FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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LOUISIANA HOSPITAL ASSOCIATION ANNOUNCES BOARD OFFICERS AND MEMBERS

Baton Rouge - Members of the Louisiana Hospital Association announced their 2014-2015 Board of Trustee Officers and board members at LHA’s annual business meeting on July 21.

K. Scott Wester, FACHE, president & chief executive officer of Our Lady of the Lake Regional Medical Center in Baton Rouge, will serve as the LHA Board of Trustees Chair. He received the gavel from Stephen F. Wright, president and chief executive officer of CHRISTUS Health Louisiana, who will now serve as Immediate Past Chair.

Larry M. Graham, FACHE, president and chief executive officer of Lake Charles Memorial Health System, will serve as the association’s Chair-Elect, and Charles “Chuck” D. Daigle, senior vice president and COO of Willis-Knighton Health System in Shreveport, was elected Treasurer.

In addition to the officers, the LHA Board of Trustees is comprised of At-Large and District Trustees.

The following individuals were re-elected to a second term as At-Large Trustees:
Jason E. Cobb, FACHE, chief executive officer of Rapides Regional Medical Center in Alexandria;
Linda F. Deville, chief executive officer of Bunkie General Hospital; and
Parker A. Templeton, FACHE, chief executive officer of Iberia Medical Center in New Iberia.

The following individuals were elected to serve as District Trustees:
Northeast – Blake Kramer, administrator of Franklin Medical Center in Winnsboro; and
Southwest – James “Butch” Frazier, chief executive officer of Teche Regional Medical Center in Morgan City.

The following individuals were re-elected to serve a second term as District Trustees:
Bayou – Phyllis L. Peoples, president and chief executive officer of Terrebonne General Medical Center in Houma; and
New Orleans – Patrick J. Quinlan, MD, MHA, chief executive officer of Ochsner Clinic Foundation in New Orleans.

About the Louisiana Hospital Association
Established in 1926, the Louisiana Hospital Association is a non-profit organization representing hospitals and healthcare provider groups across the state. The mission of the LHA is to support its members through advocacy, education and services. For more information, please visit the LHA website at www.lhaonline.org.

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AFFILIATED WITH THE AMERICAN HOSPITAL ASSOCIATION
Additional Information on Scott Wester
Scott Wester is the chief executive officer of Our Lady of the Lake Regional Medical Center, a position he has held since March 2008. As part of his role, Wester directs the operations of the largest hospital within the Franciscan Missionaries of Our Lady Health System, a non-profit, mission-focused Catholic healthcare ministry with hospitals in five Louisiana cities. Wester also serves as the president of the operations group for the health system. With more than 20 years of service to the Franciscan Missionaries of Our Lady Health System, Wester has held numerous positions including president/chief executive officer of St. Francis Medical Center in Monroe, Louisiana for four years and president/chief executive officer of St. Elizabeth Hospital in Gonzales. Wester is a native of Cincinnati, Ohio and holds a Masters of Hospital and Health Administration from Xavier University in Cincinnati. He also holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Chemistry and a Bachelor of Arts degree in Classical Humanities, graduating magna cum laude from St. Louis University in St. Louis, Missouri. He is a Fellow in the American College of Health Care Executives and has served as its CEO Committee Chair. He also serves as LHA Board Chair, VHA Gulf States Board Member, and Baton Rouge Area Chamber of Commerce Past Chair.

Additional Information on Larry Graham
With over 32 years of experience in healthcare administration, Larry Graham has been president & chief executive officer of Lake Charles Memorial Health System since December 1, 2006. Since Graham took the leadership position at Memorial, he has spearheaded improvements in the hospital’s quality, infrastructure, financial position, service excellence program and staffing. In 2013, he spearheaded the collaborative negotiations for the successful transition of patient services and management of the state-owned W.O. Moss Hospital, now known as Moss Memorial Clinic, under the umbrella of Lake Charles Memorial Health System. His accomplishments during his tenure as CEO have also included the recognition of Memorial as a major teaching hospital through its affiliation with Louisiana State University Health Science Center’s Family Residency Program. Additionally, under his administration, highly skilled physicians from top medical schools and centers nationwide have been recruited to fill crucial community healthcare needs while expanding the Memorial Physician Group from 22 to more than 80 employed physicians and growing. To find much needed funding for the area’s only community, not-for-profit hospital, Graham re-established The Foundation at Lake Charles Memorial Hospital – the hospital’s philanthropic sector. In addition to a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration from the University of Illinois, Graham holds a master’s degree in Health Care Administration from Trinity University in San Antonio, Texas, and a master’s degree in Business Administration from Boston University in Massachusetts. He is a Fellow of the American College of Healthcare Executives (ACHE). He has previously served on such boards as the Southwest Louisiana Chamber, the United Way of Southwest Louisiana and the Louisiana Association of Business and Industry. Currently, he is a member of the Voluntary Hospital Association, the Louisiana Hospital Association’s Political Action Committee, and serves as chairman of the Legislative, Regulatory & Policy Council of the LHA, on the advisory board for Louisiana Medical Mutual Insurance Company (LAMMICO), and is the LHA chair-elect.

Additional Information on Chuck Daigle
Louisiana native Charles “Chuck” Daigle has more than 20 years of experience in healthcare management and health insurance. He holds both a bachelor’s degree in business administration and a master’s degree in business administration from Louisiana State University in Baton Rouge. His affiliation with healthcare began with an administrative residency at Our Lady of the Lake Regional Medicine Center in Baton Rouge, where he worked with managed care contracting and provider marketing/development, ultimately becoming vice-president of management and professional services. In 2007, Daigle moved from Our Lady of the Lake to Willis-Knighton Health System in Shreveport as senior vice-president and chief operating officer. There he manages Louisiana’s largest private hospital under a single management structure with 865 acute beds in four hospitals and 270 skilled nursing beds, more than 500 employed and contracted providers, and 6,500 employees. In this capacity, he is involved with medical staff relationships and partnership, service line design, development and management services, quality of care enhancement, employee and patient satisfaction, cost reduction strategies, facility design and construction, revenue management strategies, managed care contracting and health insurance relations. Daigle has served on the LHA Board of Trustees and its Regional Policy Committee, HOSSPAC and Trust Fund. In addition, he has served on the Voluntary Hospitals of America Gulf State Board and was chair of its Purchasing Coalition. He is also a member of the Business School Advisory Board for LSU in Shreveport and has been involved with other local and regional boards.