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NEWS RELEASE

Community Hospital President & CEO Earns Top Healthcare Management Credential

CHICAGO, June 11, 2008 – Chris Thomas, FACHE, president, and chief executive officer at Community Hospital recently became a Fellow of the American College of Healthcare Executives, the nation's leading professional society for healthcare leaders.

“Because healthcare management ultimately effects 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.

Thomas of Community Hospital, Grand Junction Colorado is privileged to use the FACHE credential, which signifies board certification in healthcare management and ACHE Fellow status.

“Achievement of FACHE status is considered the gold standard in the healthcare industry so it is a significant professional accomplishment. The FACHE credential further indicates the depth of expertise and experience Chris Thomas brings to his new position as President and CEO of Community Hospital,” says David Price, Community Hospital board of trustees chairman.”

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