



EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY/AFFIRMATIVE ACTION POLICY

U.S. Renal Care maintains a continuing policy of nondiscrimination in employment. It is our policy to provide equal opportunity in all phases of the employment process and in compliance with applicable federal, state, and local laws and regulations. This policy of nondiscrimination shall include, but not be limited to, the following employment decisions and practices: hiring; upgrading; promotions; demotions or transfers; layoffs; recalls; terminations; rates of pay or other forms of compensation; selection for training, including apprenticeship; and recruitment or recruitment advertising.

U.S. Renal Care will not discharge or in any other manner discriminate against employees or applicants because they have inquired about, discussed, or disclosed their own pay or the pay of another employee or applicant. However, employees who have access to the compensation information of other employees or applicants as a part of their essential job functions cannot disclose the pay of other employees or applicants to individuals who do not otherwise have access to compensation information, unless the disclosure is (a) in response to a formal complaint or charge, (b) in furtherance of an investigation, proceeding, hearing, or action, including an investigation conducted by the employer, or (c) consistent with U.S. Renal Care's legal duty to furnish information.

Employees and applicants of U.S. Renal Care will not be subjected to any form of harassment, discrimination, or retaliation for exercising rights protected by, or because of their participation in, an investigation or compliance review related to Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, the Age Discrimination in Employment Act, the Americans with Disabilities Act, Executive Order 11246, Section 503 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the Vietnam Era Veterans' Readjustment Assistance Act of 1974, the Veterans Employment Opportunities Act of 1998, or any other federal or state nondiscrimination law, rule, or regulation.

If you believe that you have been discriminated against in any manner as described above, you should notify **Julie Strittmatter, Vice President, Human Resources**. U.S. Renal Care will continue to direct management personnel to take such action as may be required to prevent behavior prohibited by this policy. All matters will be investigated and appropriate disciplinary action will be taken, up to and including termination of employment, if necessary. Retaliation against anyone who complains of or witnesses behavior contrary to this policy is also prohibited.

U.S. Renal Care also maintains affirmative action programs to implement our equal employment opportunity policy. Employees or applicants who wish to review appropriate portions of these programs may schedule an appointment to do so by contacting **Julie Strittmatter**, during normal business hours.

John Brengard
Chief Executive Officer