# American Board of Internal Medicine (ABIM) Tax Discrepancies Evidence Packet

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### **BACKGROUND:**

- The American Board of Internal Medicine (ABIM) is a private corporation exempt from federal income tax under section 501(c)(3) according to Title 26 of the United States Code.
- The ABIM was founded in 1936 in Des Moines, Iowa (domicile state) and has its home office at 510 Walnut Street, Suite 1700, Philadelphia, PA 19106-3699.
- The ABIM receives over 97% of its revenue from practicing physicians and receives no industry funding.
- The ABIM confers its "certification" to nearly one quarter of all U.S. physicians intended to denote a level of competency above and beyond a state's medical license.
- The ABIM is the largest of 24 subsidiary member-boards of the American Board of Medical Specialties (ABMS), a 501(c)(6) Business League
- The ABIM operates on a July-June fiscal year.



### **BACKGROUND:**

- From 1936 through 1986, the ABIM issued life-time certification to its physician diplomates that passed their examination requirement.
- After 1990, ABIM changed its policy: lifetime certification was no longer recognized as valid by the ABMS and its 24-member boards (including the ABIM) and only issued time-limited certificates after 1990. Repeat testing, later trademarked as "Maintenance of Certification® (MOC®) by the ABMS) was required every 10 years or a physician's initial certification would be rendered invalid.
- Older physicians certified before 1990 were exempted from this rule change and did not have to be subjected to recurrent life-long recertification requirements.

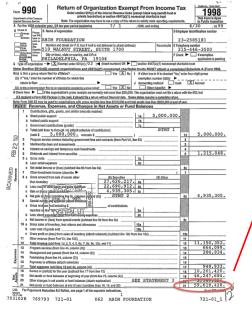
### **BACKGROUND:**

- On October 17, 1989, the ABIM created the <u>ABIM Foundation</u> in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, but never disclosed this entity to its physician diplomates. (Source: Pennsylvania Department of State Business Filing Entity History, accessed 12/2/2014)
- From 1990 through 1999, over \$55 million was secretly transferred from the ABIM to the ABIM Foundation.
- In 1999, the ABIM Foundation was announced to physician diplomates and carried assets of \$59,618,428 (Source: ABIM Foundation 1998 Form 990)
- In December, 2007, the ABIM Foundation purchased a \$2.3 million luxury condominium complete with a chauffer-driven Mercedes Sclass town car.

## Funding of ABIM Foundation from ABIM Diplomate Test Fees

"ABIM initially transferred \$5 million to the Foundation in 1990. Over nearly 20 years (between 1990 and 2008), approximately \$56 million was transferred by ABIM to the ABIM Foundation. There have been no transfers since 2008."

Fact Check:



FY 1999 Fund balance \$59,618,428

Additional Funds Transferred:\*

FY 2000: \$3,300,000

FY 2001: \$1,600,000

FY 2002: \$1,000,000

FY 2006: \$7,000,000

FY 2007: \$6,000,000

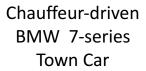
Total ACTUALLY Transferred: \$78,518,428

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>ABIM Foundation.org Finances webpage, accessed 6 Oct 2017

<sup>\*</sup> Source: IRS Form 990s

## ABIM Foundation's \$2.3 million Luxury Condominium\*









**Concierge Service** 

\*Unit #11NW, 210 West Washington Square, Philadelphia, PA 19106 Purchased Dec 2007

Who stayed there? Investment or perk? Under pressure, sold at loss for \$1.65M 6/21/2016 efile GRAPHIC print - DO NOT PROCESS | As Filed Data - DLN: 93490131000089

TY 2007 Land etc. Schedule

Name: ABIM FOUNDATION EIN: 23-2585181

Category/Item	Cost/Other Basis	Accumulated Depreciation	Book Value
computer equipment	33,784	27,871	5,913
furniture	107,794	22,387	85,407
Condominium	2,356,267	47,215	2,309,052
Furniture - artwork	6,955		6,955

# ABIM Foundation Off-Shores Diplomate Fees to Cayman Islands - 2014

Date	Fund - Cayman Islands	Amount
1/1/14	Aurelius Capital International Ltd Cayman	\$640,710
9/1/14	Aurelius Capital International Ltd Cayman	\$118,650
7/1/14	Azentus Global Opportunities Fund Ltd Cayr	man \$228,486
8/1/14	Fort Warren Opportunities Offshore Fund L	td Cayman \$830,550
7/1/14	Hudson Bay International Fund Cayman	\$711,900
6/1/14	Landsdowne UK Equity Fund Ltd Cayman	\$237,300
2/1/14	Windacre Partnership International Fund Lt	d Cayman \$1,186,500
10/1/14	Soroban Cayman Opporunities Fund Ltd	\$593,250
9/1/14	Rimrock High Income Plus (Cayman) Fund Li	td \$711,900
7/1/14	Carrhae Capital Long Fund Ltd	\$783,090
	TOTAL:	\$6,042,336
	Dublin, Ireland Investments	
5/1/14	Palestra Capital Offshore Fund Ltd Cayman	\$474,600
RAND TOTAL O	FFSHORE INVESTMENTS FY 2015	\$6,516,936
Source: IRS Form	990	

# Tax Form Discrepancies ABIM Foundation Form 990 - 2015

• No disclosure of Cayman Investments made in 2014

## ABIM Bylaws Changed 1998 Okay for ABIM Board to Have Unlimited Conflicts

#### REVISED BYLAWS OF

#### THE AMERICAN BOARD OF INTERNAL MEDICINE

(Revised October 6, 1998)

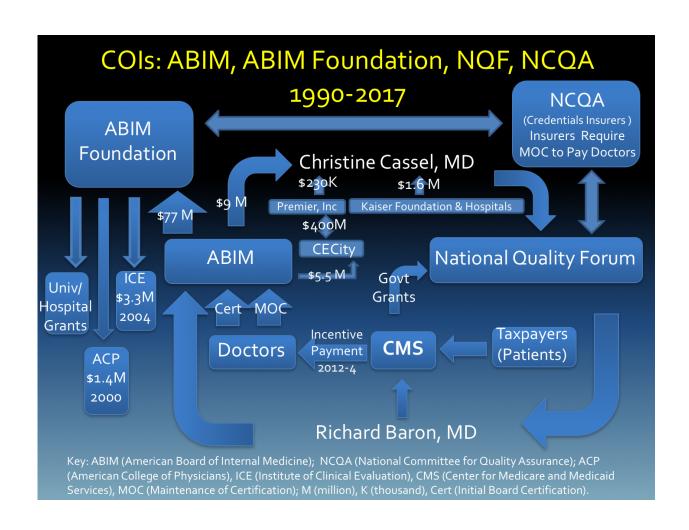
#### ARTICLE I

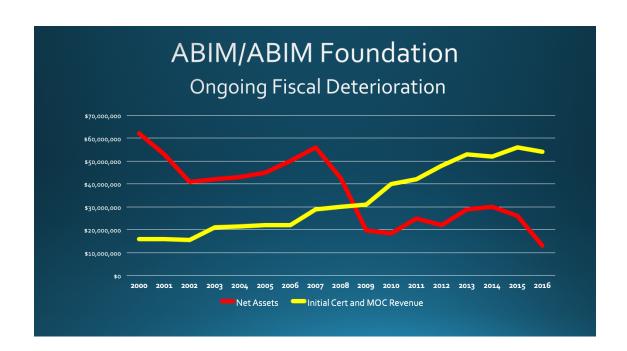
#### OFFICES

Section 1-1. The registered office of The American Board of Internal Medicine, hereinafter referred to as "the Board", shall be in the City of Des Moines, Iowa. The principal office of the Board shall be located in the City of Philadelphia, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. The Board may have such other offices as the affairs of the Board may require from time to time.

Section 9-5. The Board may accept gifts, grants, devices or bequests of funds or any other property from any public or governmental body or any private person, including private and public foundations, corporations and individuals, for its corporate purposes.

### Numerous Financial Conflicts of Interest Exist with MOC®





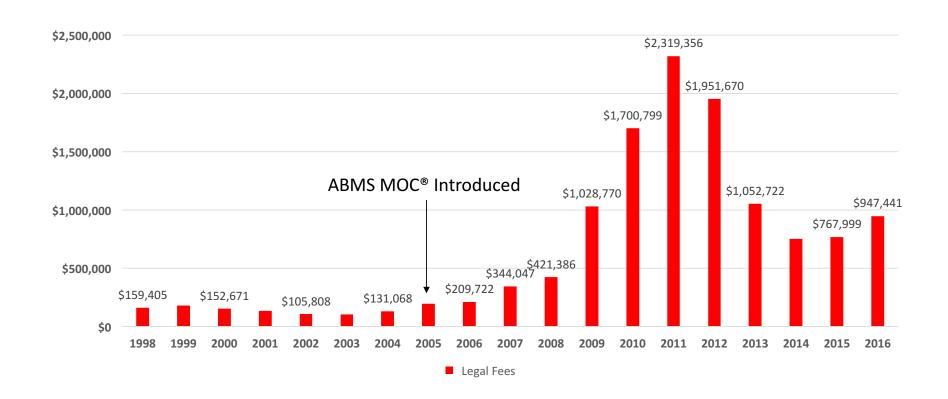
#### ABIM/ABIM Foundation's Ongoing Financial Deterioration

	Fund E	Balance (Net A	Assets)	
June 30,	ABIM	Foundation	Consolidated	Revenue
1997	(3,003,107)	38,254,872	35,251,765	
1998	(558,511)	46,247,684	45,689,173	16,233,484
1999	(5,575,747)	59,618,428	54,042,681	12,135,650
2000	(7,119,341)	69,101,955	61,982,614	16,224,212
2001	(8,571,467)	62,580,553	54,009,086	16,539,381
2002	(10,762,954)	52,811,298	42,048,344	15,444,106
2003	(10,930,327)	54,569,335	43,639,008	22,163,746
2004	(13,456,921)	58,635,505	45,178,584	22,983,476
2005	(13,185,617)	59,939,815	46,754,198	23,541,275
2006	(11,814,547)	63,386,683	51,572,136	25,381,025
2007	(21,503,839)	78,833,665	57,329,826	25,892,598
2008	(31,443,856)	75,990,203	44,546,347	30,193,842
2009	(36,475,782)	57,586,843	21,111,061	32,463,536
2010	(40,906,833)	61,015,875	20,109,042	39,547,253
2011	(43,661,272)	71,006,681	27,345,409	44,725,517
2012	(45,394,162)	68,871,666	23,477,504	48,215,609
2013	(43,150,390)	73,841,719	30,691,329	53,912,942
2014	(47,886,654)	79,409,497	31,522,843	53,308,149
2015	(50,642,980)	77,255,188	26,612,208	56,592,968
2016	(57,568,475)	71,194,870	13,626,395	54,449,060
				581,578,695

Physicians have paid over \$581 million to ABIM and only \$13.6 million remain Just 23% of revenue used for physician testing

Source: ABIM and ABIM Foundation Form 990s and Consolidated Financial Statements

## ABIM's Mounting Legal Fees



### ABIM Officer, Director, Trustee, or Key Employee Compensation 2015\*

or each individual whose compensation must be to not list any individuals that are not listed on Fo lote: The sum of columns (B)(i)-(iii) for each listed	orm :	990, Part VII.		Chicken or arrangement = 100000				
	T	(B) Breakdown of \	N-2 and/or 1099-MI	SC compensation	(C) Retirement and		(E) Total of columns	(F) Compensation
(A) Name and Title		(i) Base compensation	(ii) Bonus & incentive compensation	(iii) Other reportable compensation	other deferred compensation	benefits	(B)(i)-(D)	in column (B) reported as deferred on prior Form 990
1) RICHARD J. BARON ABIM	(i)	450,615.	87,756.	3,539.	55,292.	39,910.	637,112.	16040 40
RESIDENT Foundation	(ii)	150,205.	29,252.	1,180.	18,430.	13,304.	212,371.	}\$849,48
2) VINCENT MANDES	(i)	239,320.	53,385.	30,780.	0.	38,520.	362,005.	0.
ENIOR VICE PRESIDENT/CFO	(ii)	26,591.	5,932.	3,420.	0.	4,280.	40,223.	0.
3) REBECCA LIPNER	(i)	290,120.	61,272.	32,682.	0.	53,267.	437,341.	0.
VP, ASSESSMENT AND RESEARCH	(ii)	0.	0.	0.	0.	0.	0.	0.
4) FURMAN MCDONALD	(i)	263,505.	52,000.	15,162.	0.	38,082.	368,749.	0.
VP, ACADEMIC AND MEDICAL AFFAIRS	(ii)	0.	0.	0.	0.	0.	0.	0.
5) PAUL PONIATOWSKI	(i)	223,000.	48,110.	34,027.	0.	59,589.	364,726.	0.
P, TEST DEVELOPMENT	(ii)	0.	0.	0.	0.	0.	0.	0.
6) NKANTA HINES	(i) L	262,812.	50,000.	0.	0.	45,950.	358,762.	0.
	(ii)	0.	0.	0.	0.	0.	0.	0.
	(i)	221,312.	47,053.	10,179.	0.	69,185.	347,729.	0.
	(ii)	0.	0.	0.	0.	0.	0.	0.
	(i)	186,317.	38,760.	30,169.	0.	62,090.	317,336.	0.
	(ii)	0.	0.	0.	0.	0.	0.	0.
	(i)	220,485.	44,000.	15,861.	0.	13,506.	293,852.	0.
	(ii)	0.	0.	0.	0.	0.	0.	0.
	(i) L	179,546.	32,892.	35,770.	0.	43,162.	291,370.	0.
	(ii)	0.	0.	0.	0.	0.	0.	0.
	(i)	151,175.	34,925.	33,075.	0.	51,193.	270,368.	0.
	(ii)	0.	0.	0.	0.	0.	0.	0.
	(i)	231,276.	750.	261.	0.	36,542.	268,829.	0.
	(ii)	0.	0.	0.	0.	0.	0.	0.
	(i)	155,020.	34,924.	34,074.	0.	26,352.	250,370.	0.
	(ii)	0.	0.	0.	0.	0.	0.	0.
	(i)	157,123.	0.	21,934.	0.	51,879.	230,936.	0.
	(ii)	0.	0.	0.	0.	0.	0.	0.
	(i)	155,767.	0.	18,000.	0.	56,555.	230,322.	0.
ENIOR DIRECTOR, APPLICATIONS DEVELO	(ii)	0.	0.	0.	0.	0.	0.	0.
	(i) L							

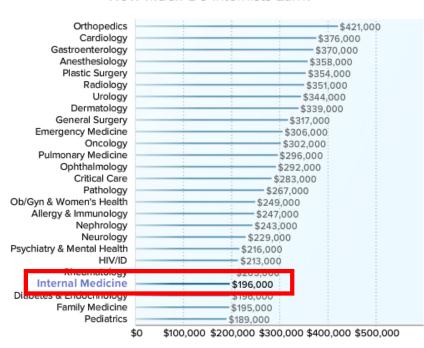
### \* Reference: ABIM FY2016 IRS Form 990

31

532112 10-14-15

# Average US Internist Compensation 2015\*\*

#### How Much Do Internists Earn?



<sup>\*\*</sup> Medscape Internist Compensation Report 2015

# Tax Form Discrepancies The ABIM Foundation

 In 2008, the IRS changed Form 990 to include additional filing information, including the organization's domicile state and date of formation.

(<a href="https://www.irs.gov/pub/irs-tege/990">https://www.irs.gov/pub/irs-tege/990</a> whatsnew purpose.pdf )

 ABIM Foundation misreported its state and/or date of domicile for six years

ABIM Foundation
Reported Year of Formation and State of Legal Domicile
Years Prior to 06-30-09 to Year Ending June 30, 2015

Form 990 Tax Year Ending	Reported Year of Formation	Reported State of Legal Domicile
Prior to 06-30-09	Not Requ	uired by IRS
06-30-09	1999	lowa
06-30-10	1999	Iowa
06-30-11	1999	Iowa
06-30-12	1999	Iowa
06-30-13	1999	Iowa
06-30-14	1999	Pennsylvania
06-30-15	1989	Pennsylvania

Source: ABIM Foundation IRS Form 990

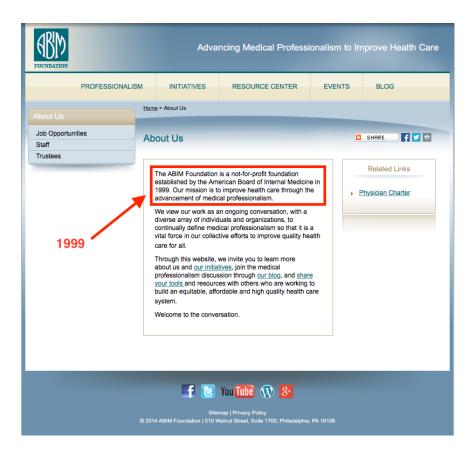
Name	Name Type
ABIM FOUNDATION	Current Name
Non-Profit (Non Stock) - D	Pomestic - Information
Entity Number:	1531129
Status:	Active
Entity Creation Date:	10/17/1989
State of Business.:	PA
Registered Office Address:	510 WALNUT ST STE 1700
	PHILADELPHIA PA 19106-3699 Philadelphia

Source: Pennsylvania Department of State Business Entity Filing History Pulled 08-30-14

# Tax Form Discrepancies The ABIM Foundation

Similar misinformation appeared on ABIM Foundation's website.

\*Source: The Internet Archive https://web.archive.org/web/20141127195454/http://abimfoundation.org/About-Us.aspx



ABIM Foundation website "About Us" web page 27 Nov 2014\*

## Tax Form Discrepancies

## ABIM Politics/Unreported Lobbying Expenses



Christine Cassel, MD, President and CEO of the ABIM, appointed to President Barack Obama's Council of Advisors on Science and Technology (PCAST) the same day the ABIM employs the unreported lobbying firm Jennings Policy Strategies. Jennings Policy Strategies is listed as "consultant" on Fiscal Year 2012 (2011 Form 990) tax forms while Form 990 lobbying line item left blank.

# Tax Form Discrepancies ABIM Form 990 – 2010: Disclosed Lobbyist as "Consultant"

#### **Section B. Independent Contractors**

Complete this table for your five highest compensated independent contractors that received more than \$100,000 of compensation from the organization

(A) Name and business address	(B) Description of services	(C) Compensation
BALLARD SPAHR ANDREWS & INGERSOLL 1735 MARKET ST PHILADELPHIA, PA 19103	LEGAL SERVICES	1,811,815
CECITY 285 WATERFORD DR HOMESTEAD, PA 15120	SOFTWARE SERVICES	1,217,800
LIQUID HUB PO BOX 62064 BALTIMORE, MD 21264	CONSULTING SERVICES	598,816
VIRTUS TECHNOLOGY PARTNERS LLC BOX 512613 PHILADELPHIA, PA 19175	SOFTWARE SERVICES	299,171
JENNINGS POLICY STRATEGIES INC 1301 PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE NW SUITE WASHINGTON, DC 20004	CONSULTING SERVICES	120,000

2 Total number of independent contractors (including but not limited to those listed above) who received more than \$100,000 in compensation from the organization ▶6

Form 990 (2010)

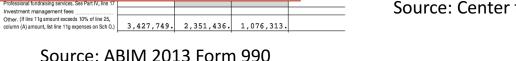
# Tax Form Discrepancies ABIM Lobbying

39-0866228 Page 3

					_	Yes
	s the organization described in section 501(c)(3) f "Yes," complete Schedule A				1	x
ls	s the organization required to complete Scheduk	B. Schedule of Contri	butors?		2	Х
	Did the organization engage in direct or indirect p					
	public office? If "Yes," complete Schedule C, Pari				3	
	Section 501(c)(3) organizations. Did the organiz		g activities, or have a se	ection 501(h) election in e	ffect	
	during the tax year? If "Yes," complete Schedule					
	s the organization a section 501(c)(4), 501(c)(5), or					
S	imilar amounts as defined in Revenue Procedure	98-19? If "Yes," comp.	lete Schedule C, Part III		5	
	old the organization maintain any donor advised					
Form	n 990 (2013) THE AMERICA		NTERNAL MEDI	CINE 39-08	66228	Page
	tion 501(c)(3) and 501(c)(4) organizations must con		her organizations must co	omplete column (A).		
	Check if Schedule O contains a respon					L
	not include amounts reported on lines 6b, 8b, 9b, and 10b of Part VIII.	(A) Total expenses	(B) Program service expenses	(C) Management and general expenses	Fundra expen	
	Grants and other assistance to governments and		UNDUTIOUS	gorioral experises	ОДРОП	303
	organizations in the United States. See Part IV, line 21					
2	Grants and other assistance to individuals in					
_	the United States. See Part IV, line 22					
3	Grants and other assistance to governments.					
	organizations, and individuals outside the					
	United States. See Part IV, lines 15 and 16					
4	Benefits paid to or for members					
5	Compensation of current officers, directors,					
	trustees, and key employees	5,058,860.	3,470,378.	1,588,482.		
6	Compensation not included above, to disqualified					
	persons (as defined under section 4958(f)(1)) and					
	persons described in section 4958(c)(3)(B)					
7	Other salaries and wages	16,596,637.	11,385,293.	5,211,344.		
8	Pension plan accruals and contributions (include					
	section 401(k) and 403(b) employer contributions)		1,413,871.			
9	Other employee benefits		1,914,234.	876,194.		
10	Payroll taxes	1,506,155.	1,033,222.	472,933.		
11	Fees for services (non-employees):					
а	Management					
	Legal	725,653.				
	Accounting	96,285.	66,051.	30,234.	_	
d	Lobbying					
	Professional fundraising services. See Part IV, line 17					
	Investment management fees					
a	Other, (If line 11g amount exceeds 10% of line 25,		1			

THE AMERICAN BOARD OF INTERNAL MEDICINE

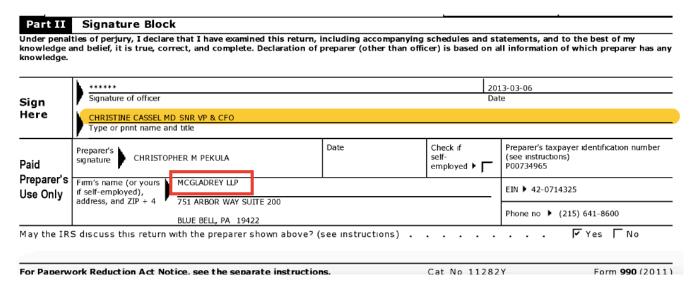
Form 990 (2013)





Source: Center for Responsible Politics <a href="http://www.opensecrets.org">http://www.opensecrets.org</a>

# Tax Form Discrepancies ABIM Signature Line / Auditor



ABIM 2011 Form 990 listing Christine Cassel, MD as "Snr VP & CFO" when she was President and CEO of the Organization.

McGladrey LLP, ABIM's long-term auditor, had serious accounting deficiencies in 2012 review by the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (https://pcaobus.org//Inspections/Reports/Documents/2014 McGladrey LLP.pdf)

# ABIM Tax Form Discrepancies

## Where Did the Money Go?

1 Complete this table for your five highest compensated independent cor \$100,000 of compensation from the organization. Report compensatio or within the organization's tax year.		
(A) Name and business address	(B) Description of services	(C) Compensation
BALLARD SPAHR ANDREWS & INGERSOLL 1735 MARKET ST PHILADELPHIA, PA 19103	LEGAL SERVICES	2,287,145
CECITY 285 WATERFORD DR HOMESTEAD, PA 15120	SOFTWARE SERVICES	1,112,600
LIQUID HUB PO BOX 62064 BALTIMORE, MD - 21264	CONSULTING SERVICES	736,105
RSM MCGLADREY INC 5155 PAYSPHERE CIRCLE CHICAGO, IL - 60674	ACCOUNTING/CONSULTING	361,753
VIRTUS TECHNOLOGY PARTNERS LLC BOX 512613 PHILADELPHIA, PA 19175	SOFTWARE SERVICES	273,958
2 Total number of independent contractors (including but not limited to the \$100,000 of compensation from the organization ►10	se listed above) who received more than	
		Form 990 (2011

Part IX Statement of Functional Expenses

	Section 501(c)(3) and 501(c)(4) organizations mu				
	ll other organizations must complete column (A ) but are not required to co heck if Schedule O contains a response to any question in this Part IX	mplete column:	s (B), (C), and (I	·	
Do no	ot include amounts reported on lines 6b, b, 9b, and 10b of Part VIII.	(A) Total expenses	(B) Program service expenses	(C) Management and general expenses	(D) Fundraising expenses
1	Grants and other assistance to governments and organizations in the United States See Part IV, line 21				
2	Grants and other assistance to individuals in the United States See Part IV, line 22				
3	Grants and other assistance to governments, organizations, and individuals outside the United States See Part IV, lines 15 and 16				
4	Benefits paid to or for members				
5	Compensation of current officers, directors, trustees, and key employees	4,577,033	3,098,651	1,478,382	
6	Compensation not included above, to disqualified persons (as defined under section 4958(f)(1)) and persons described in section 4958(c)(3)(B)				
7	Other salaries and wages	14,024,151	9,494,350	4,529,801	
8	Pension plan contributions (include section 401(k) and section 403(b) employer contributions)	2,012,315	1,362,337	649,978	
9	Other employee benefits	2,119,665	1,435,013	684,652	
10	Payroll taxes	1,204,717	815,593	389,124	
11	Fees for services (non-employees)				
а	Management				
ь	Legal	1,886,145	1,276,920	609,225	
c	Accounting	107,240	72,601	34,639	
d	Lobbying				
e	Professional fundraising See Part IV, line 17				

2011 Form 990:

### Legal

\$2,287,145 versus \$1,886,145 (Difference: \$401,000)

#### **Accounting**

\$361,753 versus \$107,240

(Difference: \$254,153)

2012 Form 990:

### Legal

\$2,249,239 versus \$1,026,406 (Difference: \$1,222,833)

#### Accounting

\$348,139 versus \$88,625 (Difference: \$259,514)

Section B. Independent Contractors		
<ul> <li>Complete this table for your five highest compensated compensation from the organization Report compensat</li> </ul>		
(A) Name and business address	Descrip	(B) (C) otion of services Compensation
ALLARD SPAHR ANDREWS & INGERSOLL 1735 MARKET ST PHILADELPHIA	A 19103 LEGAL SERVIC	ES 2,249,239
QUID HUB PO BOX 62064 BALTIMORE MD 21264	CONSULTING:	SERVICES 2,218,032
ECITY 285 WATERFORD DR HOMESTEAD PA 15120	SOFTWARE SE	RVICES 1,378,138
SM MCGLADREY INC 5155 PAYSPHERE CIRCLE CHICAGO IL 60674	ACCOUNTING/	CONSULTING 348,139
IRTUS TECHNOLOGY PARTNERS LLC BOX 512613 PHILADELPHIA PA 19175	SOFTWARE SE	RVICES 315,707
2 Total number of independent contractors (including but r \$100,000 of compensation from the organization ▶14	ot limited to those listed above) who receive	ed more than
		Ferm 000 (2012)

Page **10** 

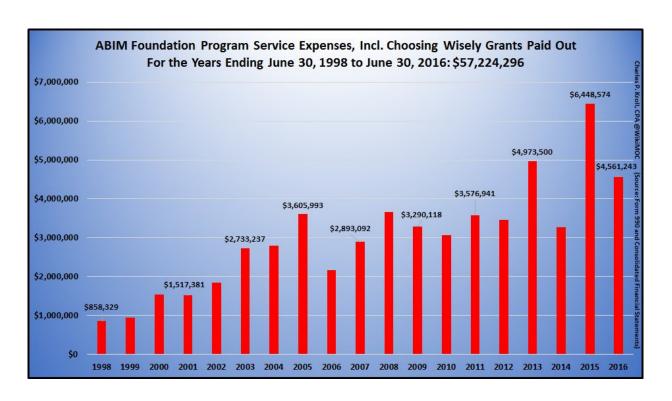
ecti	on 501(c)(3) and 501(c)(4) organizations must complete all columns. A				
	Check if Schedule O contains a response to any question in this F	art IX			
	ot include amounts reported on lines 6b, o, 9b, and 10b of Part VIII.	(A) Total expenses	(B) Program service expenses	(C) Management and general expenses	( <b>D)</b> Fundraising expenses
1	Grants and other assistance to governments and organizations in the United States $$ See Part IV , line 21 $$				
2	Grants and other assistance to individuals in the United States $$ See Part IV , line 22 $$				
3	Grants and other assistance to governments, organizations, and individuals outside the United States See Part IV, lines 15 and 16				
4	Benefits paid to or for members				
5	Compensation of current officers, directors, trustees, and key employees	3,783,385	2,573,837	1,209,548	
6	Compensation not included above, to disqualified persons (as defined under section 4958(f)(1)) and persons described in section 4958(c)(3)(B)				
7	Other salaries and wages	15,927,181	10,835,261	5,091,920	
8	Pension plan accruals and contributions (include section 401(k) and 403(b) employer contributions)	2,032,504	1,382,713	649,791	
9	Other employee benefits	2,418,202	1,645,103	773,099	
0	Payroll taxes	1,305,700	888,268	417,432	
1	Fees for services (non-employees)				
а	Management				
ь	Legal	1,026,406	698,264	328,142	
c	Accounting	88,625	60,292	28,333	
d	Lobbying				
e	Professional fundraising services See Part IV, line 17				
f	Investment management fees	5,210		5,210	

ABIM Form 990 - 2011

ABIM Form 990 - 2012

## **ABIM Foundation**

## Money Laundering?



Program Revenue: \$0

## Tax Discrepancies

ABIM Fails to Allow Independent Audit

- American Medical Association's House of Delegates Passed Resolution 607 requesting AMA to perform independent audit of ABIM in June 2016. (Available at: <a href="https://assets.ama-assn.org/sub/meeting/documents/i16-resolution-607.pdf">https://assets.ama-assn.org/sub/meeting/documents/i16-resolution-607.pdf</a>)
- ABIM's President and CEO responded to AMA and referred ABIM diplomates to the ABIM's Consolidated Financial Statement and IRS Form 990's for clarification. (Letter of response available at <a href="http://www.medtees.com/content/ABIMresponsetoAMA.pdf">http://www.medtees.com/content/ABIMresponsetoAMA.pdf</a>)

## Practicing US Physician Demand

 Since formal efforts to resolve the concerns of the ABIM's activities have failed with the American Medical Association and tax fraud appears rampant, practicing US physician diplomates of the ABIM request an investigation by the Internal Revenue Service and the Department of Justice into the financial and political activities of the American Board of Internal Medicine, their board of directors, and affiliated organizations, including, but not limited to, the American Board of Medical Specialties.