1207 S 113<sup>th</sup> Court Omaha, NE 68144 <u>Melaniems1@msn.com</u> (720) 201 – 1633

#### **EDUCATION**

Juris Doctorate (1996) Widener University Delaware School of Law, Wilmington, DE

B.S. Nursing (1986) Gwynedd Mercy University, Gwynedd Valley, PA

A.S. Nursing (1984) Gwynedd Mercy University, Gwynedd Valley, PA

Certificate: Ignatian Scholar (2019) Regis University, Denver, CO

# ACADEMIC EXPERIENCE\_\_\_\_

2023 – Present Special Instructor, Creighton University School of Medicine

Department of Medical Humanities

Omaha, NE

Course Instructor for Applied Ethics in Health Care for the School of Pharmacy. Course co-instructor and facilitator for Applied Nursing Ethics. Developed course curriculum and instructs medical students in special sessions about health law and medical malpractice. Faculty facilitator in the School of Medicine Medical Humanities and Ethics case-based learning program.

2005 – Present Affiliate Faculty, Regis University, Denver, CO

Rueckert-Hartman College for Health Professionals

Course instructor in the on-line program in the Division of Health Services Education. Develop course curriculum and instruct students on healthcare law and policy, delivery systems and leadership skills. Specific courses taught include Foundations of Health Law, Managing Patient Safety and Organizational Risk, Advanced Models of Quality Improvement, Regulatory Compliance and Research Methodologies.

2015, 2016 and 2019 Instructor, Creighton Business Institute, Omaha, NE

Leadership Experience Accelerator Program (LEAP)

Course: Performance Management and Patient Engagement

LEAP was a physician leadership course provided over 6 months. Physicians were selected to participate and engage with subject matter experts on finance, project management, law and patient safety. As the instructor for this two-day course, created a curriculum and engaged with students to examine the principles of a culture of excellence, safety and patient centered care.

2017 Spring Term Special Faculty, Creighton University, Omaha, NE

Heider College of Business

Developed curriculum and taught MBA 783: Quality and Performance Improvement in Healthcare. Students included physicians and health care administrators. Introduced students to the quality improvement, patient safety, risk management and patient engagement paradigms specific to healthcare.

## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE\_

2001 - 2005

Corporate Director of Risk Management and Patient Safety SCL Health System (formerly known as Exempla), Denver, CO

Responsible for the healthcare system's comprehensive risk management program. Provided services to three hospitals, a large multi-site multi-specialty physician practice group, long term care center and behavioral health hospital. Lead a team of professionals in the investigation, analysis and resolution of serious adverse events and medical errors, claims and lawsuits. Coordinated rapid response to events involving patient harm with direct care providers, guiding disclosure communication with patients and families. Worked closely with the Board of Directors, Executive Leadership, site and department directors, Medical Staff and patient care teams to address safety and risk concerns.

1999 - 2001

Risk Management Specialist, Exempla Healthcare, Denver, CO

Managed the organization's loss prevention and incident reporting programs. Responded to serious adverse events involving patient, staff or visitor injury. Conducted investigations and root cause analysis of events. Provided in-services to staff and leadership on patient safety and clinical risk concerns including end of life and advanced directive related issues, informed consent. Emergency care and patient rights.

1996 - 1998

Associate Attorney, Hecker Brown Sherry and Johnson Currently DBA Gibbons, PC Philadelphia and Bethlehem, PA

Assisted senior partners in the management of civil defense litigation cases with an emphasis on insurance coverage, automobile liability, products and mass tort matters and subrogation. Involved in all aspects of legal research, discovery and trial preparation.

1987 - 1996

Occupational Health and Safety Consultant Liberty Mutual Insurance Group, Blue Bell, PA

Advised and assisted insured policy holders in the design and implementation of programs to reduce, prevent or eliminate the risk of employee injury and disease related to workplace hazards.

1983 - 1987

**Professional Registered Nurse** 

- Emergency Care, Reading Hospital, Reading, PA
- Emergency Care, Phoenixville Hospital, Phoenixville, PA
- Intensive Care, Phoenixville Hospital, Phoenixville, PA
- Coronary Care, Helene Fuld Medical Center, Trenton, N.J

#### **CREDENTIALS**

Previously admitted to the Practice of Law in Pennsylvania and New Jersey (inactive)
Previously licensed Professional Registered Nurse in Pennsylvania, New Jersey and Colorado

## Member:

American Association of Healthcare Risk Managers (ASHRM) American College of Healthcare Executives (ACHE) MGMA