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**FORBES
HEALTH FOUNDATION**

WEST PENN ALLEGHENY HEALTH SYSTEM

2570 HAYMAKER ROAD, MONROEVILLE, PA 15146
412-858-4472; FAX: 412-858-2351
www.forbeshealthfoundation.org

Robert Brackbill
Chief, Company Licensing Division
Pennsylvania Insurance Department
1345 Strawberry Square
Harrisburg, PA 17120
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Corporate & Financial Regulation

MAR 16 2012

**Pennsylvania
Insurance Department**

Dear Mr. Brackbill,

As members of the Forbes Hospital Foundation, the philanthropic arm of the Forbes Regional Hospital, we wish to affirm our support for the proposed West Penn Allegheny Health System (WPAHS) affiliation with Highmark Inc. Forbes Regional has a 30 year history of providing high quality care for the residents of eastern Allegheny and western Westmoreland Counties, initially as an independent hospital and as a part of WPAHS for the past twelve years.

Forbes was borne out of a charitable mission by local community leaders to provide healthcare to our neighbors in their home community. We continue to fulfill the commitment to the people of this region by maintaining a women and infants' center, emergency medicine, behavioral health services and oncology care. In addition, the Forbes Hospital Foundation supports new and expanded clinical services, like diagnostic and interventional cardiology and cardiac surgery, orthopaedics and neurosurgery.

Highmark has now recognized that Forbes Regional Hospital, and the entire West Penn Allegheny Health System, are important community assets that are fiscally challenged. Early investments in the facility and programs are foreshadowing the potential for our future partnership. Together, WPAHS and Highmark will preserve healthcare options for individuals, families and employers. Further, the affiliation will sustain opportunities for the workforce that has provides excellent care for all patients, day in and day out.

The future for Forbes Regional Hospital and WPAHS is bright with Highmark as a partner. As a voluntary board that is committed to building on the advantages of this unique affiliation, we encourage you to review the transaction carefully and expeditiously. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Forbes Health Foundation Board of Directors

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Name/ Affiliation

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Center, Forbes Regional Hospital

Michael Colig

Reese Jackson

President + CEO, Forbes
Regional Hospital

Reese Jackson

Lakshmi P. Gupta

President Gupta Permold
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Signature Page

Name/ Affiliation

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Edward Little

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Barbara A. Vankirk

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President + CEO Forbes Health
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[Signature]

Parminder K. Sharma, MD
Tri county cardiology.

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