**TRANSITION GUIDE**

**Legal and Ethical Issues for Health Professionals, 3rd Edition**

***George D. Pozgar, MBA***

The *Legal and Ethical Issues for Health Professionals, 3rd Edition* provides the reader with a clear understanding of the law and ethics as it relates to health care dilemmas. The practical application of ethics in the health care setting is accomplished by interspersing the thoughts of great minds through *Quotes* and the real world of *Newspaper Articles*, patient experiences through *People Stories*, provider and organizational experiences through *Reality Checks*, and *Legal Case Studies*. The book ends with a *Closet Drama* that ties together the information that the author has gathered through the study of the 3rd edition. The real world of human behavior—is, synthesized in this the final Chapter *Summary Case—Star Chamber*. The closet drama ties all the elements of the book together in one case.

The reader is presented in the 3rd edition with real world life experiences, bringing the reader through a journey of learning that provides an effective transitional stage from the classroom to the reality of their everyday work environment.

**Newspaper Clippings**

Newspaper clippings are provided to encourage the learning process, noting here that high profile cases are settled out of the courtroom due to the negative impact they can have on a healthcare provider.

**Reality Checks**

Reality Checks present ethical dilemmas that have and can occur in the health care setting. These examples consist of the dilemmas and problems health care providers may face. The reader should note that any one Reality Check involving a particular profession generally has application to other health care professionals.

**People Stories**

“People Stories” were written by patients, family members and caregivers that describe real life experiences. The “People Stories” are but a sampling of a wide range of health care ethical dilemmas.

**Legal Cases**

The “legal case presentations” provide the reader with an understanding of the vast number of legal and ethical issues, some of which he or she will face in his or her career. It is anticipated that the reader will learn from these experiences and apply their lessons when faced with health care dilemmas.

**Closet Drama**

The *Closet Drama* that ties together the information that the reader has gathered through the study of the 3rd edition.

**Chapter 1—Introduction to Ethics**

* Significant Text Edits and additions and revisions
  + Expanded discussion of ethics (e.g., virtues and values)
* New Reality Check/s added
  + Treatment Options and Who Should Pay
  + States Have Double Standards
  + Kill the Messenger
  + 9/11 Value Judgment
  + 36,000 Feet over Texas
* New People Story added
  + Courage and Forgiveness
* Illustrative material added (Figure 1-1 Pillars of Moral Strength)
* New Newspaper Clipping/s
* New Quotes added

**Chapter 2—Contemporary Ethical Dilemmas**

* Data updated
  + Updated historical events
* New Newspaper Clipping/s
* Updated Research and Experimentation
* Revised and expanded section on Genetic Markers

**Chapter 3—End-of-Life Dilemmas**

* Data updated
* New Newspaper Clipping/s

**Chapter 4—Health Care Ethics Committee**

* Data updated

**Chapter 5—Development of Law**

* Data updated

**Chapter 6—Introduction to Law**

* Data updated /Content added and revisions
* New People Stories added
* New Newspaper Clippings
* Facebook News Clipping: Mother Loses Custody of Her Children

**Chapter 7—Government, Ethics, and the Law**

* Data updated /Content added and revisions
  + Added: Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act
  + Added: “Democracy for the Wealthy: Fairness and Justice Illusive”
  + Added: “Ethics in Public Service”
  + Added: CMS Non-Payment For Performance of Wrong Procedures
* New Newspaper Clipping/s
* New Reality Check/s added
* New Legal Case

**Chapter 8—Organizational Ethics and the Law**

* Significant content additions and revisions
  + Accreditation of Hospitals And Conflicts of Interest
* New Newspaper Clipping/s
* New People Stories added, e.g.
  + Diversion of Funds and a Challenge to Survive
  + Infections Run Rampant
* New Quote/s added
* New Reality Check/s added
  + Diversion of Funds and a Challenge to Survive
  + Equal Pay for Equal Work

**Chapter 9—Health Care Professionals’ Ethical and Legal Issues**

* Data updated /Content additions
  + e.g., Social Workers section
* New Newspaper Clipping/s added
* Abstract added: *Incidence and Recognition of Malnutrition in Hospital*
* New Reality Checks added
  + Making Change for the Good Is Possible!

**Chapter 10—Physicians’ Ethical and Legal Issues**

* Data updated and Content added
* New People Stories added
  + People Stories: 50 and You Lived Your Life?
  + Two Standards of Care for the Young and the Old
  + My Physician Would Not Listen
* New Reality Check/s added
  + Post-Cath Note Completed Before the Procedure Began
  + Shoot the Consultant

**Chapter 11—Employee Rights and Responsibilities**

* Data updated
* New Reality Check/s added
  + Employee Satisfaction Survey
* New Quotes added
* New Newspaper Clipping/s added

**Chapter 12—Patient Consent**

* Data updated

**Chapter 13—Patient Abuse**

* Content added, revisions and data updated
* New Newspaper Clipping/s added
* New Quote/s added
  + Look Closer, See ME

**Chapter 14 Patient Rights and Responsibilities**

* Data updated and Content added
* New Newspaper Clipping/s added
* New Reality Check/s added
  + Right to Thorough History and Physical
* New People Stories added
  + Compassionate Care

**Chapter 15 (New Chapter)—Summary Case—Star Chamber**

* This Chapter presents a single detailed summary case written as a *closet drama* with a wide variety of real life behind the scenes ethical issues

**Chapter 16/Appendix (New Chapter or Appendix)—Websites**

* This Chapter/Appendix is new to the 3rd edition and provides an expansive number of websites located here including site information and sampling of links for further research