

## **Before you sign on the dotted line, Caveat Emptor—**

### **What else should you know...**

- Do all physicians work the same number of days, nights, weekends and holidays? If not, how are shifts allocated?
- If I leave, am I covered for malpractice for the patients I saw when I was in the group? Who pays for that malpractice tail coverage?
- Are the financial statements of the group available for review?
- Is there a clear path (written criteria) to full partnership/ownership? Who makes the decision on whether and when one becomes a partner?
- Is there a financial contribution “buy-in” required? How much?
- Does full ownership in the medical group include ownership of the company (or companies) that provides services the group is required to purchase? (eg, Billing Company? MSO? Malpractice?) If not, is ownership available to me later? At what cost?
- Are new partners welcome to attend group governance and management meetings?
- Talk to someone who has been there for a year or two to find out if what was promised was delivered.

ACEP Democratic Group Practice Section