp@divurgent.com](mailto:emily.kneipp@divurgent.com)

### **March 16, 2011**

The Role of Informatics in Improving Quality and Safety in the Health Care Delivery System

Dear DaNika,



Welcome to the first edition of the 2011 HIMSS NCA Newsletter! Our goal is to provide our 600+ local chapter members a way to keep up with the extensive amount of activity in the Health IT industry. We hope this content provides you with some timely information on the activities of the chapter and we welcome your feedback.

HIMSS NCA has a unique membership. Our Health IT Professionals embody a wide set of characteristics, from those practicing in provider and research settings to payers, vendors, contractors, consultants, businesses, and federal, state, and local governments. The Chapter Board is honored to serve you in our voluntary capacity and we encourage everyone to engage as an active member of the NCA Chapter.

Here's a look at some upcoming opportunities for you to participate in the NCA Chapter this year.

#### CALL FOR NOMINATIONS:

There is no better time to get involved in HIMSS NCA than right now! We are looking for people who are dedicated and committed to leading the Chapter over the next one to two years, beginning in July 2011.

Eligibility for participation on the Chapter Board includes:

- Status as a dues paying member of HIMSS National
- Completion of at least one year of membership
- Participation in a HIMSS NCA or HIMSS National committee

The following Chapter Board positions are open for nominations:

- President-elect/Vice President (2-year term)
- Secretary
- Treasurer

This voluntary role can require up to 20+ hours per month. Please consider self-nomination, or nominate individuals who can make this commitment. The Chapter Board positions will require active participation in order to best serve the membership and the profession at this time.

If you are interested in nominating a colleague, or in self-nomination for one of the positions, please forward your name, contact information and the desired Chapter Board position to Robert McCashin at [rjmccash1@himss-nca.org](mailto:rjmccash1@himss-nca.org) by **February 28, 2011**. The election for these positions will open in March 2011 and results will be announced afterward.

We look forward to a productive and exciting year as our profession continues to grow and transform in unprecedented and historic ways.

All the best,

Peggy

*Speakers: Armando Oliva, M.D., Food and Drug Administration (FDA) (confirmed); Robert Connors, Senior Biomedical Advisor, U.S. Army Telemedicine and Advanced Technology Research Center (TATRC) (confirmed); Veterans Affairs (VA) (invited); Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) (invited)*

Click [here](#) for additional upcoming events.

### Recap from January Chapter Event

The HIMSS NCA chapter was pleased to present The State of Federal Health IT Contract Reform as our chapter program for January.

The panel discussed how these government directives are changing the way in which these agencies procure their health IT solutions. The panel addressed directives that affect procurement strategies, lessons learned from interacting with industry and partners when working on awards, barriers and how these directives changed how you work with your agency on procuring new contracts.

The moderator Daniel Kane; Acting Director; Office of Acquisition and Grants Management; Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, led a discussion between panelists Mary Armstead, NIH, Director NITAAC and William E. Newell; Chief of Information Technology Development Division at the VA's Technology Acquisition Center.

Click [here](#) to view presentations.

### Sponsor Spotlight

Sponsors of the January program were Buchanan Ingersoll & Rooney PC, a law firm that boasts more than 450 attorneys and government relations professionals. The firm's bicoastal reach provides clients with nationwide access to all of our attorneys and their respective areas of experience.

Buchanan Ingersoll & Rooney PC attorneys have experience in such industries as entertainment and media, pharmaceuticals, life sciences, financial services, energy, real estate, national security, natural resources and technology. Buchanan attorneys also focus on more than 65 different practice areas including Corporate Finance, Litigation, Energy, Intellectual Property, Tax, Government Relations, Financial Institutions, Bankruptcy and Creditors' Rights, Health Care, Government Contracts and Labor and Employment.

Their offices are conveniently located at 1700 K Street, N.W., Suite 300, Washington, DC 20006-3807 and they may be reached at 202 452 7900. For more information about our January sponsor, visit <http://www.bipc.com/home.php>.

**Buchanan Ingersoll & Rooney PC**  
Attorneys & Government Relations Professionals

Please review and vote on the proposed bylaw changes by Monday, February 28, 2011

### Consultants' Corner

The Post CIO-SP3 Relationship Drive  
By Thomas P. Caruso, PhD, MBA, PMP

By the time you read this many of you probably have been involved in proposals for both of the Chief Information Officer-Solution Provider 3 (CIO-SP3) solicitations. You may, like me, have agreed to two or more contingency offers for a role on these proposals, e.g. program manager, project manager, or SME, if an award is received. You've learned about government-wide acquisition contracts (GWACs), like Indefinite Delivery/Indefinite Quantity (ID/IQ) contracts and how the government is trying to find ways to increase the amount of small business participation in IT contracts. You've learned that most companies want to participate in government health IT opportunities through CIO-SP3.

Now you may be wondering how you're going to make the best of this opportunity for your clients if they win an award. You could be asking what to do while waiting for the awards which will not happen until at least the summer. How can you be prepared for an award? What happens if you are not on a winning team? Will you or your clients be excluded from health IT contract opportunities?

Click [here](#) to read more.

Thomas Caruso has more than twenty years experience consulting in areas such as biomedical IT, government contracting and project management. If you would like to contribute a Consultant's Corner article for next quarter's newsletter, please contact Amanda Woodhead at [amandawoodhead@gmail.com](mailto:amandawoodhead@gmail.com) or 615-932-3863.



### HIMSS NCA Chapter Seeks Recommendations for Charitable Grants

The National Capital Area Chapter as part of its community support is pleased to provide charitable donations to worthy local organizations and to provide scholarships to worthy students. The funds come from our program sponsors and member contributions. During February we are soliciting from our members the names of charitable organizations that are recommended for grants. The board has not decided either how many organizations will be recognized or how much will be given. However the process starts by members nominating worthy organizations. Any member may make recommendations. It is not required that the charity be a health care delivery activity or that the grant go for supporting IT related purchases. After initial vetting, an application will be sent to charities to ascertain specific information to help support selection. Interviews are likely to be a part of the process. HIMSS NCA board will make the final selection and winner(s) will be announced at the May chapter meeting.

To nominate a charity please provide:

- Organization Name
- Phone Number and Email address
- Point of Contact within the organization

Please forward recommendations and requested information to [danieleblum@aol.com](mailto:danieleblum@aol.com), our Advocacy Chair. Any questions may also be addressed to him. All recommendation are due by February 25, 2011.

Let us know what you think of the newsletter! Send any feedback or if you would like to submit an article for inclusion in an upcoming HIMSS NCA chapter newsletter, please contact Amanda Woodhead at [amandawoodhead@gmail.com](mailto:amandawoodhead@gmail.com) or 615-932-3863.

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