

Payment Matters®

Subscribe

Reprints

Health Law Group

www.ober.com

Payment Matters Archive

MARCH 18, 2009

Medicare Administrative Contractor Awards Protested

Mark A. Stanley
410-347-7353
mastanley@ober.com

In this Issue

Medicare Administrative Contractor Awards Protested

California Court Orders Medi-Cal to Increase Medicaid Payments to Nursing Homes

Payment Group

Principals

Thomas W. Coons

Leslie Demaree Goldsmith

Carel T. Hedlund

S. Craig Holden

Julie E. Kass

Paul W. Kim

Robert E. Mazer

Christine M. Morse

Laurence B. Russell

Donna J. Senft

Susan A. Turner

Associates

Kristin C. Cilento

Joshua J. Freemire

Mark A. Stanley

Lisa D. Stevenson

Emily H. Wein

Protests have been lodged regarding four of the five Medicare Administrative Contractor (MAC) awards that the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) announced on January 7, 2009. See "**CMS Announces Final Five Medicare MACs**" (*Payment Matters*, January 23, 2009) for a discussion of CMS's awarding of the MAC contracts.

The protests concern contracts that CMS awarded to the following companies for administration of Medicare Part A and B claims payment:

- Noridian Administrative Services, LLC – Jurisdiction 6 (Illinois, Minnesota and Wisconsin);
- National Government Services, Inc – Jurisdiction 8 (Indiana and Michigan);
- Palmetto Government Benefits Administrators, LLC – Jurisdiction 11 (North Carolina, South Carolina, Virginia and West Virginia); and
- Highmark Medicare Services – Jurisdiction 15 (Kentucky and Ohio)

These newest protests recall the response to CMS's naming of recovery audit contractors (RACs) last year. See "**RAC Program Resumes**" (*Payment Matters*, February 19, 2009). The General Accounting Office is reviewing the protests and must render its decision as to each protest by May 2009.

Copyright© 2009, Ober, Kaler, Grimes & Shriver