

Compliance Today – November 2019 Meet Joan Podleski

Joan Podleski, CHC, CHPC, CHRC, CCEP, Senior Director, Chief Privacy Officer, Children's Health System of Texas, Dallas, Texas

This interview with Joan Podleski (joan.podleski@childrens.com) was conducted by SCCE & HCCA CEO Gerry Zack (Gerry.Zack@corporatecompliance.org) in August 2019.

GZ: Let's start at the beginning of your career. When you were at Webster University, majoring in history and paralegal studies, had the idea of a career in compliance yet crossed your mind?

JP: I finished my degree while working for the general counsel and the head of Governmental Relations at Washington University in St. Louis. At that point, compliance wasn't really a recognized field, so that didn't cross my mind as a career path. But I did have a great introduction about the complexity of large organizations and their interactions with federal, state, and local governments and laws as part of that work.

GZ: What was it about compliance that first drew you to the profession?

JP: I transitioned from the legal administrative side of the university to the healthcare operations side after a few years, but I was always fascinated by the rules that drove the operations. There's really no way to successfully run any part of the clinical or research operations within a university without understanding all the restrictions on what can and can't be done. Working from the operations side, I was part of a number of projects that helped figure out how to implement new regulations into day-to-day business and found that those were frequently the projects I enjoyed the most.

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