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Smith Moore LLP is a regional law firm with offices in Atlanta and North Carolina.

The Firm serves as counsel to the Georgia and North Carolina Health Information Management Associations and is a corporate partner with the American Health Information Management Association.

The Firm's health care practice group has significant experience in compliance matters, health information management, HIPAA privacy and security, and Medicare and Medicaid billing matters, among others.

Contact [Barry Herrin, JD](#)

Do You Know About AHIMA's Proposal for Inclusive Membership?

What is the proposal?

The proposal would change AHIMA's bylaws to combine the existing active and associate membership categories into one category, active.

What is the difference between active and associate membership qualifications and privileges?

Currently, the AHIMA bylaws state that any individual with an AHIMA certification in good standing is eligible for active membership. Active members are entitled to "all membership privileges including the right to vote." Currently, the bylaws state that individuals who do not have an AHIMA credential are eligible for associate membership. Associate members may serve on committees and subcommittees and vote on those committees, but they do not have other voting privileges and cannot hold office or serve as delegates. Learn more - FAQs [Part 1](#) and [Part 2](#).

Your GHIMA Delegates will be voting on this proposed amendment in October during the AHIMA House of Delegates meeting.



An [online poll](#) has been created to let the GHIMA Delegates hear from you. Please take a few moments and let us know your opinions. Also, you can instantly view the [results!](#)

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Upcoming Regional Meetings

Greater Atlanta - September 7th

Southeast Georgia - September 21st

[View](#) more information about regional associations

GHIMA Annual Meeting Registration

The 2006 GHIMA Annual Meeting will be held on August 16-18, 2006 at Jekyll Island, GA.



Registration could not be easier! The program agenda, registration form, exhibitor registration, hotel information, and activities are available [online](#). Register online and pay with a credit card or print and mail a check. [Register today!](#)

Your Email Address Is Important!

Please be sure that AHIMA has your correct email address. GHIMA uses these email addresses to distribute e-newsletters as well as other important GHIMA information. To update your email address, go to [AHIMA's Update My Profile](#).

GHIMA Legal Handbook



The GHIMA Legal Handbook is currently in under revision. The anticipated availability of the handbook that will be published on CD is August 2006. Please visit the [GHIMA products](#) page to order your CD online.

Barry Herrin, JD will present "[Review of the 2006 Revised Legal Handbook](#)" during the GHIMA Annual Meeting in August.

GHIMA'S Legal Handbook is the only comprehensive release of information guide in the State of Georgia. This guide is specific to Georgia Rules and Regulations. It's a must for every office that releases or works with health information. This manual contains the valuable information your organization needs to reduce the risk of improper releases of health information.

Earn CEs for Hosting Student Clinical Practice

"Supervision of directed clinical practice on behalf of an accredited AHIMA program - (1) one CEU per student supervised with a maximum of 2 CEU's for student supervision allowed in each CE cycle."

Source: AHIMA Section #6 standard from document "CEU Qualifying Activities for AHIMA Credentials"

Contact a [HIT or HIA program](#) today to volunteer to host a student for clinical practice.

Medical Record Copy Fees



Pursuant to O.C.G.A. 31-33-3, effective July 1, 2006 the costs related to medical record retrieval, certification, and copying are listed below. The Office of Planning and Budget has opted to freeze rates for the upcoming year.

		Current	Effective 7/1/06
Search, Retrieval, and Other Direct Administrative Costs	Up To:	\$24.86	No Change in Existing Rate Structure
Certification Fee	Up to per record	\$9.32	No Change in Existing Rate Structure
Copying Costs for Records in Paper Form	Per page for pages 1-20	\$0.93	Existing Rate Structure
	Per page for pages 21-100	\$0.80	
	Per Page for pages over 100	\$0.63	

Note: Rates do not apply to records requests necessary to make or complete an application for a disability benefits program.

Interested in Being an e-Newsletter Sponsor?

Reach 1200+ GHIMA members by sponsoring this monthly e-newsletter. Your company logo along with your company description will be displayed here. For further information, [contact us](#).

GHIMA Bylaw Proposed Amendment



Review the proposed [bylaw amendment](#) that will be voted on during the business meeting at the GHIMA Annual Meeting in August. The amendment would allow the choice of voting as determined by the Board of Directors (i.e. this will not limit voting by mail or electronic voting).

Volunteering



The essay below was written by a HIT student. Are you interested in volunteering for GHIMA? If so, [contact us!](#)

Volunteering, what it means to me.

Volunteering is something I do as often as I can. I sometimes over do it by volunteering too much or schedule everything on the same day. I volunteer at my children's school, with friends and in the community at least once every two weeks. Until now this has been the limits of my volunteering. I now look forward to volunteering with in the HIT profession.

When I original started my HIT online program I underestimated the importance of contact with other students. I feel I have lost some of the information teaching myself and not being able to talk to others learning the same topic. Through volunteering I am able to interact with other students, my instructors, and field professionals. I have found out about many different careers in the HIT field. I was unaware of tumor register and hope to complete it when I finish my HIM degree. I am looking forward to volunteering as much as possible to help create the connection between education and my career aspirations.

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Visit us online at ghima.org

New email address for
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