## **TELEHEALTH 301: Court Cases**

**(February 2022)** 



THE NATIONAL TELEHEALTH POLICY RESOURCE CENTER



#### CENTER FOR CONNECTED HEALTH POLICY (CCHP)

is a non-profit, non-partisan organization that seeks to advance state and national telehealth policy to promote improvements in health systems and greater health equity.

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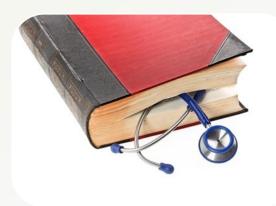
# WAYS TELEHEALTH POLICY CREATED



Legislation



Regulation



Administrative Action



**Court Cases** 



#### COURT CASES HAVE IMPACTED/INFLUENCED POLICY

#### Malpractice Cases

- Influences operation
- Impacts premiums on malpractice coverage

#### Other Cases

- Change laws and regulations
- Leads to development of policy in the other channels such as legislation, regulation and administrative policy



#### **EXAMPLE**

- North Carolina State Board of Dental Examiners v. Federal Trade Commission
  - 2015 Supreme Court Case
  - NC Dental Board limited who could do teeth whitening, prevent other professionals such as cosmetologist from performing the service
  - FTC took action and case reached the Supreme Court
  - Supreme Court ruled in favor of the FTC
    - > Dental board included market participants who benefited from limiting competition
    - Certain safeguards needed to be in place such as state oversight over the board or board members who were not market participant to allow such actions



#### **IMPACT**

- Based upon the North Carolina case Teladoc sued the Texas Medical Board in 2015 on an anti-trust case
  - TX Medical Board issued rules that required physicians to conduct inperson physical exams before diagnosis and treatment was allowed
  - The majority of the TX Medical Board members were practicing physicians
  - TX Medical Board lost the case in US District Court and appealed, but put the case on hold in an effort to work out a resolution
  - State legislation was passed to remove the face-to-face requirement and the Medical Board revised their rules in 2017





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# Thank You!

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