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**HCA NAMES JOE SOWELL SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT & CHIEF
DEVELOPMENT OFFICER**

Nashville, Tenn., November 18, 2009 – HCA announced today that Joseph A. Sowell, III will become Senior Vice President and Chief Development Officer, effective December 1, 2009.

Currently a senior partner at Nashville-based healthcare law firm Waller Lansden Dortch & Davis, Sowell, 53, will be responsible for all activities related to mergers, acquisitions and divestitures for HCA, which operates 163 hospitals and 105 ambulatory surgery centers in 20 states and England. Those responsibilities include all development functions and transactions involving hospitals, outpatient centers, physician practices and real estate. He will report to HCA chief financial officer and executive vice president R. Milton Johnson.

“Joe has extensive experience in healthcare transactions, and he is familiar with HCA and our company’s culture,” said Johnson. “The depth and breadth of his experience with healthcare transactions will allow us to consolidate and more effectively manage HCA’s various development functions. We are pleased he is joining our senior management team.”

Sowell has been a partner at Waller Lansden since 1987 and practices in the areas of healthcare law, mergers and acquisitions, joint ventures, private equity financing, tax law and general corporate law. He also co-manages the firm's Corporate and Commercial Transactions practice. From 1996 to 1999, Sowell served as the head of development, and later as the chief operating officer, of a healthcare company which developed comprehensive ambulatory care centers.

Sowell earned a bachelor’s degree from the University of Alabama in 1978 and his law degree from the University of Alabama in 1981. He also has a master of laws degree, which he earned from the University of Florida in 1982. Sowell is a member of the Tennessee Bar Association, the American Bar Association and the Health Law Committee of the Nashville Bar Association.

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