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West Jeff Awarded Accreditation from The Joint Commission

(Marrero, May 26)— By demonstrating compliance with The Joint Commission’s national standards for health care quality and safety, West Jefferson Medical Center (WJMC) has earned the Joint Commission’s **Gold Seal of Approval™**.

“We sought accreditation for our organization because we want to demonstrate our commitment to patient safety and quality care,” said CEO Nancy R. Cassagne. “We view obtaining Joint Commission accreditation as another step toward achieving excellence.”

“Above all, the national standards are intended to stimulate continuous, systematic and organization-wide improvement in an organization’s performance and the outcomes of care,” says Mark Pelletier, R.N., M.S, executive director, Hospital Programs, Accreditation and Certification Services, The Joint Commission. “The community should be proud that West Jefferson Medical Center is focusing on the most challenging goal—to continuously raise quality and safety to higher levels.”

The Joint Commission conducted an unannounced, on-site evaluation of WJMC October 5-9, 2009. The accreditation award recognizes WJMC’s dedication to complying with the Joint Commission’s state-of-the-art standards on a continuous basis.

Founded in 1951, The Joint Commission seeks to continuously improve the safety and quality of care provided to the public through the provision of health care accreditation and related services that support performance improvement in health care organizations. The Joint Commission evaluates and accredits more than 15,000 health care organizations and programs in the United States, including more than 8,000 hospitals and home care organizations, and more than 6,800 other health care organizations that provide long term care, assisted living, behavioral health care, laboratory and ambulatory care services. The Joint Commission also accredits health plans, integrated delivery networks, and other managed care entities. In addition, The Joint Commission provides certification of disease-specific care programs, primary stroke centers, and health care staffing services. An independent, not-for-profit organization, The Joint Commission is the nation's oldest and largest standards-setting and accrediting body in health care.