This volume marks the fifth edition of the American Bar Association’s Physician Law: Evolving Trends and Hot Topics series. This edition is based in part on the presentations given at the ABA’s Health Law Section Physician Legal Issues Conference held in June, 2016. The conference is a joint collaboration between the Health Law Section of the American Bar Association, the Chicago Medical Society, and the American Association for Physician Leadership.

We are very grateful to the 2017 planning committee of the ABA Physician Legal Issues Conference. Their input, guidance, and assistance in establishing this year’s roster of speakers, experts, and contributors will continue to serve as a springboard for future editions of this book.

We also appreciate the hard work of Wes Cleveland for editing this publication. Our annual conference and book production would also not be possible without hardworking attentive staff of the ABA Health Law Section: Simeon Carson, Nancy Voegtle, Danielle Daly, and Theresa Livingston. Their energy and support has made each conference and book a success on many levels. We also express our gratitude to our partners at the Chicago Medical Society and the American Association for Physician Leadership for their guidance, input, and support.

We would also like to thank all of the speakers and presenters at this year’s conference. We would not be able to put on such a successful conference without those individuals who put in significant time and effort. This year’s theme, “Thriving in a Time of Change,” has been designed to bring physician and legal experts, as well as government and payer representatives, together from around the country to provide perspectives and ideas directly to physicians and attorneys on ways to thrive during this time of tremendous change in the healthcare industry. This year’s conference and book include topics relevant to physicians practicing in all settings. Topics covered at this year’s conference and in this fourth edition include, for example, health care integration, access to care initiatives, and health care regulatory updates. We hope you enjoy the conference and this book.

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