

Civil Collaborative Law Symposium: Bringing Healing to Law and Medicine in Adverse Medical Events

April 7, 2010 | Hyatt Regency Embarcadero | San Francisco, CA

Co-sponsored by
ABA Tort Trial and Insurance Practice Section
ABA Health Law Section

Symposium Chair:
Kathleen Clark, PhD, JD, MAM, Servant Lawyship, Pleasant Hill, CA

This symposium aims to create an environment for interested professionals to come together to share ideas, rethink processes and practices, and enhance learning regarding collaborative practices, focusing on health care/adverse medical events; collaboration across professions; and exploration of other arenas and successes in the use of collaborative law practices.

8:30 am

Opening Plenary:

Sandy Coletta, James Woods, and Mark Decof are proof of the transformative power of collaborative dialogue, disclosure, sincere apology, and compensation after medical error. Mr. Woods and Ms. Coletta agreed to settle a medical malpractice suit brought after Mr. Woods' younger 49-year old brother died at Kent Hospital. Ms. Coletta reached out to James Woods and Mark Decof, asking to meet face to face with Mr. Woods over dinner after previous efforts to settle had failed. With Mr. Woods' and his family's support, the hospital has committed to create The Michael J. Woods Institute at Kent Hospital to focus on redesigning healthcare systems using a human centered approach to improve clinical outcomes. The moving video news clip features Ms. Coletta and Mr. Woods in their own words: <http://tinyurl.com/woodslawsuit>.



Coletta



Woods



Decof

Panelists:

- **Sandra Coletta**, MBA, CEO, Kent Hospital, Warwick, Rhode Island
- **Mark Decof**, Woods Family Attorney, Decof & Decof, Providence, Rhode Island
- **Actor James Woods**

10:00 am

Collaborative Law/Practices in Adverse Medical Event Situations

Panelists:

- **Mark Graber**, MD, Chief of Medicine, VA Medical Center, Northpoint, NY
- **June Riley**, Executive Director of Physicians Reimbursement Fund, San Francisco, CA
- **Kathleen Clark**, Attorney, Founder/ CEO, Servant Lawyship, Pleasant Hill, CA
- **Ila Rothschild**, Special Counsel to the Joint Commission, Chicago, IL

Program Sponsors

- Emerging Healthcare Communities, LLC
- Collaborative Council of the Redwood Empire
- Global Collaborative Law Council
- Law Office of Ruth L. Rickard
- ServantLawyship.com
- Physicians Reimbursement Fund, Inc.
- Collaborative Workforce Associates

11:30am

Civil Collaborative Law and its Successes in Other Arenas: Probate and Estates, Business Disputes (including family-owned businesses), and Employment Disputes

Panelists

- **William M. Andrews**, Attorney, Santa Rosa, CA
- **Jeanne Fahey**, Attorney, Collaborative Workforce Associates, Oakland, CA
- **Michael Zeytoonian**, Partner, Hutchings, Barsamian, Cross, Mandlecorn & Zeytoonian, LLP, Wellesley, MA (invited)

12:30 pm

Keynote Luncheon

Kathy Bryan, JD, President & CEO, International Institute for Conflict Prevention and Resolution (CPR Institute), New York, NY, and author of *Why Should Businesses Hire Settlement Counsel?* (borrowing collaborative law techniques to settle cases).



Bryan

2:00 pm

Hypothetical Case and Small Group Breakouts:

Following a demonstration, participants will work in small groups to resolve a hypothetical case with an adverse medical event factual situation. The group facilitators will coach on use of collaborative law to reach resolution.

Facilitators:

- **Sherrie R. Abney**, Law Offices of Sherrie R. Abney, Carrollton, TX
- **Kathleen Clark**, Servant Lawyship, Pleasant Hill, CA
- **Larry Maxwell**, Mediator, Arbitrator and Collaborative Law Practitioner, Dallas, TX
- **Ruth L. Rickard**, Law Office of Ruth L. Rickard, Dallas, TX
- **Claire G. Spector**, Attorney, Collaborative Practice Center, Santa Rosa, CA

Registration

Registration: \$125 for attendees of the ABA Dispute Resolution Section Spring Conference; \$195 all others. Registration includes program materials, light breakfast, and the luncheon.