

The Community Served by St. Joseph Regional Hospital Needs Your Voice to Be Heard to Ensure Sale Proceeds of St. Joseph's Hospital Stay HERE to Benefit the Community Served By The Hospital!

Please join us in urging Idaho Attorney General Lawrence Wasden to require the proceeds from the proposed sale of St. Joseph's Regional Medical Center stay in the Valley and honor the original donor's charitable intent by supporting healthcare, education and the community served by the hospital!

- Plan to attend the Idaho AG's public hearing at **5:30 p.m. Dec. 12 at LCSC** to testify.
- **Register in advance to testify** or ask questions at the hearing by calling 208-334-4137 or emailing teresa.taylor@ag.idaho.gov
- **By Jan. 10, 2017 submit written comments** online to www.ag.idaho.gov/onlineForms/sjrmcComments.htm or by mailing letters to: Attorney General's Office, ATTN: SJRMC Sale, P.O. Box 83720, Boise, ID 83720-0010
- Idaho Attorney General's website for information on the sale of St. Joseph RMC

Please review these important facts to emphasize in your meeting testimony and/or written comments to Idaho Attorney General Lawrence Wasden:

1. Under Idaho law (State Code 48-1506), nonprofit corporations *must* use the proceeds of any hospital sale for purposes consistent with their charitable intent. The attorney general has the power to enforce this law (<http://www.ag.idaho.gov/consumerProtection/sjrmc/PetersonErik.pdf>).
2. St. Joseph's was founded in the early 1900s and was owned and operated by the Sisters of St. Joseph as a non-profit institution until 2002, when it was sold to Ascension for \$1 with the intent it would remain a non-profit hospital and continue to support the Catholic mission of worship, health and education in the Valley (this is the only public information known from the sale – request has been made to Ascension to disclose all the terms of the 2002 transfer).
3. Now, Ascension will receive \$109 million profit on its \$1 purchase by selling the hospital to RCCH Health Partners, a Tennessee company which will run St. Joseph's as a for-profit business.
4. Ascension has said \$20M of the \$109M it receives from the sale will be given to a foundation owned and controlled by Ascension whose mission is to assist the hospital ownership with capital improvements.
5. How the remaining \$89M in sale proceeds will be spent by Ascension is a mystery. There has been no commitment from Ascension to ensure this \$89M will be used to support the charitable intent of donors, as required by law, and there is nothing to stop Ascension from taking this money out of Lewiston and spending it elsewhere for purposes that would be inconsistent with the donors' original intent.

The majority of the funds from the sale of the non-profit hospital to a profit company should remain here where the donors live, not with Ascension. The money should be in a local non-profit with a local board, with distribution provisions at its termination to be used in this area for the intended purposes

To be fair with Ascension and avoid litigation it would seem beneficial to come to a community decision the Attorney General could sign off on. Flip the proceed distribution so \$20 million goes direct to Ascension, spin off the Hospital Foundation as a separate non-profit 501(c)(3) entity, and put the \$89 million into that foundation run by a local board.

Mr. Wasden require Ascension to document how the \$89M will be retained locally and spent to support the charitable intent of donors as required by law before the sale of St. Joseph's to RCCH Health Partners can proceed.

TELL A.G. WASDEN: DON'T LET ASCENSION TAKE THE MONEY AND RUN!

Questions, please contact Eric Peterson, civilightdesk@gmail.com or 208-305-3562

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