## >>>> EMERGENCY CHIROPRACTIC ALERT <<<<

PA Judge's Ruling May FOREVER change YOUR scope of practice and RESTRICT YOUR license as a Chiropractor!

Your immediate action requested!!!!!!!!

## Pennsylvania Judge Declares: RESTRICTED DELEGATION for DCs

On July 7, 2017, a Delaware County Common Pleas Judge declared that Pennsylvania Chiropractors may **NOT** delegate to **unlicensed** support staff the following services: 1) **Massage**, 2) **Manual Therapy**, and 3) **Therapeutic Procedures/Exercises**. The case is <u>State Farm Mutual Automobile Insurance Company v. Robert J. Cavoto, Jr. et al.</u>

In this pivotal and controversial decision, the Judge stated, "[b]ecause unlicensed staff personnel do not have the education and training to make clinical decisions, the **licensed chiropractor must provide therapeutic procedural/exercises** in order to meet this most important interest [the patient's well-being]". This decision means, for example, that chiropractors can no longer have their staff supervise the patients' performance of ANY AND ALL therapeutic procedures/exercises (CPT 97110), even when the chiropractor is in the office, directly supervising their staff. The ruling means: chiropractors must perform the services.

For Example: You determine that a patient needs to walk on a treadmill for 15 minutes. You, as the DC, must ONE-on-ONE and face-to-face supervision, and WATCH your patient walk on that treadmill!

Yes, seriously! This is NOT a joke and this is a threat to our entire profession!!! Doesn't matter if you have a certified athletic trainer. Doesn't matter if you have an exercise physiologist with a PhD. The Judge ruled that you can't do it without having your staff member licensed and trained to perform that service. And trainers, CAs and exercise physiology staff are NOT licensed. PERIOD.

Pennsylvania chiropractors who improperly delegate to **unlicensed** personnel will now be in DIRECT VIOLATION of the Chiropractic Practice Act and may be subject to **discipline** under the Act. Moreover, chiropractors who bill insurance for improperly delegated massage, manual therapy or therapeutic exercises will be subject to **claim denials**, **recoupment of previously paid claims** and **possibly fraud**.

The PCA supports your rights and scope of practice, and is raising funds to mount an appeal to the Pennsylvania Superior Court. Once filed, this appeal will halt this ruling, pending the courts hearing of the appeal.

Please ask yourself how this decision impacts YOU and YOUR practice, and how this could impact your patients and your business's bottom line.

The costs for this appeal will be substantial and the PCA needs DCs to contribute funds towards an immediate appeal. ACT NOW! TIME IS LIMITED TO FILE THIS APPEAL! If enough money cannot be raised, there may be no appeal and this decision becomes the LAW OF THE LAND! And if this is allowed to stand... what's the next item that insurers will try to take from us? Direct access? Diagnosis? Any attack on our scope could be a domino!

PCA is URGENTLY requesting donations from all DCs this will affect to the PCA Legal Fund. Please contribute **immediately** and generously, since an appeal deadline is just weeks away! The PCA will use all funds for this, and any and all matters that challenge and threaten our present scope of practice. You know what happened in Texas... don't let Pennsylvania become the next Chiropractic wild fire to burn out of control!