

Washington State AG files suit against Franciscan Health System

The Washington State AG [filed suit](#) to thwart and unwind Franciscan Health Systems (FHS) most recent expansion attempts alleging violation of both state and federal antitrust laws. In a rarely seen antitrust enforcement action, the Washington AG's office is asking the court to unwind FHS' 2016 acquisition of WestSound Orthopaedics for violation of Section 7 of the Clayton Act and the Washington Consumer Protection Act and several affiliation agreements from 2016 between The Doctors Clinic and FHS for violation of Section 1 of the Sherman Act and the Washington Consumer Protection Act. The AG asks for equitable disgorgement from illegal financial gains obtained from the transactions. The attempt to unwind a previously consummated merger and several affiliation agreements is a bold step in health care antitrust, and one that The Source will be keeping a close eye on!