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First Name

Joseph

Last Name

Riehl

Email

real.joerihl@gmail.com

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What Kind of Company is Elevance A brief search online discovers that Elevance has numerous names. Recently it was Anthem. Before 2014 it was Wellpoint and Amerigroup Health. The facts of its many acquisitions are easily found online. What is also easy to find online is the effect of Wellpoint/Anthem's many acquisitions on patients, doctors and their own employees. A few examples: In 2005 Wellpoint agreed to pay \$198 million to doctors for unfair payment practices. In 2005 Wellpoint settled for \$448 million for interfering in medical decisions and underpaying doctors. In 2008 Wellpoint CFO David Colby was fired after he was sued for \$4.4 million for breach of promise. There were other accusations. He was one of the founders of the company who helped put together the \$14.4 billion deal to start Wellpoint. In 2008 Amerigroup paid out \$225 million to settle fraud allegations in Illinois. In 2009 Susan Bayh, wife of Senator Evan Bayh received \$2 million from Wellpoint while her husband lobbied against insurance reform, specifically Obama's public option. In 2009 Amerigroup was told to pay at least \$144 million for systematically excluding pregnant women and some Medicaid beneficiaries. In 2010 Wellpoint was accused by the attorneys general of three states of "the acquisition and use of the assets of these Blue Cross companies in a profit-making activity[which] violated restrictions on the use of the assets arising from the charitable status of the acquired companies." In 2012 Wellpoint settled a \$90M lawsuit claiming they did not fairly compensate its members when Anthem converted from a mutual company into a stock company. (BCBSLA is a mutual company. Anthem proposes to pay 92,000 member/owners \$3000 each for their share, a pittance compared to the deal's value, \$2.5 billion.) In 2012 the shareholders of Amerigroup Health (later Wellpoint) sued Goldman for conflict of interest for their role in the sale of their company to Anthem/Wellpoint. The suit alleged that Wellpoint "effectively purchased" the loyalty of the Amerigroup board who voted for the sale. (Elevance, Amerigroup's successor, has promised BCBSLA board members \$115,000 per year for ten years.) In 2013 Elevance paid HHS \$1.7 million for leaving information accessible on the internet. In 2013 Wellpoint agreed to pay the city of Los Angeles \$6 million to resolve claims that the company dropped policyholders when they got sick. In 2015 Anthem agreed to pay customers \$8.3 million for raising the cost of policies mid-year. But has Anthem cleaned up its act? Apparently they have not: In 2019 Anthem reached a \$23.7 million settlement with a class action lawsuit by employees claiming that Anthem had assessed excessive fees on their 401(k) accounts. In 2020 Anthem faced a U.S. government lawsuit claiming it submitted inaccurate diagnosis data, enabling the health insurer to fraudulently collect tens of millions of over-payments. In 2022 Georgia assessed \$5M in fines against Anthem for defrauding patients for saying their doctors were "in network" when they were not. In 2023 In a related case, the Blue Cross Blue Shield Association agreed to establish a Settlement Fund of \$2.6 billion for violating anti-trust laws. Shortly after, BCBS was again sued for delayed payments of the settlement. Finally, here in Louisiana in 2023 Natchitoches lawyer Robert Salim was diagnosed with stage four throat cancer. Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Louisiana, on advice of AIM Specialty Health, a subsidiary of Elevance, refused to pay for the proton therapy recommended by Salim's doctor, instead offering a less expensive, less effective treatment. Salim sued. And won. It is more than clear that

Amerigroup/Wellpoint/Anthem/Elevance company has promoted a corporate culture that has defrauded and attempted to swindle doctors, patients, federal and state governments and even its own employees from its very founding. Elevance is not fit to buy BCBSLA. Their application should be denied. Submitted by Joseph E. Riehl 3373227988 real.joeriel@gmail.com 109 Floridian Lane Lafayette, LA 70506 BSBCLA policy # OGS200796165 (voting member) I would be glad to supply sources and citations for any statement made in this statement.