

## 2024 Roy Snell Health Care Regulatory & Compliance Writing Competition

*Sponsored by the Health Care Compliance Association*

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Mitchell Hamline School of Law announces the fourth annual Roy Snell Health Care Regulatory & Compliance Writing Competition. This competition recognizes students for innovative, strategic, and sound approaches to tackling complex contemporary health care regulatory and compliance issues.



The competition honors Roy Snell, the distinguished and highly regarded former CEO of the Health Care Compliance Association (HCCA) and the Society of Corporate Compliance and Ethics (SCCE), for his visionary leadership and extraordinary contributions to the field of Health Care Compliance. Roy Snell lends his name to the competition to support new and emerging leaders in health care compliance. For more information on Mr. Snell's extraordinary legacy [click here](#).

### Prizes

- 1st Place:** \$5000 cash prize  
Paid registration for the 2025 HCCA Annual Compliance Institute (valued at over \$1,500)  
Up to \$1500 in travel and conference-related expenses.
- 2nd Place:** \$3000 cash prize  
Paid registration for the 2025 HCCA Annual Compliance Institute  
Up to \$1500 in travel and conference-related expenses.
- 3rd Place:** \$1500 cash prize  
Paid registration for the 2025 HCCA Annual Compliance Institute  
Up to \$1500 in travel and conference-related expenses.

## Competition Rules & Guidelines

### 1. Eligibility

The Roy Snell Health Care Regulatory & Compliance Writing Competition is open to all full and part-time law students in J.D. programs who have completed their 1L year. The Competition is also open to students currently enrolled in a CCB (Compliance Certification Board) accredited Health Care Compliance Certificate Program.

### 2. Registration

Students must submit the **Registration Form** on the [competition webpage](#), no later than **January 31, 2024**. Late registrations will be approved on a case-by-case basis.

### 3. Fees

There is no fee to register.

### 4. Competition Dates

**Thursday, February 1, 2024** - the Competition Problem will be emailed to registered entrants.

**Wednesday, March 13, 2024** – Submissions are due no later than 11:59PM CT and must be submitted through the [competition webpage](#).

### 5. Competition Problem & Scope

The Competition Problem (the “Problem”) is purely fictional and prepared solely for this educational purpose.

The competition’s scope includes all applicable state and federal health care laws and regulations. For purposes of your submissions, “state and federal health care laws and regulations” should be interpreted broadly and includes, but is not limited to, the Federal Anti-Kickback Statute, Stark Law, False Claims Act, and the Food, Drug and Cosmetic Act as well as other applicable state and federal statutes, regulations, and guidance pertaining to health care.

### 6. Submission Instructions

Submissions are due no later than Wednesday, March 13, 2024 at 11:59PM CT and must be submitted through the [competition webpage](#). Other forms of submission are strictly prohibited.

Entries submitted after the deadline will not be accepted. You will receive confirmation that your submission has been received. If you do not receive a confirmation within 3 days of submission, please contact Andrea Nadeau at [andrea.nadeau@mitchellhamline.edu](mailto:andrea.nadeau@mitchellhamline.edu).

Before submitting your entry package, please be certain that your name does not appear on any page of your submission or in the document's file name. Staff will assign a random number to each entry and record this number on all copies of each submission. Neither the entrant's identity nor their academic institution will be known to the judges.

Submissions should be uploaded **as one PDF file** (which will include the memorandum and PowerPoint slide deck).

Name the PDF file "Snell-Competition-Submission." Hard copies or other electronic formats will be disqualified.

## **7. Submission Requirements**

This Competition is designed to align with Roy Snell's keen interest in practical, realistic, and user-centered communication, as well as a commitment to efficiency and clarity in writing. Students must analyze a hypothetical fact pattern (the Problem) involving an organization facing multifaceted health care regulatory/compliance matters. They must draft two written work products intended for two different recipients within the organization. Students must analyze the facts presented, identify any and all regulatory/compliance concerns, and advise the recipient/s of the two written work products.

While these two written work products will address the same hypothetical situation and subject matter (the Problem), they will each be drafted with a specific audience/reader in mind. Audience matters. Keep your audience/reader in mind as you draft each written work product. Content that is customized to a particular audience/reader optimizes understanding, engagement, and responsiveness. How might these two written work products differ? How do you most effectively appeal to each audience/reader? Keeping your audience in mind while you write can help you make good decisions about what material to include, as well as the scope, depth, and structure of your analysis, and how to best organize your ideas to support your recommendations.

### ***Written Work Product #1***

Students will draft a memorandum for Marsha Black, as her senior healthcare litigation associate. It should be no more than six pages and should highlight and discuss the various potential legal issues legal issues Nicholas presented and identify who should be included in the complaint she plans to file in federal court.

### ***Written Work Product #2***

Students will create a PowerPoint slide deck based on the memo for Marsha Black to present to the U.S. Attorney's Office when the case is filed under seal. The case will be stylized as *U.S., ex rel. Joshua Nicholas v. Hercules Health Records, Inc., et al., Case No. 24-cv-00xxx (D. Minn.)*. She stressed that the

presentation must be concise because the government reviews many whistleblower claims. Moreover, she emphasized that a goal of her presentation is to avoid government intervention simply to dismiss the matter and suggests you review the U.S. Supreme Court case *U.S., ex rel. Polansky v. Executive Health Resources, et al.*, No. 21-1052 (June 16, 2023).

## **8. Formatting**

Entrants must submit two separate written work products, each formatted as follows:

Internal Memorandum to AUSA Kramer:

12-point font-single spaced

Standard 1-inch margins

Not to exceed six pages inclusive of citations and footnotes

PowerPoint Slide Deck:

May be submitted in "Normal" view or "Notes Page" view

Submissions that do not comply with formatting instructions will be disqualified.

## **9. Authorship**

Each entry shall be the original work of a single individual, and the analysis and recommendations reflected in each written work product must be the author's own. Faculty assistance in the writing of the work products is strictly prohibited. However, entrants may seek general guidance from professors, colleagues, and the like.

## **10. Anonymity**

To ensure anonymity, please do not include in your PDF submission your name, name of your law school, the sender's identity (if somebody else is submitting your paper on your behalf), or any details which could lead the judges to identify you or your law school. Staff will assign a random number to each entry package and record this number on all copies of each submission. Neither the entrant's identity nor his/her academic institution will be known to the judges. Papers that include identifying information will be disqualified.

## **11. Judging**

An independent panel of senior legal/compliance/business experts will score all submissions. The criteria to be applied in judging the papers will include a student's ability to:

1. Effectively communicate to two distinctly different audiences/recipients.

2. Highlight the government's concerns and outline various changes the government would expect ECH to undertake to remediate those concerns. Set forth meaningful, practical, and measurable compliance recommendations and pragmatic directives.

Judges will also take into consideration the quality of writing including legal/regulatory analysis and citation of authority, as well as grammar, syntax and form, and compliance with the competition rules.

The decision of the judges is final. Mitchell Hamline School of Law full-time faculty or staff will serve no role in judging.

## **12. Sponsors**

The Roy Snell Health Care Regulatory & Compliance Writing Competition is made possible in part by generous support from the [Health Care Compliance Association](#).

## **13. Notification of Winners**

The winners will be notified by email no later than 11:59 PM (CT) May 13, 2024.

## **14. Questions**

All questions concerning the Roy Snell Health Care Regulatory & Compliance Writing Competition should be directed to [roysnellcompetition@mitchellhamline.edu](mailto:roysnellcompetition@mitchellhamline.edu).

## **MITCHELL HAMLINE SCHOOL OF LAW**

With roots dating to 1900, Mitchell Hamline School of Law was established in December 2015 through the combination of William Mitchell College of Law and Hamline University School of Law. It is the largest law school in the region, with approximately 1,200 students and 40 full-time faculty. It has nationally ranked offerings in alternative dispute resolution, health law, part-time programs, and clinical training; an array of certificate and dual-degree programs; and an alumni network of more than 20,000. Mitchell Hamline is an independent law school that enjoys an enduring relationship with Hamline University, allowing students to earn dual degrees and have access to Hamline's athletic facilities, library, and cultural programs.



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