

Credentials of Health Care Forum Panel Members

Mr. Joseph Ross, Hospital Administrator/Executive:

BA, West Virginia University; MA (Hospital and Health Sciences Administration), Xavier University.

Mr. Ross has served as President and CEO of Shore Health System since 1996, when The Memorial Hospital at Easton and Dorchester General Hospital in Cambridge affiliated to create a regional healthcare system. He was President and CEO of The Memorial Hospital at Easton for two years before the affiliation.

Mr. Ross has more than 30 years of experience as a hospital executive, having previously served as President and CEO of 240-bed Mercy Medical Center in Oshkosh, Wisconsin, CEO of a 132-bed hospital in the Geisinger Medical System in Pennsylvania, and President and CEO at Wetzel County Hospital in New Martinsville, West Virginia.

He is a member of the American College of Healthcare Executives, a graduate of Leadership Maryland, and has served on the boards and executive councils of the Maryland Hospital Association, Voluntary Hospitals of America, and the Maryland Healthcare Education Institute. He has been active in community business and civic organizations, including the Chamber of Commerce, Boy Scouts of America and Coastal Conservation Association.

Mr. Terry Burke, Insurance Executive:

BA, University of Washington; US Marine Corps veteran.

Mr. Burke has a unique set of experiences having served in the regulatory environment of healthcare as a Presidential Exchange Fellow, in the healthcare delivery system in his capacity as a Director and Officer of Prudential's Prepaid Group Practice Program, and as a Senior Officer and Director in the healthcare financing industry.

He has been with Prudential Insurance Company, Cigna Corporation, Aetna Corporation, and MetraHealth Corporation, holding such positions as Senior Vice President of National Operations; Senior Vice President of Managed Care; Senior Vice President of Planning and Development; Senior Vice President of Field Operations; Senior Executive Vice President, responsible for strategic planning, product development, and mergers and acquisitions; and President of Health Plans.

Mr. Burke currently serves on the Board of Directors of MedSolutions, a Radiology Management Company, and Systems Excellence, a Prescription Drug technology and management company (PBM). He is currently with Chinook Wind Development, serving as a strategic advisor to healthcare and healthcare financing organizations.

Dr. Stanley Minken, Physician:

BS, University of Maryland; MS, George Washington University; and MD, University of Maryland.

Dr. Minken served at Franklin Square Hospital, the University of Maryland Hospital, and St. Agnes Hospital, including 15 years as the Chairman of the Department of Surgery at St. Agnes. He has been Attending Surgeon at those institutions, as well as Mercy Hospital, Johns Hopkins, the National Naval Medical Center at Bethesda, and Walter Reed Army Medical Center.

Dr. Minken has taught at the University of Maryland and Johns Hopkins University and has been both a professor of surgery and Chief of the Division of Academic Surgery at the Uniformed Services University of Health Sciences (USUHS), where many physicians for our armed services are taught. He currently serves as the Chief Medical Officer at Chester River Hospital Center, a part of the University of Maryland system.

He is a US Air Force veteran of Vietnam and continues to serve as a Colonel, currently commanding the 10th Medical Regiment for the Maryland Defense Force, which provides support to the Maryland National Guard.

Dr. Minken has participated in 59 presentations and panels, and he has authored 30 publications in peer-reviewed journals and seven book chapters. He has been the recipient of numerous awards, including the Distinguished Surgeon Award from the Baltimore Academy of Surgery. He is a member of 17 Medical and Surgical Societies, and he has served on at least 19 distinguished committees.

Mr. Jim Persels, Attorney:

BS, US Naval Academy; MPH, Tulane University; JD *cum laude*, University of Southern Illinois School of Law; U.S. Navy veteran

Before going to law school, Mr. Persels was the Director of the Baromedical Research Institute, conducting research in hyperbaric medicine applications. He then directed administrative and technical activities of the hyperbaric medicine and emergency medical services at a medical center. He subsequently became a consultant in the health care field, specializing in development and operation of clinical hyperbaric medicine programs worldwide.

Following his graduation from law school, he was Special Assistant Attorney General, State of Illinois; Legal Advisor to the Guardianship and Advocacy Commission, State of Illinois; Legal Counsel to the Southern Seven Health Department; and a Member of the Multidisciplinary Team on Elder Abuse for the Shawnee Alliance for Seniors. In private practice, he focused on public health law, workers' compensation, personal injury, medical malpractice, family law, guardianship for disabled adults, elder abuse, and professional disciplinary proceedings.

Mr. Persels is Owner and Managing Member of a national law practice of 150 attorneys with over 35,000 clients.

He has made 16 professional presentations and has authored 10 publications on hyperbaric medicine and on the legal aspects of health care.

Dr. Jim Jaffe, Pharmaceutical Research Scientist:

BS, BA, MS, and PhD (Pharmaceutics), University of Pittsburgh

Dr. Jaffe was an Instructor, Assistant Professor, and Associate Professor in both undergraduate and graduate level Pharmaceutics for six years, then joined Sandoz Research Institute in 1979. He rose to Executive Director of the Drug Metabolism and Pharmacokinetics Department, and on to Executive Director of Clinical Research Operations. In 1996, Sandoz merged with Ciba-Geigy to form Novartis Pharmaceuticals. For Novartis, Dr. Jaffe served as Executive Director for Clinical Research and Regulatory Affairs and then Executive Director and Project Leader for the Transplantation Business Unit. He retired from Novartis in 2005 while serving as the Executive Director and Project Leader for Oncology.

Dr. Jaffe was a member of the research team that developed the first drug for organ transplantation, cyclosporine, which in the end spawned the transplantation era where, for example, a kidney transplant is no longer news. He was also on the development team that discovered and developed one of the first targeted cancer therapies which even today is saving countless lives for cancers that 10 years ago gave patients only a few years to live, specifically Gastrointestinal Stromal tumors and Chronic Myelogenous Leukemia.

Dr. Jaffe is the author of 44 publications in peer-reviewed journals, a Laboratory handbook, and several chapters in textbooks. He has presented 17 seminars/papers.

Delegate Jeannie Haddaway-Riccio, State Legislator:

BA (Political Science), Salisbury University

Delegate Jeannie Haddaway-Riccio has been a member of the Maryland House of Delegates since 2003. She is the Assistant Minority Whip in the House of Delegates and serves on the House Economic Matters Committee. Additionally she serves on the Public Utilities, Business Regulation and Consumer Protection/Corporate Law Subcommittees.

She has been actively seeking health care reform in Maryland throughout her career. During the 2004 session, she co-sponsored legislation on medical malpractice reform. The legislation passed almost unanimously in the House (only one person voted against it), but it failed in the Senate for lack of action. As a result, the General Assembly was called into a special session, where she cosponsored tort reform legislation with former Governor Robert Ehrlich. A watered down version of their bill was passed.

In 2006, Delegate Jeannie Haddaway-Riccio and Delegate Addie Eckardt sponsored their own health reform legislation (House Bill 1412). The Health and Government Operations Committee called it “an idea before its time”. However, it generated discussion and has laid the groundwork for future reforms. In fact, many of the recommendations in their legislation are currently being debated at the Federal level.

Delegate Haddaway-Riccio returned in July from a visit to Taiwan where she met with Cheng-hua Lee, President and CEO of the Bureau of National Health Insurance.
