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**FRANCISCO LOPEZ IV, FACHE, ELECTED TO
AMERICAN COLLEGE OF HEALTHCARE EXECUTIVES
BOARD OF GOVERNORS**

CHICAGO, March 8, 2008—Francisco Lopez IV, FACHE, CEO/managing director, Northwest (Amarillo) Texas Healthcare System 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.

Lopez 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.

Lopez was named CEO/managing director at Northwest Texas Healthcare System in 2005. He is responsible for the operation of a multi-facility campus, including a general medical hospital, heart hospital, children's hospital and behavior health facility. During his time there, he has launched a managed care growth strategy, initiated multi level market share growth across all service lines, and finalized business plans to open an affiliated freestanding 40-bed acute-care rehabilitation hospital.

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NEWS RELEASE

Prior to this, Lopez was the CEO/managing director of St. Mary's Regional Medical Center, Enid, Okla., from 1997 to 2004, where he was responsible for the transition of ownership from the Sisters of Mercy Health System to Universal Health Services. His previous roles included serving as executive vice president for Mercy Health System, Oklahoma City, Okla., from 1987 to 1996; serving Mercy Hospital of New Orleans as executive vice president in 1986, vice president from 1982 to 1986, assistant vice president from 1981 to 1982, and administrative assistant from 1980 to 1981.

Before being elected an ACHE Governor, Lopez was elected to serve as the ACHE Regent-at-Large for District 4 from 2006 to present. In addition to his service to ACHE, he has been a member of the boards of the Business Advisory Council, serving as its honorary chair; Amarillo College Foundation; Women's Health Research Institute; Amarillo Chamber of Commerce; and the Amarillo United Way. Lopez is also a member of the Metropolitan Hospital Council, the American Hospital Association and Leadership Committee of the Federation of American Hospitals.

Board certified in healthcare management as an ACHE Fellow, Lopez received his master's degree in health administration from Tulane University and his bachelor's degree from Louisiana State University.

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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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