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Sent: Friday, December 09, 2016 10:43 AM  
Subject: Proposed Sale of St. Joseph Regional Medical Center, Inc.

This is a message to the Attorney General's Office from the OAG website regarding the Proposed Sale of St. Joseph Regional Medical Center, Inc.

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Message: As someone who worked at St. Joseph Regional Medical Center for 45 years and retired in August of 2015 I naturally have an vested interest in the future of SJRMC. Additionally my immediate family has over 150 years of combined service at St. Joe's. Over the past decade I watched SJRMC move from a pillar of healthcare in the region to a facility that has fallen behind due to the lack of support and financial resources from Ascension Health. It seems like a crime that Ascension was able to acquire SJRMC for little or no investment and then rape the reserve funds which were established locally for the future growth and investment in the community. The dollars raised in the community should stay here, and Ascension should not be allowed to depart with the cash and leave very little in the way of reserve funds for St. Joe's. Although I have reservations about SJRMC becoming a for profit I am not opposed to them being purchased by a for profit as long as there is a commitment to continue supporting the indigent patients in the community. I believe the transition should take place, but Ascension should not be allowed to escape with the cash reserves.