



AHLA's 2024 Presidential Citations

During AHLA's 2024 Annual Meeting, as part of our expanded Awards and Recognition Program, I had the honor and privilege of bestowing upon several individuals the Association's Presidential Citations. Through these Citations, the President may publicly recognize individuals who have played an important role during his or her tenure. Whether offering guidance, insight, mentorship, friendship, support, or making me laugh, these individuals helped me accomplish my goals and serve AHLA to the best of my ability.

The individuals receiving a Presidential Citation are as follows:

Brian Dobbins: For his loving support, unparalleled bunny dad skills, and wearing the ridiculous "WBF" shirt in public. My darling husband endured my frequent travel and late nights while making sure our four house rabbits were appropriately fed, cuddled, and groomed. Although he has a vast collection of amusing tee shirts, my favorite has to be the one with "THE WORLD'S BEST FARTER (I mean father)" emblazoned across the front. Strangers at the grocery store and local restaurants seem to appreciate it, too.

Marilyn Lamar: For her ongoing mentorship, fabulous wit, and excellent perspective. A fellow Past President and former Health Information and Technology (HIT) Practice Group (PG) Chair, Marilyn has been an outstanding mentor and wonderful friend for many years. Every time we talk I find myself either chuckling or roaring with laughter about something she says, but Marilyn also is a patient listener whose tremendous insights and innovative suggestions were especially helpful during this last year.

Robert L. Wilson Jr.: For his dependability, career mentorship, and following his instincts. Bob, my longtime law partner, hired me 28 years ago despite my utter lack of health law knowledge. He taught me the meaning of excellent client service and how to approach thorny legal issues, and I'll never forget his moral support and snarky comments after one of my first presentations went disastrously.

Anne Hoover: For her can-do spirit, friendship, and proficiency. I wish I had gotten to know Anne better before this past year, as she is both hilarious and kind-spirited—not to mention extremely effective in her role as Vice President of Programs. Although I appreciated all of Anne's professional suggestions and guidance over the years, what I will miss most following Anne's retirement is seeing her smiling face and sharing a laugh with her in the program registration room.

Amy Leopard: For her sunny attitude, persistence, and shared love of wine. I think of Amy, another former HIT PG Chair with whom I have worked on AHLA and other matters for almost 15 years, as my "sister from another mother." Amy has a wonderful, distinctive laugh and a habit of generously sharing her insights and politely making her points. She also happens to be one of my favorite people with whom to share a bottle of fine wine.

My sincere thanks and appreciation also extends to the Directors who served on the Board with me over the years; the many AHLA leaders, members, and volunteers; and the Association's outstanding staff for sharing so many words of wisdom, encouragement, and never-ending support before and during my Presidential tenure.

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President, FY24

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