

Mission:

To protect, promote & improve the health of all people in Florida through integrated state, county & community efforts.



Rick Scott
Governor

John H. Armstrong, MD, FACS
State Surgeon General & Secretary

Vision: To be the Healthiest State in the Nation

**ESTABLISHMENT
OF THE PALLIATIVE CARE AD HOC COMMITTEE**

ARTICLE 1: CREATION

The Palliative Care Ad Hoc Committee (“the Committee”) is hereby created under the authority of the Surgeon General of the Florida Department of Health (“Department”) to be an ad hoc advisory body to the Department and Florida’s citizens regarding palliative care services.

ARTICLE 2: STATUTORY AUTHORITY

Section 20.43(6), Florida Statutes.

ARTICLE 3: PURPOSE

The purpose of the Committee is to provide advice to the Department regarding palliative care opportunities available in Florida with a focus on palliative care services for cancer patients, and to perform an evaluation of current palliative care initiatives in Florida. The Committee’s work should be provided to the Department on or before June 30, 2016.

ARTICLE 4: MEMBERS AND TERMS

(1) *Appointment of Members:* The Committee membership shall include representatives of groups or entities affected by palliative care. The following members are hereby appointed to the Committee by the Surgeon General in accordance with section 20.43(6), Florida Statutes:

- (a) Audrey Brown
President, Florida Association of Health Plans
- (b) Blaine Pitts, MD
Palliative & Supportive Care, Pediatrics, Orlando Health
- (c) Colleen C. Tallen, MD
Medical Director, Palliative Care, Lee Memorial Health System
- (d) Deadra Griffeth, RN, M.A., M.Div
Board Certified Chaplain, Florida Hospital; Regional Manager of Mission & Ministry, On Ethics and Palliative Committees, West Florida Region
- (e) Gerardo Colon-Otero, MD
Associate Professor of Medicine, Hematology/Oncology, Mayo Clinic of Jacksonville
- (f) Leonard R. Hock, Jr., DO, MACOI, CMD
Chair of Hospice, Florida Medical Directors Association and Chief Medical Officer, Harbor Palliative Care and Advanced Illness Management of TrustBridge Health
- (g) Leslie Gervase
Patient Care Leader, American Cancer Society
- (h) Myriam Rojas
Parent
- (i) Paul Ledford

President and CEO, Florida Hospice & Palliative Care Association

- (j) Seth Berkowitz, MSW
Senior Patient Access Manager, Leukemia & Lymphoma Society – Florida Chapter
- (k) Suzanne Kelley, BPharm, CPH
Director, Pharmacy Services, Covenant Hospice and Florida Pharmacy Association


(2) *Terms:*

- (a) Members shall serve for a term concluding June 30, 2016
- (b) Any member who is unwilling or unable to properly fulfill the duties of the office shall be succeeded by an individual chosen by the Surgeon General to serve out the unexpired balance of the replaced council member's term.
- (c) Members may not cast a vote on any matter that would provide direct financial benefit to the member or create a conflict of interest as defined under state law, specifically section 112.3143, Florida Statutes. Members shall comply with all of the applicable requirements in the Code of Ethics for public officers and employees in accordance chapter 112, Part III, Florida Statutes.
- (d) Any members may be removed from membership by the Surgeon General for malfeasance, neglect of duty, incompetence, or permanent inability to perform official duties or for pleading nolo contendere to, or being found guilty of a crime, regardless of adjudication.
- (e) Members are entitled to per diem and reimbursement of travel expenses for required attendance at in-person or videoconference committee meetings in accordance with section 112.061, Florida Statutes.

ARTICLE 5: MEETINGS

As funding is available, the Committee shall hold face-to-face meetings, video conferences, or conference calls as needed to address issues related to the palliative care services as identified by the Committee and approved by the Deputy Secretary for Health.

I, John H. Armstrong, MD, FACS, as Surgeon General and Secretary of the Florida Department of Health, do hereby create the Palliative Care Ad Hoc Committee this 28th day of October, 2015.



**John H. Armstrong, MD, FACS
Surgeon General & Secretary
Florida Department of Health**