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## **Solaris Health System Announces New Board of Director Appointments**

Edison, N.J. -- The Trustees of the Solaris Health System Board of Directors and the JFK Medical Center Board of Directors announced the elections of incoming Chairs Michael Kleiman, D.M.D., and Praful Raja, respectively.

"I am pleased to be leading Solaris Health System at this very important time in the organization's history and look forward to working with the board and senior management to prioritize the organization's needs. In this challenging economic climate it is of paramount importance the entire board takes a systematic approach to achieve the future financial and operational goals of Solaris," Dr. Kleiman states.

John McGee, President and CEO of Solaris Health System, adds, "I congratulate Dr. Kleiman on his appointment as Chairman and look forward to his leadership role on the Board. Dr. Kleiman's vast wealth of experience and advanced knowledge of healthcare enables him to successfully assist the board in navigating through difficult regulatory requirements and advancing collaborative partnerships with the entire medical staff."

Dr. Kleiman, oral & maxillofacial surgeon and partner at Edison-Clark Oral Surgery Associates, has been an attending physician at JFK Medical Center for more than 20 years. His role as Chairman of the Solaris Board is a well-earned advancement from his years as a board member along with earlier roles as Chairman of the JFK Medical Center Board and President of the JFK Medical/Dental staff. In addition to his many responsibilities, Dr. Kleiman brings to his new role unprecedented expertise, having served as the President of the NJ Society Oral Surgeons. Such familiarity with the landscape of healthcare married with business management concepts places Dr. Kleinman in a position to advance the future financial and operational goals of Solaris.

Mr. Raja's business acumen and leadership skills also bring new dimensions to JFK at a time when the industry is experiencing dramatic innovation and change. "Praful is widely acknowledged as a brilliant and savvy business leader," says Mr. McGee. "These qualities, combined with his entrepreneurial spirit fit with the future vision of JFK." As a resident of Edison for more than 30 years, Mr. Raja was first appointed to the JFK Board in 1994 and for the past five years has served as its Vice Chair. In addition, Mr. Raja has served in a variety of capacities, including Chairman of the NJ Neuroscience Institute and Chairman of the Human Resources Committee. Moreover, Mr. Raja will ensure that his role as a Trustee on the Solaris Board of Directors, a position he has held since 1997, will carry over in meeting the goals and objectives of JFK Medical Center.

Mr. Raja stresses that, as Chairman, he is committed to continuing JFK's lasting contribution of compassion and excellence in providing medical services. Most importantly, he explains that he is dedicated to recognizing the needs of the diverse communities and strengthening JFK's ability to serve during these challenging times. "I joined the Board to make JFK a model in diversity for the state of New Jersey. Most importantly, I want to give back to those who find it difficult to access proper healthcare," says Mr. Raja of the challenges facing JFK and its efforts to utilize resources to effectively ensure care for the under insured.

His business insight and understanding of the healthcare environment is greatly attributed to his position as President of Diagnostic Specialties, Inc., a leading biotech research, development, and manufacturing company in Metuchen. Since 1976, Mr. Raja has been instrumental in bringing creative insight to Diagnostic Specialties, forging the biotech concern into a successful and viable entity. This same intuition and forethought has been valued at Solaris and JFK Medical Center, where his wealth of performance management experience applies directly to the challenges and opportunities relevant to JFK.

Both Dr. Kleiman and Mr. Raja believe the next few years will prove to be a very important period in the history of Solaris and JFK. "Going forward, we need to survive and improve in this very difficult healthcare environment...and we have to manage the system so that it can provide the best healthcare possible to all members of the many communities we serve," Dr. Kleiman states. Operating in this environment provides the foresight to put in place measures that will allow Dr. Kleiman and Mr. Raja to share performance results and accept shared responsibility to strive for improvement so to benefit the patients and the communities served. Adding to that sentiment, newly appointed JFK Board Chair Mr. Raja says, "Now that we are a regional hospital we must take on additional personal responsibility and a new dedication to make JFK the model for the delivery of high quality healthcare in New Jersey."

Dr. Kleiman and Mr. Raja agree that a shared vision, a willingness to take risks, and a commitment to approaching performance improvement with consistency is critical to their role in leading the Boards, Solaris, and JFK to higher ground. Both gentleman have great respect for the insight each bring to their respective new roles and look forward to working together along with the Trustees to drive strategy awareness through the organizations, making strategy everyone's responsibility. Ideally, this approach will help Solaris and JFK create a culture of change needed to achieve and maintain future clinical and operational excellence.

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JFK Medical Center, an affiliate of Solaris Health System, is a 535-bed full-service, acute care hospital, consisting of The Anthony M. Yelencsics Community Hospital and the adjacent JFK Johnson Rehabilitative Institute. Located in the heart of Edison, NJ, it has remained at the forefront of quality care in the region since its inception in 1967. Today, JFK accommodates more than 20,000 admissions, 3,000 births and 50,000 Emergency Room visits on a yearly basis. The Medical Center features a complete array of services, including general surgery, emergency medicine, mental health, orthopedics, maternity and pediatric care. It is home to the New Jersey Neuroscience Institute, Regional Cancer Center, Haven Hospice, JFK Imaging Center and the JFK Family Practice Center. Affiliated with UMDNJ -Robert Wood Johnson Medical School and Seton Hall University School of Graduate Medical Education, JFK offers residency programs in physical and rehabilitation medicine, family practice and dentistry.