

HCA

Delta Division

NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Local executive earns top healthcare management credential

CHICAGO, [May 27, 2008] - Robert Lagesse, FACHE, HCA Physician Services Operations Vice President, Delta Division recently became a Fellow of the American College of Healthcare Executives, the nation's leading professional society for healthcare leaders.

"Because healthcare management ultimately affects the people in our communities, it is critically important to have a standard of excellence promoted by a professional organization," says Thomas C. Dolan, PhD, FACHE, CAE, president and chief executive officer of ACHE. "By becoming an ACHE Fellow and simultaneously earning board certification from ACHE, healthcare leaders can show that they are committed to providing high-quality service to their patients and community."

Fellow status represents achievement of the highest standard of professional development. In fact, only 7,500 healthcare executives hold this distinction. To obtain Fellow status, candidates must fulfill multiple requirements, including passing a comprehensive examination, meeting academic and experiential criteria, earning continuing education credits and demonstrating professional/community involvement. Fellows are also committed to ongoing professional development and undergo recertification every three years.

Lagesse is privileged to use the FACHE credential, which signifies board certification in healthcare management and ACHE Fellow status.

For more information regarding the FACHE credential, please contact the ACHE Division of Membership at (312) 424-9400 or membership1@ache.org, or visit the Credentialing area of ache.org.

The American College of Healthcare Executives is an international professional society of more than 30,000 healthcare executives who lead our nation's 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 journal, the *Journal of Healthcare Management*, and 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.

HCA is one of the nation's leading providers of healthcare services, which operates 169 hospitals and 108 freestanding surgery centers in 20 states and England (including eight hospitals and nine freestanding surgery centers operated through equity method joint ventures) with approximately 186,000 employees. HCA's Delta Division operates hospitals in Louisiana and Mississippi, including Tulane Medical Center, Tulane-Lakeside Hospital, Rapides Regional Medical Center (Alexandria), Women's & Children's Hospital and Southwest Medical Center (Lafayette), Dauterive Medical Center (New Iberia), Lakeview Regional Medical Center (Covington, Louisiana) and Garden Park Medical Center (Gulfport, Mississippi).

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