# Living Under and Negotiating a Corporate Integrity Agreement

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Paul E. Kalb, MD, JD

Brent Saunders, JD, MBA



# **Understanding CIAs**

## Corporate Integrity Agreements

- Over 450 ClAs on record
- Typically 3 to 5 years in duration (precedent being set for 8 years for high-profile providers)
- Requires corporate integrity program
  - Compliance oversight structure
    - senior management
    - in most CIAs not the CFO or GC
    - regular reports to the CEO and/or Board
    - Compliance Committee
  - Written policies and procedures to be established
    - Code of Conduct (content & distribution)
    - element in evaluating performance
    - policies for complying with all laws & regs



#### Corporate Integrity Agreements

- Training & Education
  - General Training (within 120 days, 2 or 3 hours, all employees)
    - CIA requirements, Compliance Program, Code
  - Specific Training (within 120 days, 2 to 4 hours, covered employees)
- Annual audits reported to OIG (internal/external)
- Confidential Disclosure Program (24hour/7days)
  - non-retribution, promotion, anonymous
- Pre-screening of potential hires (excluded, suspended, debarred)
- Compliance and Pricing Reviews

#### Corporate Integrity Agreements

- OIG right to inspect records and to conduct audits
- OIG right to interview
- Stipulated damages assessed for noncompliance
- Independent review organization requirement

## Independent Review Organization

- > IRO independence can be an issue
- Ensure that the IRO is expert in your business
- Two types of reviews -
  - Performance or Pricing review
    - Reported Price Procedures
    - Testing of Rebate Amounts
    - Systems Procedures
  - Compliance review
- IRO function can be "negotiated"
  - ambiguity
  - attach a work plan
  - transition work away from IRO to organization



## CIA Challenges

- OIG resources and understanding of your business
- ClAs must be written so that they may be objectively tested
- Difficult to do for entities that have not implemented compliance programs
- Requires evaluation of
  - Current processes and controls
  - Planned or future processes and controls

## Bayer CIA - The Industry Model

- Standard Corporate Integrity Program
- Policies, Procedures, Training
  - Focused on proper price reporting and legal marketing strategies
  - First CIA to acknowledge web-based training
- Novel price reporting obligation "Average Sales Price"
  - To States and OIG
  - In addition to AWP

#### Bayer CIA - The Industry Model

- ASP all non-governmental sales (except direct sales to hospitals) exclusive of bona fide grants and charity care
- Special rules re: rebate forecasting

# Negotiating the CIA

## Negotiations with OIG

- Potential for "Standard Draft"
- Understand OIG: Position on Issues
  - Demonstrate "how this problem will not happen again"
  - Establish Communications
- Prepare for Negotiations
  - Involve client's compliance team
  - Involve IRO in scope development

#### Negotiations with OIG

- Present current Compliance Structure
  - Use to reduce scope of IRO
  - Shift monitoring to internal resources
  - Present alternatives to address OIG concerns
- Incorporate Re-negotiation Options

## **CIA Negotiations**

- Standard clause
- Frequently asked questions
- Annual report contract checklist
- Pick your battles

#### CIA Issues

- Definition of "Covered Persons"
- Limits on Training
- Government access issues / interview rights
- Definition of "Material Breach"
- Appellate Rights
- Sampling Issues
  - Probes
  - Triggers

#### CIA Issues

- Systems Procedures
- Retention of Records
- Independence of IRO
- Involvement of Compliance or Internal Audit
- Sunset Provisions

#### Lessons to be Learned

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- 1. Understand enforcement issues
- 2. Understand what your company is doing
  - Price Setting AWP
  - Marketing the AWP spread
  - Price reporting AWP, BP, PHS, FSS
  - Sampling
  - Incentives to physicians, pharmacists, PMBs, government agents
  - Educational & research grants
  - "Value Added" services
  - Private labeling, repackaging, relabeling

#### Lessons to be Learned

- Ensure adequate compliance resources
- Review and revise relevant policies
- Separately, review and revise relevant procedures
- Review systems
  - AMP
  - BP

    - ♦ PBM rebates?

#### Lessons to be learned

continued

Web based training

#### **Questions & Answers**

Paul E. Kalb 202-736-8050 pkalb@sidley.com

Brent Saunders
202-822-4089
brenton.saunders@us.pwcglobal.com

