

**Hamline Health Law Institute  
Alumni Success Stories**

**Doug Curella, Jr., J.D., 2009** - A recent graduate of the Health Law Institute is currently serving as the Chief of Staff and Consul to New York State Senator Mark J. Grisanti, 60<sup>th</sup> District. Doug also serves as “Of Counsel” with The Knoer Group, PLLC., located in downtown Buffalo, New York. In his role at the Senator’s office Doug deals with a variety of policy issues and legislation, health care being a major one. Currently, Doug is working on legislation to help combat Medicaid Fraud, Health Care Exchanges and a prescription drug tracking program. “The Health Institute at Hamline Law has prepared me tackle the tough issues surrounding the health care industry. I have a step above my colleagues because of my attention and focus on Health Law during law school. I have the incredible professors from the Health Law Institute to thank for that, they brought their experiences from the real world into the classroom.

**Sharmin Nabi, J.D., 2009** is a Compliance Consultant in the Corporate Integrity department at HealthPartners. In her role, Sharmin manages the on-boarding process by integrating newly affiliated facilities into the compliance program, manages the physician-disclosure process and analyzes industry relationships for conflicts of interest, and drafts policy standards for use organization-wide.

**Jacki Pemrick, J.D., 2009** - Jacki Pemrick is the Privacy Officer for Mayo Clinic. In her role, she provides direction and oversight of the privacy program for all Mayo Clinic sites. In addition to her role as the Mayo Clinic Privacy Officer, she also serves as the site privacy officer for the largest clinic location which is Rochester. Some of the activities she oversees related to privacy include privacy monitoring and auditing, regulatory interactions and investigations, and education.

**Jacob Belanger, 2011 Healthcare Compliance Certificate Graduate** - I have been employed for six months as a Privacy Analyst for Sanford Health. I handle the majority of the privacy law data breach mitigation and reporting as required by HITECH. I also do a lot of work with privacy access internal audits in the electronic medical record. I had earned a JD and MBA before attending Hamline’s Healthcare Compliance Certificate Program. I point that out because I believe that Hamline has provided the best piece of my professional education. Hamline’s compliance skills training is excellent and for me included improving my public speaking ability and gaining rare insight into the healthcare field. I believe one of the program’s biggest strengths is its connection to speakers from the HCCA, and mentor activities. After graduation without any additional review I was able to earn my CHC and CHPC credentials.

**Ashton Boon, J.D., 2011**, a graduate of the Health Law Institute, currently is a Senior Detection Analyst for UnitedHealthcare Medicare & Retirement Compliance Operations department. Ashton provides oversight to UnitedHealthcare’s administrative entities across the nation by establishing monitoring processes to ensure compliance with Medicare Part C regulations. Ashton regularly works with Medical Directors and operational staff to evaluate policies and procedures of these administrative entities to confirm that each operational process delivers the highest quality of care to members. Ashton stated, “Receiving the Health Law and Compliance Certifications provided me with the practical tools necessary to be successful in my position. I am truly grateful for the education and experiences I received through the Health Law Institute.”

**Natalie Larsen, J.D. 2011**, As a Senior Compliance Analyst at UnitedHealthcare Pharmacy, I track and interpret state and federal laws that potentially impact United’s business and operations. I collaborate with multiple departments across United to establish and implement standard policies, procedures and best practices to promote compliance with applicable laws and contractual obligations. I also respond to state regulators by preparing arguments as to how our health benefit plan, pharmacy programs and network comply with the law.

**Casey Martin, J.D. 2011** recently accepted a position as Compliance Director at Planned Parenthood of MN, ND, SD. Once a compliance staff member at Planned Parenthood, she returns after working in compliance at BlueCross and BlueShield of Minnesota. She continues to serve as a volunteer attorney through Volunteer Lawyers Network.

**Monica Wilson, J.D., 2011:** "I recently started a job in compliance at the University of New Mexico Health Sciences Center. I work in a department of two people, myself and the Chief Compliance Officer. Our office oversees compliance activities throughout the UNM Health System, including the hospital and research activities. This is my first job after law school and I have already made an impact. The Health Law courses I took at Hamline gave me a broad base of practical knowledge that I use every single day."

**Mai Lee Yang, J.D., 2011** - Mai Lee Yang began working as a Compliance Analyst for UnitedHealthcare Medicare & Retirement, part of UnitedHealth Group. Mai Lee focuses on identifying and developing solutions to compliance gaps and then partnering with internal and external groups to ensure accurate and timely responses. "Finding a job I would enjoy was a consuming worry of mine as I neared graduation. Thankfully, I am entering my chosen field because of the certifications I obtained and connections I made from the Hamline Health Law Institute."

**Jada Fehn, J.D., 2012:** "I just started an internship at the Food and Drug Administration in Washington, DC. The Office of Policy is involved in policy development and coordination to interpret, clarify and implement legislation. My enriching experience in the Health Law Institute also led to a first-place writing prize from the Minnesota State Bar Association - Food, Drug and Device Law Section for my article about litigation as a tool for fighting the obesity epidemic."

**Christilyn Nailing, J.D. 2012** "I am currently working as a Project Consultant Senior with the Health Care Eligibility and Access Division at the Minnesota Department of Human Services (DHS). I work within Minnesota's Health Care Reform Eligibility Policy Team to implement President Obama's Health Care Reform and help ensure that Minnesota Health Care Programs (MHCP) comply with program procedures, operational initiatives, and reform legislation. I research, interpret, and communicate MHCP eligibility policy as it relates to Health Care Reform, and I am a primary policy and legal resource for the development and implementation of the Minnesota Health Insurance Exchange and DHS system modernization efforts. I am excited about my work with DHS. I am also happy that I am using my knowledge and education from Hamline's Health Law Institute and my experiences from my practicum with UCare to positively impact MN residents and the future of affordable and accessible health care."

**Gretchen Nguyen, J.D. 2012:** "Throughout law school I always looked forward to my health law and compliance courses. I found these courses to be the most interesting and engaging. Now, as a result of participating in both the General Health Law Certificate and the Health Care Compliance Certificate, I have the opportunity to start my professional career in a field I care about and at a place I am excited to work at. In August, I will begin working as the Compliance Manager for Mental Health Resources, Inc. This position will work with cross functional teams to identify and resolve clinical and operational compliance issues within the agency. I will also design and implement programs, policies, and practices to ensure that all business units are in compliance with state, federal, and local regulatory requirements."

**Kyle Pettersen-Scott, J.D., 2012,** accepted a position as an Assistant Compliance Director with OptumHealth, part of UnitedHealth Group, working with OptumHealth Financial Services.

**Elizabeth Stoneburg, J.D., 2012;** 2012 graduate Liz Stoneburg started October 1, 2012 working as a legal analyst for the Minnesota Board of Nursing. Liz works within the Board's Discipline and Practice Department, reviewing case files and drafting documents for the regulatory agency. The Board regulates nurses to ensure safe, quality care for patients across Minnesota. Liz is very excited to be using her Health Law Certificate for patient protection and advocacy right out of law school.

**Holly Weick, J.D., 2012** "I recently started as a Compliance Specialist at Central California Alliance for Health (CAAH). In this role, I work with the Compliance team to support CAAH by revising policies, conducting research, reviewing contracts, and assisting with audits. CAAH is a non-profit county organized health system that provides managed Medicaid services for Santa Cruz, Monterey, and Merced counties in California. I am very excited to be using the education and experiences that I gained from the Healthcare Compliance Institute, my practicum with Planned Parenthood MNS, and my summer internship with Care Capital Management."

**Elise Brown, J.D. 2013** - So, as of last week, I was officially offered (and of course accepted) a position as an associate attorney with Geraghty, O'Loughlin, & Kenney in St. Paul, following graduation. They are an 11 attorney firm with offices in both St. Paul and Duluth, MN. We practice all areas of health law, but focus mainly on medical malpractice defense. I have been clerking there since June of 2011. This truly is my dream job and I am incredibly overwhelmed and excited that I have been given the opportunity to begin my legal career with this firm. And, I must say, the knowledge that I have gained through all of my Health Law classes has certainly set me up for this exciting opportunity.

*\*This list only represents a sample of alumni career success stories.*