

**STATE HEALTH COMMISSIONER APPOINTS  
NEW BOARD OF TRUSTEES FOR E.C.M.C.-KALEIDA MERGER**

**ALBANY, N.Y. (Sept. 12, 2007)** – A new board of trustees has been named to govern the future, combined Erie County Medical Center (ECMC) and Kaleida Health Systems, State Health Commissioner Richard F. Daines announced today.

“This is a major milestone in our quest for right-sized health care facilities to meet the needs of Western New York,” Commissioner Daines said. “The board reflects the best values, ideas and people of greater Buffalo, and their goal will be to advance the public health. This board will help move Buffalo health care into the 21<sup>st</sup> century, reducing costs and providing quality care.”

Commissioner Daines took this action after carefully considering somewhat-different proposals from the two institutions on the composition of a governing board. Under the legislation authorizing the Commission on Health Care Facilities in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century, the commissioner is empowered to take “all steps necessary” to implement the Commission’s mandates, including naming a single board with representatives of Kaleida, ECMC, the University of Buffalo School of Medicine and community leaders.

“The board has a challenging task: to bring about a single unified joint governance for these two systems,” Dr. Daines said, noting that the deadline for implementing the Commission mandate is December 31, 2007. “My staff and I will continue to advise and discuss on the matter, and look forward to the board’s proposals to come.”

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