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Catholic Healthcare West Names Three Physicians to Board of Directors

San Francisco, CA – September 16, 2008 – Catholic Healthcare West (CHW), the eighth largest hospital system in the nation, announced today that three physicians have been elected to the CHW Board of Directors.

The new board members, elected to one-year terms effective Sept. 1, are: Andrew C. Agwunobi, MD; Thomas L. Garthwaite, MD; and Rodney F. Hochman, MD.

CHW specifically sought out medical doctors for board positions to help guide CHW in its mission to provide excellent, compassionate care to all in an evolving healthcare environment, according to Lloyd Dean, president and chief executive officer.

“We’re honored to have these exceptional senior physician executives agree to join our board,” said Dean. “Their competence, experience and vision will serve us well in both governance and management.”

Dr. Agwunobi is chief executive officer of Providence Health Care in Spokane, Washington. He previously served as Secretary of the Florida Agency for Health Care Administration. Agwunobi, who also has a master’s of business degree administration degree from Stanford, has held several executive positions with hospitals and health systems in Georgia and California.

Dr. Garthwaite is executive vice president and chief medical officer of Catholic Health East. He previously served as director and chief medical officer of the Los Angeles County Department of Health Services. Garthwaite earlier served as undersecretary for health with the Veterans Health Administration in Washington, D.C. and was chief of staff and associate dean at the VA Medical Center and Medical College of Wisconsin.

Dr. Hochman is chief executive officer of Swedish Medical Center in Seattle, and earlier served in a number of positions with Sentara Healthcare in Norfolk, Va., including executive vice president. Earlier, he served as senior executive officer of Health Alliance of Greater Cincinnati and held medical instructional positions at Guthrie Healthcare System in Sayre, Pennsylvania and Dartmouth Hitchcock Medical Center in Hanover, New Hampshire.

The three new members fill two open positions and one new position on the board of directors.

About Catholic Healthcare West

Catholic Healthcare West (CHW), headquartered in San Francisco, CA, is a system of 41 hospitals and medical centers in California, Arizona and Nevada. Founded in 1986, it is the eighth largest hospital system in the nation and the largest not-for-profit health care system in California. CHW is committed to delivering compassionate, high-quality, affordable health care services with special attention to the poor and underserved. The CHW network of more than 9,500 physicians and approximately 48,000 employees provide quality healthcare services during more than four million patient visits annually. In 2007, CHW provided \$922 million in charity care and unsponsored community benefit. For more information, please visit our website at www.chwHEALTH.org.