



A Ministry of the
Sisters of St. Joseph
of Orange

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**CALIFORNIA STATE ATTORNEY GENERAL APPROVES
MISSION HOSPITAL ACQUISITION OF SOUTH COAST MEDICAL CENTER**

LAGUNA BEACH, CA (JUNE 19, 2009) – The Office of Attorney General of the State of California (AG) announced its approval of the acquisition of South Coast Medical Center by St. Joseph Health System’s Mission Hospital from Adventist Health. The decision clears the way for completion of the purchase transaction by June 30 for the 208-bed Laguna Beach facility.

Mission Hospital and Adventist Health are pleased with the decision and would like to publicly thank the Attorney General’s Office for its review and approval of the sale, and the residents and City of Laguna Beach for their support. Transactions of this scope are very complex and require thoughtful assessment and substantial effort to ensure the best possible care for the community.

Both Adventist Health and Mission Hospital have agreed to the conditions outlined by the Attorney General in the interest of preserving not-for-profit healthcare services for the south Orange County coastal communities.

“We look forward to continuing the tradition of providing compassionate care and service to the community. We will continue to work with Adventist Health to ensure a smooth transition for staff, physicians, patients and families and look forward to further serving the healthcare needs of the residents of the South County coastal communities.” said Peter F. Bastone, President and Chief Executive Officer, Mission Hospital.

“We are pleased that the Attorney General has approved what Adventist Health believes is the most desirable action -- selling South Coast Medical Center’s assets to a new not-for-profit owner who will continue its operations and invest in its future, a goal we have shared with the community from the start,” said Teresa Day, Vice President, overseeing the sales process for Adventist Health.

For detailed information about the Attorney General's decision and the conditions, visit

<http://ag.ca.gov/charities/nonprofithosp.php>.

###

Adventist Health is a not-for-profit, faith-based health system operating in California, Hawaii, Oregon and Washington. Founded on the Seventh-day Adventist heritage of Christian health care, Adventist Health is comprised of 18 hospitals with more than 2,800 beds, nearly 18,000 employees, numerous clinics and outpatient facilities, the largest system of rural health clinics in California, 15 home care agencies and three joint-venture retirement centers with a fourth on the way. For more information, visit www.adventisthealth.org.

Mission Hospital is a 301-bed acute care, full-service facility providing the most advanced healthcare services and diagnostic care to south Orange County. One of only three designated trauma centers in the county, the hospital offers 24-hour emergency care and specialized services through its *Mission Imaging Center, Mission Heart Center, Mission Stroke Center, Mission Maternity Center and Mission Women's Wellness Center*. The hospital also offers the highest level of care in orthopedics, rehabilitation, cancer, spine and vascular services. CHOC Children's at Mission Hospital, a separately licensed pediatric hospital, serves as the only designated pediatric healthcare center in south Orange County. A member of the St. Joseph Health System, the hospital is one of 14 not-for-profit hospitals sponsored by the St. Joseph Health Ministry. For more information, visit mission4health.com.

Mission Hospital Media Contact:

Kelsey Martinez – Marketing & Media Relations Manager

Kelsey.Martinez@stjoe.org

949-364-4874

Adventist Health Media Contact:

Alicia Gonzalez, Media Consultant

gonzala1@ah.org

818-800-3113