No. 15-10210

IN THE UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS FOR THE FIFTH CIRCUIT

AETNA LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY,

Plaintiff-Appellant,

v.

METHODIST HOSPITALS OF DALLAS, doing business as METHODIST MEDICAL CENTER, doing business as CHARLTON MEDICAL CENTER; TEXAS HEALTH RESOURCES; MEDICAL CENTER EAR, NOSE & THROAT ASSOCIATES OF HOUSTON, P.A.,

Defendants-Appellees.

On Appeal from the United States District Court for the Northern District of Texas No. 3:14-cv-347

NOTICE PURSUANT TO FEDERAL RULE OF APPELLATE PROCEDURE 44(b)

John Bruce Shely ANDREWS KURTH LLP Suite 4200 600 Travis Street Houston, TX 77002 (713) 220-4105 Miguel A. Estrada Geoffrey Sigler Matthew Scott Rozen GIBSON, DUNN & CRUTCHER LLP 1050 Connecticut Avenue, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20036-5306 (202) 955-8500

Counsel for Appellant

NOTICE PURSUANT TO FEDERAL RULE OF APPELLATE PROCEDURE 44(b)

Aetna Life Insurance Company ("Aetna") hereby gives notice pursuant to Federal Rule of Appellate Procedure 44(b), out of an abundance of caution, because this appeal may involve a constitutional issue with respect to a Texas statute in a case in which neither Texas nor its agency, officer, or employee is a party in an official capacity. Aetna's anticipated threshold argument in this appeal is not a constitutional challenge, but an issue of statutory interpretation regarding the scope of the Texas prompt pay statute, Tex. Ins. Code § 1301.101 *et seq*. In the alternative, however, in the event the Fifth Circuit rules against Aetna on this issue of statutory interpretation, Aetna intends to invoke the Supremacy Clause of the United States Constitution in arguing that the prompt pay statute is preempted by ERISA §§ 502(a), 503, and 514(a), 29 U.S.C. §§ 1132(a), 1133, 1144(a).

May 1, 2015

Respectfully submitted,

John Bruce Shely ANDREWS KURTH LLP Suite 4200 600 Travis Street Houston, TX 77002 (713) 220-4105 <u>/s/ Miguel A. Estrada</u> Miguel A. Estrada Geoffrey Sigler Matthew Scott Rozen GIBSON, DUNN & CRUTCHER LLP 1050 Connecticut Avenue, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20036-5306 (202) 955-8500

Counsel for Appellant

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that on May 1, 2015, an electronic copy of the foregoing Notice Pursuant to Federal Rule of Appellate Procedure 44(b) was filed with the Clerk of Court for the United States Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit using the appellate CM/ECF system, and that service will be accomplished by the appellate CM/ECF system.

<u>/s/ Miguel A. Estrada</u> Miguel A. Estrada GIBSON, DUNN & CRUTCHER LLP 1050 Connecticut Avenue, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20036-5306 (202) 955-8500

United States Court of Appeals

FIFTH CIRCUIT OFFICE OF THE CLERK

LYLE W. CAYCE CLERK TEL. 504-310-7700 600 S. MAESTRI PLACE NEW ORLEANS, LA 70130

May 04, 2015

Mr. Barry McBee First Assistant Attorney General for the State of Texas P.O. Box 12548 Austin, TX 78711

No. 15-10210 Aetna Life Insurance Company v. Methodist Hospitals of Dallas, et al USDC No. 3:14-CV-347

This letter certifies notice of a constitutional question in this case. Enclosed is a copy of the notice filed by counsel.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the clerk's office at the above number.

Sincerely,

LYLE W. CAYCE, Clerk

By: Peter A. Conners, Deputy Clerk 504-310-7685

CC:

Mr. Miguel Angel Estrada Mr. Matthew Scott Rozen Mr. John Bruce Shely Mr. Geoffrey M. Sigler Mr. Mikal Watts