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AHIOS Names Rita Bowen to Leadership Committee

BOSTON, June 9, 2020 — The Association of Health Information Outsourcing Services ([AHIOS](#)), an organization of executives from the leading health information management (HIM) outsourcing companies, who promote excellence in managing risk and compliance issues around the disclosure of Protected Health Information (PHI) announced that Rita Bowen, MA, RHIA, CHPS, CHPC, SSGB will join the association's leadership committee as legislative and government affairs coordinator.

"We are thrilled that Rita Bowen, a highly accomplished leader in the HIM community who has served as a former president of the American Health Information Management Association (AHIMA), will be joining our leadership committee as legislative and government affairs coordinator," said Carlos Rodriguez, President of AHIOS. "With her deep industry and compliance expertise and ability to embrace change, Rita will be a valuable resource to the association, bolstering our advocacy and legislative initiatives that support increasing patient's access to their medical records while maintaining patient privacy."

In her role as Vice President of Privacy, Compliance and HIM Policy at [MRO](#), Bowen ensures new and existing client HIM policies and procedures are to code. Bowen also serves as the company's Privacy and Compliance Officer (PCO), assuring timely reporting of any disclosure incident. She is also responsible for reviewing legislation to assure industry response and compliance within MRO. Bowen has more than 40 years of experience in Health Information Management (HIM), holding a variety of HIM director and consulting roles. Bowen currently sits on The Sequoia Project Board of Directors and is an active member of the [American Health Information Management Association](#) (AHIMA). She served as AHIMA President and Board Chair, as a member of the Board of Directors for six years, and of the Council on Certification for three years. Bowen has also served on the AHIMA Foundation Board of Directors, serving as its Board Chair. She has been honored with AHIMA's Triumph Award in the mentor category; she is also the recipient of the Distinguished Member Award from the Tennessee Health Information Management Association (THIMA). Bowen is an established industry thought leader, author and speaker on HIM topics and has taught HIM studies at Chattanooga State and the University of Tennessee Memphis. She holds a Bachelor of Medical Science degree from Emory University in Atlanta, GA with a focus in medical record administration and a Master's degree in Health Information/Informatics Management Technology from the College of Saint Scholastic in Duluth, MN.

“I am delighted to be serving as the legislative and government affairs coordinator for AHIOS during this time when the industry is navigating the many challenges and critical issues associated with balancing patient access and privacy,” said Bowen. “I look forward to working with the AHIOS leadership team to address the ever-increasing and highly complex legislative and compliance issues and to strengthen the association’s advocacy and education initiatives that are essential to ensuring standards of excellence for the entire Release of Information (ROI) industry.”

About the Association of Health Information Outsourcing Services (AHIOS)

Established in 1996, AHIOS promotes, strengthens and enhances the health information management outsourcing industry while ensuring excellence in managing risk and compliance issues associated with the disclosure of Protected Health Information (PHI). Its goals are to increase awareness of the value, importance and complexity of the industry’s services; establish standards of excellence for the industry of health information management outsourcing; pursue fair and equitable treatment of the industry through legislative, regulatory and legal processes; and create educational and networking opportunities for members. For more information, visit www.AHIOS.org

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AHIOS’s Legislative and Government Affairs Coordinator, Rita Bowen, MA, RHIA, CHPS, CHPC, SSGB and Vice President, Privacy, Compliance and HIM Policy, MRO