

## Press Release

### **Freeborn Recruits Top Lawyers from HCSC, BCBS to Form Healthcare Practice Group**

**CHICAGO – July 31, 2015** – The former Chief Legal Officer of Health Care Service Corporation (HCSC) and the former General Counsel of Blue Cross Blue Shield of Illinois (BCBSIL) have joined the Chicago-based law firm of [Freeborn & Peters LLP](#) to form the firm’s new Healthcare Practice Group. [Deborah Dorman-Rodriguez](#) – who led HCSC’s legal department – will serve as a Partner and the Leader of the new Group. She is joined by [David Kaufman](#), who will serve as a Partner in the Group.

“Combined, Deborah and David have more than 45 years of experience serving various stakeholders in the healthcare space,” said [Michael A. Moynihan](#), Co-Managing Partner of Freeborn. “Their talents will be an incredible asset for our clients, particularly in light of ongoing regulatory changes that have arisen as a result of the Affordable Care Act.”

Freeborn’s Healthcare Practice Group serves for-profit and non-profit health insurers as well as healthcare providers by helping them realize their business goals while mitigating legal and regulatory risks. The Group has a particular focus on providing counsel regarding Medicaid expansion, ACA compliance, Accountable Care Organization formation, and other regulatory and business issues.

Ms. Dorman-Rodriguez has diverse experience as a healthcare attorney representing insurers, providers, and other healthcare entities. Most recently she served as the Senior Vice President, Chief Legal Officer, and Corporate Secretary at Chicago-based Health Care Service Corporation (HCSC), which operates BlueCross and BlueShield plans in Illinois, Montana, New Mexico, Oklahoma and Texas.

At HCSC Deborah was responsible for providing legal advice and consultation on such issues as federal and state regulatory implementations, litigation, mergers and acquisitions, corporate governance and compliance. She oversaw HCSC’s legal strategy during a period of unprecedented turbulence in the healthcare industry and helped the company navigate the regulatory and business upheaval associated with the passage of the Affordable Care Act (ACA).

David has practiced health law for more than 25 years, representing a range of entities responsible for ensuring cost effective and equitable access to healthcare, including health insurers, physicians groups, and regulators.

David has significant experience in federal and state-level regulatory and administrative law gained through private practice as well as in the public sector, serving as General Counsel to the New Mexico State Corporation Commission, Counsel to the New Mexico Superintendent of Insurance, and an Assistant Attorney General for the State of New Mexico.

Before joining Freeborn, David served most recently as General Counsel for Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Illinois, where he was responsible for advising the company on regulatory and business issues in general and on the implementation of the ACA.

## **ABOUT FREEBORN & PETERS**

Freeborn & Peters LLP is a full-service law firm, headquartered in Chicago, with international capabilities. Freeborn is always looking ahead and seeking to find better ways to serve its clients. It takes a proactive approach to ensure its clients are more informed, prepared and able to achieve greater success – not just now, but also in the future. While the firm serves clients across a very broad range of sectors, it has also pioneered an interdisciplinary approach that serves the specific needs of targeted industries, including healthcare, credit unions, food, transportation, private equity and venture capital, and insurance and reinsurance.

Freeborn is a firm that genuinely lives up to its core values of integrity, caring, effectiveness, teamwork, and commitment, and embodies them through high standards of client service and responsive action. Its lawyers build close and lasting relationships with clients and are driven to help them achieve their legal and business objectives.

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