

Biography – John Houston

Mr. John Houston is the Vice President, Information Security and Privacy, and Assistant Counsel for the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center (UPMC). In this position, he has broad accountabilities across UPMC, including accountabilities related to privacy, information security and legal matters associated with the acquisition and licensing of technology. Mr. Houston is also an Adjunct Assistant Professor in the Department of Biomedical Informatics at the University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine.

Additionally, Mr. Houston has been significantly involved in UPMC's compliance with the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA). Mr. Houston has spoken about the HIPAA security and privacy rules in a wide variety of forums, including testifying twice before the United States Senate Health, Education, Labor and Pension Committee and once before the US Senate Judiciary Committee. Mr. Houston has also spoken internationally regarding Health Care Information Systems.

Mr. Houston has been a member of the National Committee on Vital and Health Statistics (NCVHS) since 2002. NCVHS is a public advisory body and makes recommendations to the Secretary on policies and plans in developing major national systems of health data collection, on coordination of Federal health data requirements and on the development and adoption of uniform data standards, for patient medical record information and electronic exchange of such information. As a member of NCVHS, Mr. Houston co-chairs the NCVHS Subcommittee on Privacy, Confidentiality and Security,

Mr. Houston completed his undergraduate studies in 1986 at the University of Pittsburgh and received a Bachelor of Science in Computer Science and History. Mr. Houston later attended the Duquesne University School of Law where he received his Juris Doctor degree in 1994.