



Illinois Health and Hospital Association

February 15, 2019

Contact: Danny Chun (630) 276-5558
dchun@team-iha.org

Karen Harris Named IHA Senior Vice President and General Counsel

Naperville—Karen Harris will join the Illinois Health and Hospital Association (IHA) as its Senior Vice President and General Counsel, effective March 1.

Harris, who will be based in IHA's Naperville office, will oversee and manage key legal issues for IHA related to policy, advocacy, business, governance, regulatory, and compliance matters.

Since 2013, Harris has been a partner in the Chicago office of Saul Ewing, Arnstein & Lehr, LLP, a national full-service law firm that serves clients throughout the U.S. and internationally. She previously worked at the Sargent Shriver National Center on Poverty Law and served as regional general counsel at Aetna U.S. Healthcare.

"We are excited that Karen will be joining our IHA team as we continue to work for our members in a challenging environment," said IHA President and CEO A.J. Wilhelmi. "Karen has extensive health law and policy experience and knowledge related to all types of healthcare providers and entities, including hospitals, health systems, physicians and other healthcare professionals, ambulatory surgical centers, pharmaceutical companies and managed care companies."

"Today's healthcare environment is complex and constantly evolving. I'm extremely pleased to be joining IHA as it endeavors to assist its members in delivering the best healthcare possible for patients and families in Illinois," said Harris.

Harris is a member of the American Health Lawyers Association, the Illinois Association of Healthcare Attorneys, the Chicago Bar Association, and the Black Women Lawyers Association. She was named one of the "Most Influential Minority Lawyers in Chicago" in 2017 by *Crain's Chicago Business Custom Media* and one of *Chicago Business Journal's* "Women of Influence" in 2018.

Harris received her Bachelor of Arts from Princeton University and a Juris Doctor from Harvard Law School.

IHA's current General Counsel, Mark Deaton, will remain with IHA as Senior Counsel during a transition period before retiring this summer.

###



About IHA

The Illinois Health and Hospital Association, with offices in Chicago, Naperville, Springfield, and Washington, D.C., advocates for Illinois' more than 200 hospitals and nearly 50 health systems as they serve their patients and communities. IHA members provide a broad range of services—not just within their walls, but across the continuum of healthcare and in their communities. Reflecting the diversity of the state, IHA members consist of nonprofit, investor-owned and public hospitals in the following categories: community, safety net, rural, critical access, specialty, and teaching hospitals, including academic medical centers. For more information, see www.team-iha.org. Like IHA on [Facebook](#). Follow IHA on [Twitter](#).