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Canada and U.S. Approaches to Health Care: How the Canadian and U.S. Political, Regulatory, and Legal Systems Impact Health Care

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SESSION 8: CANADA AND U.S. APPROACHES TO HEALTH CARE: HOW THE CANADIAN AND U.S. POLITICAL, REGULATORY, AND LEGAL SYSTEMS IMPACT HEALTH CARE.

INTRODUCTION

Daniel D. Ujcz

All right. Good morning. I will preempt Henry [King]. Can you hear me in the back?

I am Dan Ujcz, the Assistant U.S. Director of the Institute. It is my pleasure to welcome you – further welcome you to day two of the Institute’s annual conference. As well, it is my privilege to sit as the moderator on a panel with two well-seasoned veterans of the Institute’s programs, Jon Johnson seated at my right, and Ted Theofrastous seated at my left.

We have already committed the mortal sin of running off schedule, so I will be extremely brief with any introductory comments, but I do want to make this one point: As undoubtedly many of you have observed, we have changed the format for the annual conference this year, and we no longer have a Sunday morning session. As you may also suspect, that came with some hesitation from our eminent U.S. director. So I encourage if you have the capability to attend all of today’s sessions and our evening session in order that the only bell you will hear on Sunday morning in the 2006 conference is hopefully from up the street in the churches in Little Italy, rather than a bell in this room.

We will get going here. Jon Johnson will be our first presenter. Jon will address the Canada-U.S. approaches to health care at the macro federal level. Jon is a Partner at Goodmans law firm. I will refer you to his biography for the broad area of his subject matter, and I will only comment that he is not only a practitioner in the area, he is also known as one of a class of experts, if not the expert, in many of those areas.

In addition, Jon serves as the Consul-General for the Government of Iceland in Toronto, Ontario. He holds degrees from the University of Toronto and Osgoode Hall. And he is doing double duty for us so to speak at the Institute, as not only is he a panelist at today’s session, and an active questioner, as we witnessed yesterday during the sessions, but he served as a final round judge at the Niagara moot court competition held last month in Windsor, Ontario. He was very comfortable in the black robe. We may have seen

the donning of a second career, but we thank you for your service; not only your expertise, but your guidance with the students that reflected one of the Institute's core missions, which is fostering successive generations in interest in Canada-U.S. relations.

Our second panelist, a repeat performer – I think this is number three or four – is Ted Theofrastous. Ted will give a view from the trenches, so to speak, of the political, regulatory, and legal framework, governing the U.S. health care system. Ted is the Chief Commercialization Counsel for the Cleveland Clinic Foundation. There are a lot of Cs in that title. Before that time, Ted served as an Associate at Squires Sanders & Dempsey, and then, what we in the law profession say, he had a prior life. He served for ten years in the private sector in IT and product development. We acknowledge, or are proud to acknowledge, Ted as an alumnus of the Case School of Law.

Ted had a prolific academic career where he served not only as Editor of the *Journal of International Law*, but was also a mentor and inspiration to a number of young underclassmen who had an interest in international law, in which I am proud to include myself within that class. Ted continues to contribute to the Case School of Law, serving as an adjunct faculty member where he teaches courses in IP and conflict of laws, and he may have a second career in academia because every student that I've talked to loves his class. So it is one of the hallmark, bellwether classes we have here at Case.

Without further ado, in order to provide the fullest opportunity to our speakers, I will now turn it over to Jon Johnson. Jon?