Dear all:

Please let this be a status update of MAG’s activities over the last few weeks. As always, my previous updates can be found at http://www.mag.org/resources/executive-directors-message.

**Medical Staff Bylaws**
Please find attached a document prepared by Trish Yeatts, MAG’s new Legal Analyst, giving a high level summary of the Georgia law governing medical staff issues. Please note this summary does not contain other applicable provisions from the Joint Commission or the Conditions of Participation for Medicare. However, we will have an updated Model Medical Staff Bylaws available in the next few months which will contain all the relevant information. Sidney Welch has completed the draft and we are moving forward with physician review at this time. We anticipate the document be available in December.

**Affordable Care Act Timeline**
At a recent Medical Association of Atlanta Board of Directors’ meeting, there was discussion on the need for a timeline of the ACA provisions. Working together with MAA, please see the attached document for your review. Special thanks to MAA for pointing out the need for this information. Trish Yeatts produced this piece from various sources which are noted.

**Physician’s Institute for Excellence in Medicine (PIEM)**
Congratulations to Bob Addleton, PIEM Executive Vice-President, and Adele Cohen, PIEM Senior Vice-President for Grants and Operations, for their successful efforts in obtaining a grant with Pfizer Independent Grants for Learning & Change (IGL&C) group to study the management of chronic pain. PIEM is supporting this initiative by providing training, project management, evaluation services, and ongoing consultation to grantees. More information can be found at http://www.mag.org/news/articles/phizer. This is just another example of the great work being done by PIEM, Bob and Adele.

**MAG Foundation Think About It Campaign (TAI)**
The Think About It Campaign is moving forward on a number of initiatives. Recently, Dr. Tenent Slack presented to 150 Freshman at Brenau University on prescription drug abuse prevention. Dr. Slack discussed timely issues such as higher rate of overdose among women, the dangers of sharing prescription drugs and mixing with alcohol. Dallas Gay, TAI Co-Chair will return to Brenau to discuss the personal impact prescription drug abuse can have on families. TAI is discussing bringing this program to other universities in Georgia. On October 9, TAI is presenting the Health Smart Breakfast Kickoff in Gainesville. More information can be found at http://www.mag.org/sites/default/files/downloads/healthsmart_breakfast_flyer.pdf. If you have any questions about TAI, please contact Fred Jones at fjones@mag.org or Lori Murphy at lmurphy@mag.org.

**Tort Reform**
Please find attached a presentation I did at the 2012 Civil Justice Forum hosted by the Georgia Chamber of Commerce. This presentation discusses the 2005 tort reform passed in Georgia focusing on the provisions that are still in effect, as well as those provisions that have been overturned by our Supreme Court. Additionally, there are three slides outlining the benefits of tort reform in Georgia. As you will see, the 2005 tort reform law has worked in that claims are down, physicians’ liability costs are down and there are more liability companies in the marketplace.
As always, if you should have any questions, please do not hesitate to call.

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