

**Russ Thomas**  
**President and Chief Operating Officer**  
**Availity, LLC**

Russ Thomas is the President and Chief Operating Officer of Availity, LLC, a joint venture between Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Florida, Inc., Health Care Service Corporation (HCSC), Humana Inc., and WellPoint, Inc. He joined Availity in early 2008 and oversees enterprise-wide operations, including business solutions, professional services, market strategy, and sales and market development.

Russ brings with him to Availity a career in clinical information products and services. Prior to joining Availity, Russ was the Chief Executive Officer of Gold Standard, Inc., an industry leader in drug information databases and clinical knowledge solutions. Russ grew Gold Standard from a small start-up business to a national operation, serving all sectors of the health care market, before selling the business to Reed Elsevier in 2006.

In addition to his professional responsibilities, Russ has been active in industry and philanthropic organizations. He was a founding board member of the Tampa Bay Regional Health Information Organization. He was also a founding board member and past chairman of Hillsborough Kids, Inc., which, in concert with the Florida Department of Children and Families, provides oversight and resources for more than 4,000 disadvantaged children in Hillsborough County, Florida.

Russ earned his Bachelor of Arts degree from Virginia Tech and his Juris Doctorate from the University of Virginia. He resides in Jacksonville, Florida with his wife Claudia and their two children.