FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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LOUISIANA HOSPITAL ASSOCIATION ANNOUNCES BOARD OFFICERS AND MEMBERS

Baton Rouge - The Louisiana Hospital Association recently announced the 2016-2017 Board of Trustee Officers and newly-elected board members at its annual business meeting.

“The LHA congratulates the new and returning members of our board and thanks them for their ongoing work to improve care for patients and communities throughout Louisiana,” said LHA President & CEO Paul A. Salles. “With their help, community hospitals across the state achieved federal recognition for improving quality and increasing patient satisfaction. Under their leadership, we’ll continue building on these improvements and protecting local access to life-saving care.”

Charles D. “Chuck” Daigle, FACHE, senior vice president and COO of Willis-Knighton Health System in Shreveport, will serve as the LHA Board of Trustees Chair. He received the gavel from Larry M. Graham, FACHE, president and CEO of Lake Charles Memorial Health System, who will now serve as Immediate Past Chair.

James E. “Jimmy” Cathey, president and CEO of North Oaks Health System in Hammond, will serve as the association’s Chair-Elect, and David L. Callecod, FACHE, president of Lafayette General Health, was elected Treasurer.

In addition to the officers, the LHA Board of Trustees is composed of At-Large and District Trustees. Bryan S. Bateman, CEO of Lake Area Medical Center in Lake Charles, was elected to a two-year term as an At-Large Trustee, and Mary Ellen Pratt, FACHE, CEO of St. James Parish Hospital in Lutcher, was elected to a two-year term as the Bayou District Trustee. Jason E. Cobb, FACHE, CEO of Rapides Regional Medical Center in Alexandria, and Linda DeVille, CEO of Bunkie General Hospital, were re-elected to a second term as At-Large Trustees.

The following individuals were re-elected to serve a second term as District Trustees:
- New Orleans District; Warner L. Thomas, FACHE, president & CEO of Ochsner Health System in New Orleans;
- Northeast District; Blake Kramer, administrator of Franklin Medical Center in Winnsboro; and
- Southwest District; Butch Frazier, CEO of Teche Regional Medical Center in Morgan City.

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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Additional Information on Charles D. “Chuck” Daigle, FACHE
Louisiana native Charles “Chuck” Daigle has more than 20 years of experience in healthcare management and health insurance. He holds both a bachelor’s 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 Medical 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 and has since served as senior vice president and chief operating officer. There he manages Louisiana’s largest private hospital system under single management structure. In this capacity, he is involved with medical staff relationships and partnerships, 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 Legislative, Regulatory & Policy Council, HOSSPAC and LHA Trust Funds. In addition, he has served on the Voluntary Hospitals of America Gulf States Board and was chair of its Purchasing Coalition. He is also a member of both the Business School Advisory Board for LSU in Shreveport and has been involved with other local and regional boards.

Additional Information on James E. “Jimmy” Cathey
With more than 40 years of experience in the healthcare industry, James E. “Jimmy” Cathey, Jr. is well-equipped to predict change and strategically plan for the future of healthcare in Louisiana. He is an alumnus of Louisiana Tech University in Ruston, where he earned both a bachelor’s degree in Accounting and worked towards an MBA. During his 30 years at the helm of North Oaks Health System as President/CEO, he has led the transformation of the organization from a single, acute-care hospital to one of Louisiana’s largest and most progressive community health systems. Prior to his association with North Oaks, he served in administrative positions with several healthcare organizations throughout Louisiana and Mississippi. Cathey has been a member of the LHA for 30 years, and is the immediate past treasurer of the LHA board. He also previously served as the Southeast District president and past district and state at-large member of the Board of Trustees. In 2004, the Louisiana Society for Hospital Public Relations and Marketing recognized him as CEO of the Year. He has been a member of the Rotary Club for more than 40 years between several chapters, most recently in Hammond. He also belongs to the Northshore Business Council and Northshore Healthcare Alliance for which he is a past president. As a former high school basketball referee, he continues to fulfill his passion for sports by serving on the Greater Hammond Chamber of Commerce’s steering committee responsible for hosting the Louisiana High School Athletic Association’s annual “Top 28” state basketball tournament every year that it has taken place in Hammond.

Additional Information on David L. Callecod, FACHE
David L. Callecod is President of Lafayette General Health (LGH), a position he has held since its inception in May 2013. He is a Fellow of the American College of Healthcare Executives (FACHE). As president of LGH, he presides over the largest healthcare system in Acadiana, encompassing a 10-parish area of Louisiana. Callecod first came to Lafayette General in July 2008, when he was named CEO of Lafayette General Medical Center (LGMC). In October 2011, Callecod was inducted into Studer Group’s Fire Starter Hall of Fame at the “What’s Right in Health Care” conference. Prior to joining Lafayette General, Callecod served as the president and CEO at Marion General Hospital in Marion, Indiana from 2003-08. Callecod received the 2005 Regent’s Award as an outstanding healthcare executive from the American College of Healthcare Executives. Callecod began his career in 1989 at AMI Culver Union Hospital in Crawfordsville, Indiana. He then served as CEO at Tenet Healthcare hospitals in Indianapolis, Indiana and Searcy, Arkansas from 1999-2003. In 2001, Callecod was recognized by the Indianapolis Business Journal as a “40 under Forty” award winner. That same year, he was bestowed an Outstanding Achievement Award in Business from Indiana Wesleyan University. Callecod received a Bachelor of Arts from Wabash College in 1989 and a Masters of Business Administration from Indiana Wesleyan University in 1994. He was honored as a Distinguished Alumnus by IWU in 2007. Continuing a strong community presence, Callecod is active on many local boards, including the Louisiana Hospital Association, Blueprint Louisiana, Greater Lafayette Chamber of Commerce and AHA Regional Policy Board Alternate.