

# AHIMA Triumph Awards

**Celebrating the Remarkable Contributions of HIM Professionals from Around the Globe**

Since their inception in 1994, the AHIMA Triumph Awards have honored those professionals responsible for advancing the field of health information management (HIM). Each year, AHIMA members nominate those that have demonstrated extraordinary leadership, volunteerism and talent. As part of a long and cherished tradition, the Triumph Awards continue to be the highest recognition of excellence, dedication and service, and are presented annually at the AHIMA Convention & Exhibit.

NCHIMA is very proud to honor our national 2011 AHIMA Triumph Award winner!

---

## Pioneer Award

**William "Lee" Ford, MHA, RHIT, CPC, CPC-H, CHC**



Lee was named the 2011 Triumph Pioneer Award recipient by the American Health Information Management Association. The Pioneer Award honors individuals, groups or organizations focused on moving HIM into the future of the health care industry. Lee is the president of LFord Consulting, Inc. with over 18 years of experience in the Health Information Management and Practice Management Field with a focus on coding/reimbursement auditing and education.

Lee is recognized as a forward thinker and visionary leader for data quality and the future use of ICD-10 CM & PCS and has pioneered new relationships for the successful implementation of ICD-10 CM/PCS.

Lee saw the vital need to begin ICD-10 education in every part of our state. He jumped at the chance to serve the North Carolina Health Information & Communications Alliance (NCHICA) ICD-10 Task Force to advocate for health information management professionals and their expertise of ICD-10.

He did not wait to see how others would do it; he coordinated North Carolina's first ICD-10-CM Summit in June 2010. Alliances were built and support was demonstrated for a second ICD-10 Summit in August 2011 demonstrating clear evidence that NCHIMA's initiative to collaborate with other Healthcare organizations throughout our state was vital. He did not stop there but worked with Area Health Education Centers across the state to plan for ICD-10 training and successfully planned four educational sessions scheduled for the remainder of 2011.

Lee continues to be an effective leader & volunteer with NCHIMA. Prior to his current position as President-Elect, Lee has served as Vice President as well as Chair of Special Projects focusing on ICD-10-CM & PCS implementation, education & training. Lee was also a recipient of the NCHIMA Marybeth Hurst Award this year.

The ICD-10 education led by Lee has resulted in North Carolina as one of the top CSA's in regard to ICD-10 education. Because of his dedication, passion, and forward thinking, Lee is well deserving of AHIMA's 2011 Pioneer Triumph Award.

For a list of all AHIMA Award categories, visit: <http://www.ahima.org/about/triumphawards.aspx>  
Source: [www.ahima.org](http://www.ahima.org)