

newsrelease



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Tenet Comments on Prosecutor's Decision to Seek Third Trial in San Diego Hospital Case

SAN DIEGO – April 17, 2006 – Tenet Healthcare Corporation (NYSE: THC) issued this statement regarding the decision today by the U.S. Attorney in San Diego to seek a third trial of the case entitled *United States of America v. Barry Weinbaum, Tenet HealthSystem Hospitals Inc. and Alvarado Hospital Medical Center Inc.*, after two earlier trials ended without verdicts after the juries deadlocked in February 2005 and April 2006.

“We are disappointed with the announcement that the U.S. Attorney in San Diego appears determined to try this case for a third time. From the experience of two juries, it is apparent that it will be almost impossible to ever get 12 people to agree on the facts and the law in this case. Two juries have now struggled earnestly with this case and have been unable to reach a unanimous verdict. The vast majority of the jurors from the second trial have made clear that the law is confusing and that it would be a waste of time and money, and an exercise in futility, to continue trying this case. We have asked the Court to dismiss the case because it would be fundamentally unfair to allow the case to proceed for a third time.

“We continue to seek a productive dialogue with the government to resolve all issues, including San Diego. We hope that the U.S. Attorney will reconsider her position and work with us, rather than

continue to pursue a criminal case that is destined to end in mistrial after mistrial. We are prepared, however, to continue to defend ourselves because we continue to believe that no one set out to violate any law in connection with the recruitment of physicians into East San Diego County.”

Tenet Healthcare Corporation, through its subsidiaries, owns and operates acute care hospitals and related health care services. Tenet’s hospitals aim to provide the best possible care to every patient who comes through their doors, with a clear focus on quality and service. Tenet can be found on the World Wide Web at www.tenethealth.com.

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Some of the statements in this release may constitute forward-looking statements. Such statements are based on our current expectations and could be affected by numerous factors and are subject to various risks and uncertainties discussed in our filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission, including our annual report on Form 10-K for the year ended Dec. 31, 2005, our quarterly reports on Form 10-Q and periodic reports on Form 8-K. Do not rely on any forward-looking statement, as we cannot predict or control many of the factors that ultimately may affect our ability to achieve the results estimated. We make no promise to update any forward-looking statement, whether as a result of changes in underlying factors, new information, future events or otherwise.