

**Thomas D. Watkins**  
373 Camden Hills West, Montgomery, TX 77356

### **Education**

B.A. Economics, Juris Doctor, both from the University of Missouri.

### **Attorney, retired**

I practiced law in St. Joseph, MO, Kansas City and Northwest MO for more than 40 years as a business lawyer, with a special focus in health care, representing hospitals, physicians and a variety of businesses from start-ups to international publicly held companies. I also have extensive experience in labor relations matters and negotiating Union contracts. I retired from my practice in 2011 and we moved to Montgomery, Texas, where our daughter and twin grandsons live.

### **Healthcare Experience**

I served as general or outside counsel for nonprofit Hospitals, physicians, Federally Qualified Health Centers, a surgery center, an HMO, a PPO and the Missouri Primary Care Association;

I presented programs to lawyers, physicians, healthcare executives and Boards on a variety of health law topics including governance, Medicare anti-kickback, Stark, false claims, restricting privileges and credentialing, antitrust in respect to a provider owned PPO, merging hospitals, implementing compliance plans, and the impact of Sarbanes Oxley on Healthcare Institutions, keeping minutes, antitrust compliance;

As counsel for Heartland Health I attended all Board meetings of the various hospital corporations and the parent company (without charge), risk management meetings, and made presentations on a wide variety of healthcare related topics.

I provided substantive advice regarding, among other things, financing and bond issues (some very complex), credentialing, fraud and abuse, exempt entity issues, union organization efforts, creation of nonprofit and for profit subsidiaries, medical staff bylaws, corporate organizational documents, real estate matters, antitrust compliance, contracts for physician provider services, physician and executive employment agreements, joint ventures, acquisitions and mergers, electronic medical records, HIPAA, software licensing, regional rural hospital affiliations, sole community provider matters, hospital foundation matters, JCAHO matters and conducted compliance and fraud investigations.

### **Mediation and Arbitration Experience**

I currently serve as a voluntary Mediator with the Montgomery County Dispute Resolution Center, handling cases two days a week. In my law practice, I did a great deal of labor work for

companies organized by Labor Unions. As company counsel I handled hundreds of labor disputes, many resulting in arbitration proceedings.

### **Professional Service**

Chairman, Missouri Bar Health & Hospital Law Committee,  
Director - Missouri Society of Health Care Attorneys,  
Member American Academy of Healthcare Attorneys  
Member American Health Lawyers Association  
Member Healthcare Round Table  
Member Best Lawyers in America, Healthcare Division  
Trustee University of Missouri Law School Foundation  
Member, University of Missouri Development Council  
Trustee of the Missouri Bar Association,

### **Community Service**

Trustee and Vice-President of the Board, St. Joseph Hospital, St. Joseph, MO,  
Director and Vice-Chairman of the Board, Heartland Health (integrated hospital system) St. Joseph, MO and one of its Organizers,  
Chairman, Success by 6, a United Way early childhood initiative,  
Chairman Missouri Panel on School Readiness, a Statewide committee convened by the Missouri State Coordinating Board for Early Childhood and a member of the Missouri Contingent to Harvard University's Center for the Developing Child,  
Director and Secretary, Community Foundation of Northwest Missouri, one of its Organizers, and recipient of its Distinguished Alumni Award,  
Director and President, Albrecht Kemper Museum of Art, St. Joseph, MO  
Trustee Missouri Western State University Foundation and a member of its Finance and Audit Committees  
Director and President, Pony Express Council, Boy Scouts of America, recipient of the Silver Beaver Award,  
Director, Heart of America Council, Boy Scouts of America,  
Director, Vice-President and Secretary, Pony Express Inc. — A National Memorial, and one of its Organizers  
Commissioner and Secretary of the Land Clearance for Redevelopment Association, St. Joseph, Missouri,  
Member, Hawthorn Foundation (State economic development organization),  
Member, St. Joseph Aviation Board,  
Director, Habitat for Humanity,  
Director, Red Cross,  
Director, Junior Achievement,  
Director, United Way of Greater St. Joseph, Inc.,  
Director, St. Joseph Soccer Association and one of its Organizers,  
Trustee, YWCA Board of Trustees,  
Member, St. Joseph, Missouri Charter Commission and principal author of the St. Joseph, MO City Charter,

Member of the St. Joseph Area Chamber of Commerce Economic Development Committee,  
Elder and Deacon and President, First Presbyterian Church,  
Recipient of America's Second Harvest Humanitarian Award,  
Member of several Charitable Foundations,  
Trustee of Men of Bentwater,  
Trustee of the Bentwater Civic Association,  
Trustee and President of the Bentwater Property Owners Association,  
Member of the Bentwater Architectural Control Committee,  
Volunteer mediator with the Montgomery County Dispute Resolution Center.