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SUPERVISOR RIDLEY-THOMAS APPLAUDS BOARD'S APPROVAL OF RECOMMENDATIONS FOR 7- MEMBER MLK HOSPITAL BOARD

LOS ANGELES – Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas today was pleased with the Board of Supervisors' confirmation of seven prominent leaders in health care, business and law to serve as the first board of directors of the new independent private/non-profit Martin Luther King, Jr. Hospital.

The nominees, each who representing a minimum of 10 years experience in health care, business, or law, were jointly recommended to the Board by the County's Chief Executive Officer, William T Fujioka, and Dr. John D. Stobo, University of California (UC) Senior Vice President for Health Sciences and Services.

The newly-appointed board of directors will serve as the independent governing body that will oversee operations of MLK Hospital, expected to open in 2013.

"I applaud the recommendations by the CEO of these accomplished and experienced individuals to serve as the first board members of the new Martin Luther King, Jr. Hospital," Supervisor Ridley-Thomas said.

"The recommendations clearly establish that a first-rate hospital board can be created without the involvement of political influences, which relieves them of all obligations, other than that of serving the interests of patients in this underserved area of the County."

The list of board members include the following:

Manuel A. Abascal, JD, Partner, Litigation Department, Latham and Watkins, LLP, Los Angeles

Mr. Abascal is a partner at Latham and Watkins, with a focus on government investigations, internal investigations, and complex business litigation. A substantial portion of Abascal's practice is focused on healthcare matters. He has successfully represented many non-profit hospital systems and free-standing hospitals in complex litigation and compliance matters, often settling these matters without charges or lawsuits being filed or with dismissals.

Elaine Batchlor, MD, MPH, Chief Medical Officer, L.A. Care Health Plan

Dr. Batchlor is responsible for medical leadership of all aspects of L.A. Care Health Plan, including the assurance of quality healthcare delivery to more than 800,000 members. In addition, she oversees L.A. Care's community investment program, health information technology efforts and culture and linguistic services. Dr. Batchlor is a licensed physician with board certification in internal medicine and rheumatology. Her health policy and administrative work includes medical directorships at insurance companies, healthcare management organizations, and foundations.

Linda Griego, BA, President and Chief Executive Officer, Griego Enterprises, Inc.

Griego is president and chief executive officer of Griego Enterprises, Inc., a business management company she founded in 1986. For 12 years, Griego served as a trustee of the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, the United States' largest philanthropy devoted exclusively to health and health care, with \$8.5 billion in assets. The foundation's mission is to improve the health of all Americans. She also served on the board of directors of Cedars-Sinai Medical Center in Los Angeles for four years. Griego currently serves on the advisory board of the UCLA Women's Health Center and was a member of the RAND Compare Committee on Health.

Paul King, MHA, President and Chief Executive Officer, Children's Hospital of Los Angeles Medical Group

King leads the Children's Medical Group, a 400-physician pediatric multi-specialty group which is affiliated with the University of Southern California Medical School and serves as the faculty practice plan. King also manages a physician management services organization. In addition to his extensive management experience with Children's Hospital of Los Angeles and Mayo Clinic, his medical group management experience with Children's Medical Group, Kerlan-Jobe Medical Group, and Samaritan Physicians' Center brings valuable insight on the relationship between hospitals and physicians. King has been a trustee on the board of Anaheim Memorial Hospital.

Michael Madden, MA, Chief Executive Officer, Providence Healthcare of Southern California - Retired

Mr. Madden was the chief executive for a hospital organization employing approximately 7,500 people, and including four hospitals and several skilled nursing and ambulatory facilities. Madden has more than 40 years of leadership experience in complex non-profit healthcare systems, with extensive experience in hospital operations. Providence is one of the region's largest health care systems, and includes Providence Saint Joseph Medical Center, Burbank; Providence Holy Cross Medical Center, Mission Hills; Little Company of Mary Hospital-Torrance; Little Company of Mary Hospital-San Pedro; and Tarzana Medical Center.

Robert Margolis, MD, Managing Partner and Chief Executive Officer, HealthCare Partners

Dr. Margolis has been the managing partner and CEO of HealthCare Partners since the formation of the company in 1992 and CEO of its predecessor medical group. HealthCare Partners is a multi-specialty medical group and IPA with more than 2,500 affiliated physicians in Los Angeles and Orange Counties. In addition to his medical training and experience and leadership of HealthCare Partners, Dr. Margolis has served as the chairman of the board of the National Committee for Quality Assurance, chairman of the Board of California Medical Center, and a board member of Catholic Healthcare West, Southern California, serving on the Strategic Planning Committee.

James Yoshioka, BS, President and Chief Executive Officer, Citrus Valley Health Partners - Retired

Mr. Yoshioka led a three-hospital system in the San Gabriel Valley of Southern California with affiliated services such as hospice and home health. Citrus Valley Health Partners includes Inter-Community Hospital, Queen of the Valley Hospital, and Foothill Presbyterian Hospital. Yoshioka has an exceptional record of achievement and extensive experience in finance, operations, and leadership of hospitals. His experience has been in both independent, free-standing institutions and with multi-hospital systems and community nursing facilities.

“I want to publicly thank these candidates for answering the call. They have pledged their time and expertise at a significant time,” the Supervisor said, noting tomorrow is the 45th anniversary of the Watts riots.

“Now, on the eve of national health reform implementation, this Board remains committed to ensuring that the next chapter of this legacy includes a new high quality hospital and ambulatory care facility and will assume total responsibility for one of the most important tasks in health service delivery in L.A. County.”

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