

Bybee, Cressinda

From: Chronister, Ronald [ronald.chronister@bipc.com]
Sent: Monday, March 12, 2012 11:26 AM
To: Bybee, Cressinda
Cc: gilesr@rmu.edu
Subject: Response to Public Comment from Dr. Gregory Dell'Omo
Attachments: ScannedFile.pdf

Ms. Bybee: I am attaching a response from UPE to the comment received by the Insurance Department from Dr. Gregory Dell'Omo, President of Robert Morris University. I am also copying Dr. Dell'Omo with the response by email at the email address in the email transmitting his comment letter to the Insurance Department.

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**BEFORE THE INSURANCE DEPARTMENT
OF THE
COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA**

Statement Regarding the Acquisition of Control of or Merger with
Domestic Insurers:

Highmark Inc.; First Priority Life Insurance Company, Inc.;
Gateway Health Plan, Inc.; Highmark Casualty Insurance Company;
Highmark Senior Resources Inc.; HM Casualty Insurance Company;
HM Health Insurance Company, d/b/a Highmark Health Insurance Company;
HM Life Insurance Company; HMO of Northeastern Pennsylvania, Inc.,
d/b/a First Priority Health; Inter-County Health Plan, Inc.;
Inter-County Hospitalization Plan, Inc.; Keystone Health Plan West, Inc.;
United Concordia Companies, Inc.; United Concordia Dental Plans of Pennsylvania, Inc.;
United Concordia Life and Health Insurance Company

By UPE, a Pennsylvania nonprofit corporation

**Response of UPE to
Comment of Gregory Dell’Omo Dated March 5, 2012**

UPE is responding to the comment from Gregory Dell’Omo received by the Pennsylvania Insurance Department March 6, 2012. The comment is numbered as Document 0185 on the Highmark/ West Penn Cumulative Log page of the Pennsylvania Insurance Department website.

Dr. Dell’Omo, President of Robert Morris University, has stated his support for the proposed affiliation of Highmark Inc. (“Highmark”) and West Penn Allegheny Health System (“WPAHS”) noting it will safeguard consumer choice and ensure physicians continue to have a choice as to where to practice. Additionally, Dr. Dell’Omo notes that because the health care industry is now the region’s largest employer and his institution educates many of those who will go on to work in this field, the survival of WPAHS is critical to the local economy.

UPE agrees with the comments of Dr. Dell’Omo and believes that this transaction is essential to ensuring the continued vitality of WPAHS and the continued vitality of the Pittsburgh economy by providing physicians and consumers with continued choice.

UPE would like to thank Dr. Dell’Omo for his comments and support.

UPE
120 Fifth Avenue
Pittsburgh, PA 15222

DATE: March 12, 2012

cc: Gregory G. Dell’Omo