

SUN TZU A 6TH CENTURY BCE CHINESE GENERAL; MILITARY STRATEGIST AND AUTHOR OF THE ART OF WAR IS CREDITED WITH SAYING:

1. If you know your opponents and know yourself, you will not be imperiled in a hundred battles.
2. If you do not know your opponents but do know yourself, you will win one and lose one.
3. If you do not know your opponents nor yourself, you will be imperiled in every single battle.

While we are certainly not masters of military strategy, these ancient lessons are as applicable in the courtroom as they are in field of battle. You must know your opponent as well as you know yourself. By finding out all you can about him/her you will be able not only to spot issues previously hidden from you, but develop new defenses and litigation strategies. In defending PIP lawsuits, we have found the following websites helpful in researching medical providers. The research obtained from these websites often helps to conduct case-specific discovery, cross-examine Plaintiff's corporate representative, and obtain voluntary dismissals. Please contact us if we can help you research a medical provider.

Florida's Department of Health Division of Medical Quality Assurance

<http://ww2.doh.state.fl.us/IRM00PRAES/PRASLIST.ASP>

- » Practitioner Profiles
- » Licensure
- » Discipline
- » Current Location
- » Supervising Physician
- » Subordinate Practitioners

AHCA's Florida Health Finder

<http://www.floridahealthfinder.gov/facilitylocator>

- » Health Care Clinic Licensure under the HCCA (400.990-995)
- » Medical Directors

Florida Division of Corporations

www.sunbiz.org

- » **Corporate Status**
 - **PIP TIP** - If Plaintiff filed suit under incorrect (either a wholly incorrect name or a fictitious name), assert the lack of standing defense.
- » **Active/Inactive Status**
 - **PIP TIP** - Inactive corporation: While a corporation may "wind up" business, the "wind up" cannot go on forever. Thus, a corporation who rendered services several years ago, who has since dissolved, may not have standing to pursue a legal claim.
 - If a corporation was inactive on the date services were rendered, services may not have been lawfully rendered and Plaintiff may lack the legal capacity to file and maintain suit.
- » **Principal and Mailing Address**
 - **PIP TIP** - Verify the Principal and Mailing Addresses of the facility, because you will need this information to confirm that the services were either being rendered [Box # 32] on site or at another facility and that you were on notice of where the Explanations of Review and other correspondence were to be sent [Box # 33].
- » **Owners/Officers**
 - **PIP TIP** -The Florida No-Fault Statute requires services to be rendered either by persons licensed under certain enumerated chapters or by facilities which are owned in part or in whole by lay persons.
 - By identifying the owners and officers, you can then determine whether they are healthcare professionals licensed under one of the enumerated chapters (400.990-995, Florida Statutes) and thus exempt from clinic licensure, or are lay persons required to be licensed and subject to the scrutiny of the Agency and the obligations imposed upon them.

- Is the owner a lay person? Go to: FloridaHealthFinder.gov (<http://www.floridahealthfinder.gov/facilitylocator/FacilitySearch.aspx>)

- » **Incorporation Documents**
- » **Historical Filings**
- » **Other Connections**

Other Helpful Internet Resources:

- » Current Procedural Terminology and Modifiers

The CPT® Assistant by the American Medical Association (Book or Online)

- » Look Up CPT Code
- » Define Code
- » Description of Service
- » Detailed Requirements/Components
- » Modifiers
- » Supply Codes

AMA Code Manager (72148)

<https://ocm.ama-assn.org/OCM/CPTRelativeValueSearch.do?submitButton=accept>

- » Look Up CPT Code
 - By Region
 - Get Description of Service
 - Get Relative Value Units
- » RiversideMD.net
 - <http://www.riversidemd.net/tools/code-search.cfm>
 - Look Up ICD-9 and CPT Codes
 - Define Code

Description of Service

- » Fee Schedule and Pricing Resources
 - CMS.gov Physician Fee Schedule Look Up
 - <http://www.cms.gov/Medicare/Medicare-Fee-for-Service-Payment/PFSlookup/index.html>
- » 2007 Medicare Fee Schedule
 - <http://www.usemedibill.com/2007FeeSchedule.pdf>
- » Workers Compensation Fee Schedule
 - Florida Workers' Compensation Health Care Provider Reimbursement Manual, 2008 Edition
 - <http://www.myfloridacfo.com/wc/pdf/2008HCPRM.pdf>

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