9:00-9:05 am  Welcome and Introductory Remarks
Stephanie A. Wilkinson
Attorney Advisor, Federal Trade Commission, Office of Policy Planning

9:05-9:15 am  Opening Address
Joseph J. Simons
Chairman, Federal Trade Commission

9:15-9:35 am  Historical Context for COPAs and Recent Resurgence in COPA Activity
James F. Blumstein
University Professor of Constitutional Law and Health Law & Policy
Vanderbilt Law School, Director of Vanderbilt Health Policy Center
Retrospective Empirical Studies of COPAs

Panelists will discuss empirical studies on the price effects of COPAs that were approved in the 1990s – including the Benefis Health COPA (Montana), Palmetto Health COPA (South Carolina), and Mission Health COPA (North Carolina) – as well as the quality effects of Phoebe Putney Health System’s acquisition of Palmyra Medical Center (Georgia).

Presenters (in order of presentation):

Christopher Garmon  
Assistant Professor of Health Administration  
Henry W. Bloch School of Management  
University of Missouri Kansas City

Lien H. Tran  
Economist  
Federal Trade Commission Bureau of Economics

Kishan Bhatt  
Graduate Fellow  
Federal Trade Commission Bureau of Economics

Laura Kmitch  
Manager  
Bates White Economic Consulting Antitrust and Competition Practice

Discussants:

Leemore Dafny  
Bruce V. Rauner Professor of Business Administration  
Harvard Business School and Kennedy School of Government

Gregory Vistnes  
Vice President  
Charles River Associates

Moderator:

Aileen Thompson  
Assistant Director, Federal Trade Commission, Bureau of Economics

11:05-11:15 am  Break
11:15-12:45 pm  **Completed COPAs: Reviewing the Mission Health and Benefis Health COPAs**

Panelists will reflect on the regulatory oversight, price and non-price effects, behavioral incentives, and eventual repeal of the Mission Health COPA, effective in North Carolina from 1995 to 2016, and the Benefis Health COPA, effective in Montana from 1996 to 2007.

**Participants:**

**Mark L. Callister**  
Former Special Assistant Attorney General  
Montana Department of Justice

**John Goodnow**  
CEO  
Benefis Health System

**Cory Capps**  
Partner  
Bates White Economic Consulting

**K.D. (Kip) Sturgis**  
Special Deputy Attorney General  
North Carolina Department of Justice

**Kendall Cotton**  
Policy Advisor  
Office of the Montana State Auditor  
Commissioner of Securities & Insurance

**Moderator:**

**Stephanie A. Wilkinson**  
Attorney Advisor, Federal Trade Commission, Office of Policy Planning

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12:45-1:45 pm  **Lunch (on your own)**
1:45-3:15 pm  **Ballad Health COPA: Early Experiences and Observations**

Panelists will share early observations of the Ballad Health COPA, which became effective in January 2018, allowing the merger of Mountain States Health Alliance and Wellmont Health System to proceed in the geographic region along the border of northeast Tennessee and southwest Virginia.

**Participants:**

**Erin C. Fuse Brown**  
Associate Professor of Law  
Georgia State University College of Law

**Janet M. Kleinfelter**  
Deputy Attorney General  
Public Interest Division  
Office of Tennessee Attorney General

**Richard G. Cowart**  
Shareholder  
Baker Donelson

**Daniel J. Pohlgeers**  
Owner  
Sunesis Medical Consulting

**Scott Fowler**  
President and CEO  
Holston Medical Group

**Joseph Hilbert**  
Deputy Commissioner for  
Governmental and Regulatory Affairs  
Virginia Department of Health

**Moderator:**

**Goldie Veronica Walker**  
Attorney, Federal Trade Commission, Bureau of Competition, Mergers IV Division

3:15-3:25 pm  **Break**
Policy Considerations for COPAs: Competition, Wages, and Beyond

Panelists will discuss topics to consider when evaluating a COPA regulatory approach, including: (1) concerns about local duplication of hospital services; (2) the impact of hospital mergers on employee wages; and (3) alternative state-based regulatory and enforcement approaches.

Participants:

Robert Berenson  
Fellow  
Urban Institute

Elena Prager  
Assistant Professor  
Kellogg School of Management  
Northwestern University

Robert Fromberg  
Senior Vice President  
Kaufman, Hall & Associates, LLC

Thomas Stratmann  
Professor of Economics and Law  
George Mason University

Christopher Garmon  
Assistant Professor of Health Administration  
Henry W. Bloch School of Management  
University of Missouri Kansas City

Thomas (Tim) Greaney  
Visiting Professor of Law  
UC Hastings College of Law  
San Francisco

Tracy Wertz  
Chief Deputy Attorney General  
Antitrust Section  
Pennsylvania Office of the Attorney General

Moderator:

Katie Ambrogi  
Attorney Advisor, Federal Trade Commission, Office of Policy Planning

Concluding Remarks

Katie Ambrogi  
Attorney Advisor, Federal Trade Commission, Office of Policy Planning