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**DONALD A. AVERY, FACHE, ELECTED TO  
AMERICAN COLLEGE OF HEALTHCARE EXECUTIVES  
BOARD OF GOVERNORS**

**CHICAGO, March 8, 2008**—Donald A. Avery, FACHE, president/CEO, Hughston Orthopedic Hospital, Columbus, Ga., has been elected to serve on the Board of Governors of the American College of Healthcare Executives, an international professional society of more than 30,000 healthcare executives.

Avery took office today at the Council of Regents Meeting during ACHE's 51st Congress on Healthcare Leadership in Chicago. He will serve a three-year term representing ACHE affiliates on ACHE's Board of Governors, the authority that oversees ACHE operations and member services.

Avery was named president/CEO at Hughston Orthopedic in 2004. Hughston Orthopedic, which was voted one of the top places to work in Georgia in 2007, is part of HCA and performs nearly 7,000 surgeries annually with a \$200 million operating budget. Avery is responsible for the day-to-day operations of the hospital and medical staff.

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**NEWS RELEASE**

Prior to this, Avery was senior vice president of Physician and Ambulatory Care for the Columbus (Ga.) Regional Healthcare System, from 2000 to 2004, where his responsibilities included negotiating physician contracts. He also served South Georgia Medical Center, Valdosta, as vice president for Operations from 1988 to 2000. His previous roles included serving Baptist Medical Center, Jacksonville, Fla., as director for product line development, from 1987 to 1988, as administrative assistant to the COO in 1987, and administrative resident in 1986.

Before being elected an ACHE Governor, Avery was the ACHE Regent for Georgia—Coastal Plains from 2003 to 2006. In addition to his service to ACHE, he has been a member of the boards of the Georgia Association of Healthcare Executives; Georgia Hospital Association; West Central Georgia Cancer Coalition; Greater Columbus Chamber of Commerce, serving as chairman of its Healthcare Committee; Calvary Christian School; and Columbus Technical College Foundation, serving as its chairman-elect.

Board certified in healthcare management as an ACHE Fellow, Avery received his master's degree in hospital administration from the University of Florida and his bachelor's degree in management from the United States Air Force Academy.

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### **American College of Healthcare Executives**

The American College of Healthcare Executives is an international professional society of more than 30,000 healthcare executives who lead hospitals, healthcare systems and other healthcare organizations. ACHE is known for its prestigious credentialing and educational programs and its annual Congress on Healthcare Leadership, which draws more than 4,500 participants each year. ACHE is also known for its journals, the *Journal of Healthcare Management* and *Frontiers of Health Services Management* and its magazine, *Healthcare Executive*, as well as ground-breaking research and career development and public policy programs. ACHE's publishing division, Health Administration Press, is one of the largest publishers of books and journals on all aspects of health services management in addition to textbooks for use in college and university courses. Through such efforts, ACHE works toward its goal of being the premier professional society for healthcare leaders by providing exceptional value to its members.

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