

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## AHA NAMES NEW TRUSTEES TO THE BOARD

**WASHINGTON** (August 5, 2014) - The American Hospital Association (AHA) has selected eight new members to its Board of Trustees for three-year terms beginning January 1, 2015. In addition, the board appointed one new member to fill a one-year vacancy. The Board of Trustees is the policy-making body of the AHA and has ultimate authority for the governance and management of its direction and finances.

## **Appointees include:**

**Nancy Howell Agee** is president and CEO of Carilion Clinic in Roanoke, Va., an integrated health care organization serving western Virginia. Carilion includes a multi-specialty physician group, eight hospitals, the Jefferson College of Health Sciences and a joint ventured Medical School with Virginia Tech.

Agee began her career in nursing and has served in various management roles with Carilion in the past 20 years. In 1996, she was appointed vice president and has gradually assumed increasing administrative and executive leadership roles. She is a member of the AHA's Committee on Commissioners to The Joint Commission, the section for Health Care Systems Governing Council and a Regional Policy Board 3 state delegate, and a member of the Medicare DSH Advisory Group.

She has supported many professional and community activities, serving on boards of the Virginia Hospital & Healthcare Association, the Foundation of Roanoke Valley, and the Virginia Tech Carillion School of Medicine, the Radford University Board of Visitors and others.

Agee holds degrees with honors from the University of Virginia and Emory University and participated in postgraduate studies at the Kellogg School of Business, Northwestern University.

**Bruce Bailey** is president and CEO of Georgetown Hospital System in Georgetown, S.C., a post he has held since 2001. Under his leadership, the hospital system has received awards for patient

satisfaction, leadership in quality improvement, and for its employee wellness programs. In addition, Bailey has supervised the expansion of patient services and medical facilities to better serve the needs of the community.

Previously, he served as administrator of Abbeville County Memorial Hospital in Abbeville, S.C. and in an administrative capacity at long-term and acute care facilities in West Virginia, North Carolina and Virginia. Bailey is chair of AHA's Regional Policy Board 4 and is a member of the Committee on Performance Improvement and the PAC Steering Committee. He has served as vice chairman and chairman of the American Heart Association's Walk America, a board member of Waccamaw Regional Education Center, a board member of Smith Medical Clinic, and chairman of the South Carolina Hospital Association (SCHA) Political Action Committee and Workforce Advisory Committee. Bailey served as chairman of the SCHA board of trustees from 2007-2008 and is a current board member. He also served as co-chair of the SCHA Reengineering Steering Committee, a statewide task force charged with reengineering the way care is delivered in South Carolina.

Bailey earned his bachelor's of science degree in health care management and his master's degree in health administration from Medical College of Virginia in Richmond. He was elected to serve a three-year term after filling an earlier vacancy.

Melinda L. Estes, M.D., is president and CEO of Saint Luke's Health System in Kansas City Mo., a post she has held since September 2011. Prior to joining Saint Luke's, Estes served as president and CEO of Fletcher Allen Health Care in Burlington, Vt. Before that she held various positions at the Cleveland Clinic Florida, including chair of the board of governors and chief medical officer. Estes also served as executive director of business development and associate chief of staff at the Cleveland Clinic Foundation in Cleveland. She was executive vice president and chief of staff for the MetroHealth System in Cleveland from 1997-2000.

Estes earned a bachelor's of science from Sam Houston State University in Huntsville, Texas. She received her medical degree from the University of Texas Medical Branch in Galveston, Texas in 1978 and she completed a neurology residency in 1982. She was a neuropathology fellow at the Cleveland Clinic Foundation from 1982-1984 and completed special training in pediatric neuropathology at the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia in 1984. She earned a master's in business administration from Case Western Reserve University's Weatherhead School of Management in 1995. She is board certified in neurology and neuropathology. Estes is appointed to the AHA Board of Trustees for a one-year term to fill a vacancy.

**Brian A. Gragnolati** is a senior vice president for the Johns Hopkins Health System in Baltimore, a post he has held since March 2011. Before that, he was president and CEO of Suburban Hospital, a member of Johns Hopkins Medicine, and joined the Suburban Hospital Healthcare System in November 2001.

Previously, Gragnolati was president and CEO of York Hospital, a 580-bed teaching hospital, and senior vice president of WellSpan Health, an integrated health care system based in York, Pa. He also has held a number of key executive positions at Baystate Medical Center in Springfield, Mass., and at the Medical Center Hospital of Vermont, now Fletcher Allen

Healthcare in Burlington, Vt., which is the teaching hospital associated with the University of Vermont.

Gragnolati is a past chairman of AHA's Metro Governing Council and served as a delegate on AHA's Regional Policy Boards 2 and 3. He is the past chair of the Community Hospitals Connection of the Maryland Hospital Association (MHA) and served on the MHA Council of Financial Policy Executives. He was recently appointed to the MHA Executive Committee. He was a member of the Base Realignment and Closure Implementation Committee, which studied the impact of the relocation of medical activities from the Walter Reed Army Medical Center in Washington, D.C. to the National Naval Medical Center in Bethesda (now the Walter Reed National Military Medical Center). He has served on the board of the Westminster Retirement Community, and is past chair of the Montgomery Business Development Corporation.

Gragnolati earned a bachelor's of science in health systems analysis from the University of Connecticut and a master's in business administration from Western New England College in Massachusetts. He received an Executive Leadership Certificate from the JFK School at Harvard University. Gragnolati was elected to a three-year term after filling a vacancy last year.

**Thomas W. Huebner** is president of Rutland Regional Medical Center and Rutland Regional Health Services in Rutland, Vt., a post he has held since 1997. Before that, he served as executive vice president at Choate-Symmes Health Services, Inc. in Woburn, Mass. He joined the medical center in 1990 as vice president responsible for systems development and planning.

Previously, he served as a senior consultant for the Massachusetts Hospital Association, and he also served as deputy assistant commissioner of public health in Massachusetts. Huebner is a member of the American College of Healthcare Executives. He served as chairman of the Rutland Area Community Services and the Vermont Association of Hospitals and Health Systems. Huebner has served on the Governance Committee of Blue Cross Blue Shield, the Vermont Business Roundtable board and currently serves on the Blue Cross Blue Shield board as well as other various civic organizations.

He earned his bachelor's degree from Colby College and a master's in business administration with a specialty in health management from Boston University.

**Michelle Janney, Ph.D., RN** is the senior vice president and Wood-Prince Family chief nurse executive at Northwestern Memorial Hospital in Chicago, where she has worked since 2002. Janney has been a registered nurse for more than 30 years, serving as a bedside nurse, faculty, researcher, administrator and board member.

Under Janney's leadership, Northwestern Memorial Hospital received magnet designation in 2006 and re-designation in 2010. She received the Power of Nursing Leadership Pinnacle Leader Award in 2007 and the Nursing Spectrum Excellence Award for Advancing and Leading Profession in 2010.

Janney was president of the American Organization of Nurse Executives (AONE) in 2013. She has been an AONE member for 18 years and has served on the AONE Strategic Planning

Committee and the AONE Board of Directors in 2007-2008. Janney has also served as the AONE region 5 director, representing Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Ohio and Wisconsin. In addition, she has served in national leadership capacities for the Hospital Advisory Committee of the Joint Commission and the Regional Policy Board of the AHA.

Janney earned a bachelor of science in nursing from the University of Toledo a master of science in nursing from the Medical College of Ohio and a Ph.D. in administration and leadership from the University of Toledo. She is a graduate of the Wharton Fellows Program in management for nurse executives at the University of Pennsylvania.

**James Leonard, M.D.** is president and CEO of The Carle Foundation in Urbana, Ill., which is the not-for-profit parent company of an integrated health system that includes Carle Foundation Hospital, Carle Physician Group and Health Alliance Medical Plans. Leonard began his career with the Carle in 1984 as a primary care physician. He has served as Carle's president and CEO since 1999. His background as a physician guides his leadership at the foundation.

Under Leonard's direction, Carle is ranked nationally as one of Healthcare's Most Wired <sup>TM</sup>, as a Magnet<sup>®</sup> hospital for nursing, and a Distinguished Hospital for Clinical Excellence by HealthGrades.<sup>®</sup> Leonard has overseen expansion with a main campus modernization including construction of Mills Breast Cancer Institute and Carle Cancer Center, Carle Heart and Vascular Institute, a 400,000 square foot patient tower and a guest house.

Leonard is a board certified in family practice and has additional training in sports medicine and addiction medicine. He is immediate past chair of the Illinois Hospital Association board of trustees.

**Thomas D. Miller** is president, Division V Operations for Community Health Systems in Franklin, Tenn. He joined Community Health Systems through the company's 2007 acquisition of Triad Hospitals, for which he served as president and CEO of the flagship Lutheran Health Network in Fort Wayne, Ind. During his tenure at Lutheran he spearheaded the opening and successful operation of Dupont Hospital and Lutheran Children's Hospital.

As president of the Division V Operations he oversees strategy and market development, which also includes seven joint-venture facilities and a total of 600 employed providers. In addition, he has oversight for 33 hospitals in Indiana, Ohio, New Jersey and Pennsylvania.

Miller has served on the Indiana Hospital Association's Board of Directors for the past decade and chaired the association's council on government affairs. In addition, he has served a two-year term on the AHA Regional Policy Board 5.

For the past 15 years he has participated on various committees for the Federation of American Hospitals, providing operator perspective on policy matters to the Federation's Board of Governors. He is a longstanding fellow of the American College of Healthcare Executives.

Ramanathan (Ram) Raju, M.D., is president and CEO of the New York City Health and Hospitals Corporation, a position he began in 2014. A board-certified surgeon, he was CEO for

the Cook County Health and Hospitals System in Chicago since 2011. Prior to his role as CEO at Cook County, Raju served as the executive vice president for medical and professional affairs at the New York City Health and Hospitals Corporation and as chief operating officer (COO) and chief medical officer (CMO).

Previously, he served as CMO at Coney Island Hospital in Brooklyn, N.Y., and assumed additional responsibilities of COO in 2005. Raju has served partial terms as a delegate on AHA Regional Policy Board 2 and 5 and was a member of the AHA President's Forum for Acute/Post-Acute Hospital Continuum.

A fellow of the American College of Healthcare Executives and member of the CEO forum, he also is the vice chair of Greater New York Hospital Association and a member of the board of America's Essential Hospitals and the Asian Health Care Leaders Association.

Raju trained in India at Madras Medical College and at the Royal College of Surgeons in the United Kingdom. He earned his master's in business administration from the University of Tennessee.

## **About the AHA**

The AHA is a not-for-profit association of health care provider organizations and individuals that are committed to the improvement of health in their communities. The AHA is the national advocate for its members, which include nearly 5,000 hospitals, health care systems, networks and other providers of care and 43,000 individual members. Founded in 1898, the AHA provides education for health care leaders and is a source of information on health care issues and trends. For more information, visit www.aha.org.

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