

Speaker Bios – November 17, 2021 Educational Webinar

Bruce F. Farber, M.D., is the Chief of the Karin and Dayton Brown Jr., Division of Infectious Diseases at Northwell Health. He is a Professor of Medicine at the Donald and Barbara Zucker School of Medicine at Hofstra/Northwell. He has over 44 years of experience in the medical field and graduated from Northwestern University Medical School in 1976. He has been a driver of clinical innovation and clinical research in the field of Infectious Diseases. During the COVID19, pandemic he has been the thought leader for Northwell Health, creating policies and procedures around proper patient care and workforce safety. He has also been instrumental in instructing and guiding not only the health system, but other various national organizations.

Bob Worden began his career at the law firm now known as Fumuso, Kelly, Swart Farrell, Polin & Christensen, LLP in 1981, where he handled medical malpractice cases as well as general liability cases as a junior partner until 1992, when he became a founding partner of the firm now known as Lawrence Worden Rainis and Bard, PC.

For the last 20 years, Bob has concentrated his practice to defend high exposure claims of all types, including claims against hospitals, nursing homes, physicians and other health care providers. Bob has been engaged as a Mediator and Arbitrator at NAM (National Arbitration and Mediation) since 2017, although he continues his private legal practice monitoring catastrophic injury cases for a number of national insurance carriers who provide excess and umbrella coverages. This work requires detailed analysis of the facts, participation in the defense strategy to defend against the liability and damages claims, as well as accurate estimation of the potential for a plaintiff's verdict and ultimate damages awards. Bob's extensive experience helps both sides to better understand the risks of proceeding with litigation, helping to obtain early resolution that both sides can accept.

Bob has been a long-time advocate of Alternate Dispute Resolution, seeking to resolve claims and lawsuits at the earliest possible time, when there is the greatest opportunity for reducing legal costs and the greatest opportunity for obtaining reasonable settlements. One of the factors that motivated Bob to settle cases earlier was his personal observation of how the filing of a lawsuit against his father, a board-certified general surgeon, became a cloud hanging over his father's head. The suit was eventually resolved, with the cost of defense far exceeding the indemnity paid to the patient, which finally brought relief to Bob's father. There is a tremendous psychological benefit to all defendants and their organizations from early resolution of claims, so that all can again focus on caring for their patients, eliminating the sleepless nights, and the distractions that are inherent in litigation.

Plaintiff's attorneys are willing to use Bob as a mediator and arbitrator, even though he defends these cases, due to his reputation for fairness and practical problem solving. Plaintiff's attorneys appreciate being able to resolve these claims sooner with less work on their part, making their clients happy to have their case resolved and able to move on with their lives. Bob is available to mediate cases throughout New York State.

For more than a decade, **Scott LaRue** has been an advocate for elders in New York as president and chief executive officer of ArchCare, the non-profit healthcare system of the Archdiocese of New York.

Under LaRue's leadership, ArchCare has grown and diversified from a provider of institutional nursing home care for the frail elderly into one of the nation's largest and most dynamic Catholic healthcare ministries. Every day, ArchCare's more than 4,400 care members serve 9,000 people of all faiths, many of limited financial means, through a continuum of home and community-based and residential care programs that includes six skilled nursing and rehabilitation centers with 1,800 beds; health plans; a multi-site Program of All-inclusive Care for the Elderly (PACE); home care; assisted living; a specialty hospital for children; hospice and palliative care; and specialized programs for individuals with HIV/AIDS, Huntington's disease, intellectual and developmental disabilities and other complex health and social needs.

As CEO, LaRue has spearheaded more than \$200 million in capital improvements across ArchCare's ministry. One significant area of growth for the system under LaRue's leadership has been the expansion of ArchCare's PACE division, called Senior Life, which consists of a multidisciplinary team working in partnership to improve every aspect of participants' care. LaRue was the force behind the system's development of PACE, a nationally recognized model of care designed for people age 55 or older who require nursing-home-level care but would rather receive it at home or in the community. ArchCare's PACE program has grown from a single site in Harlem to seven PACE centers across New York City and Westchester, and the growth has been further accelerated by the COVID-19 pandemic.

Other key projects have included a state-of-the-art center for neurodegenerative care in the Hudson Valley; an assisted living program at ArchCare at San Vicente de Paúl in the Bronx; and an innovative residence for individuals with autism on Staten Island. LaRue is currently overseeing the \$20 million relocation and expansion of ArchCare's Specialty Hospital for Children at Terence Cardinal Cooke Health Care Center in Manhattan, as well as the construction of a second residence for people with autism, in Westchester.

LaRue joined ArchCare in 2007 and served as senior vice president and chief operating officer prior to being named CEO in March 2011. Earlier, he held a variety of management and senior leadership positions over the course of his more than 15 years at Loretto, the largest provider of eldercare services in Upstate New York. Among other roles, LaRue led Loretto's healthcare consulting and foodservice management company, Advanced Institutional Support Services, and served as vice president of support services.

LaRue holds Bachelor of Science and Master of Business Administration degrees from Syracuse University and is a Registered Dietitian. Active in a wide range of industry and professional organizations, LaRue currently chairs of the New York State PACE Alliance and is a member of the Greater New York Hospital Association. He was appointed a member of the New York State Public Health and Health Planning Council in 2016, and currently serves on both its Standing Committee on Health Planning and Standing Committee on Establishment and Project Review.