

August 18, 2008

William K. Piché, MBA, MPH, CEO
Good Samaritan Hospital
2425 Samaritan Drive
San Jose, CA 95124

William L. Gilbert, MBA, FACHE, CEO
Regional Medical Center of San Jose
225 North Jackson Avenue
San Jose, CA 95116

RE: Registered Nurses at Good Samaritan Hospital and Regional Medical of San Jose

Dear Chief Executive Officers William K. Piché and William L. Gilbert:

I am writing in support of Registered Nurses employed at the HCA facilities in and around my district who are working to advance the interests of patients and the nursing profession. I know that nurses are working through professional organizations and unions, like the California Nurses Association/NNOC, to achieve a high standard of care for patients and an improved quality of life for RNs

I recognize that RNs are on the front line and struggle every day to provide quality care in an increasing complex healthcare system. This is particularly true here as RNs have had the extra burden of filling the gap in patient care left by HCA's closure of the former San Jose Med. Center. I applaud CNA/NNOC RNs workplace patient advocacy and efforts to hold their employer accountable in the community.

I am also aware that RNs at Good Samaritan Hospital and Regional Medical Center are working under a collective bargaining agreement that has been extended and they are bargaining to obtain enhanced staffing, safe patient care protections and retirement security. I am respectfully requesting that HCA take all available steps to reach a contract that honors the work of Registered Nurses and protects the health and safety of patients and this community. As the nation's largest healthcare chain, operating two hospitals and a surgery center in the greater San Jose metro area, and annual revenues of \$26.858 billion, HCA has a responsibility to lead the industry by setting the highest of standards where patient rights and RN rights are respected.

Sincerely,



Councilmember, City of San Jose
District 3