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**SAINT FRANCIS CARE PARTNERS WITH SURGICAL CARE AFFILIATES TO
DEVELOP AMBULATORY SURGERY CENTER STRATEGY**

Co-Development Agreement Signed for New Joint Efforts

(Hartford, CT) – Saint Francis *Care*, Inc. has signed a co-development agreement with Surgical Care Affiliates (SCA), a nationally recognized leader in the development and management of ambulatory surgery centers.

Through this agreement, Saint Francis and SCA will collaborate with physicians in the region on the identification, joint venturing, and development of outpatient surgery centers in Connecticut.

“We believe this alliance with Surgical Care Affiliates will not only help us develop a strong integrated network of ambulatory surgery centers in the community, it will enhance our alignment with physicians and further ensure continued outstanding clinical outcomes, patient care and satisfaction in our region,” said Christopher Dadlez, President and CEO, Saint Francis Hospital and Medical Center. “Delivering the right care in the right place at the right time is our priority at Saint Francis. This focus on exploring ambulatory outpatient opportunities underscores that commitment,” added Dadlez.

“We are proud to be selected by Saint Francis *Care* to enter into this relationship,” said Andrew Hayek, President and Chief Executive Officer of SCA. “The goal of this new partnership is to expand surgical services to the physicians and patients that Saint Francis serves. We have similar partnerships with 30 other leading health systems across the U.S., and we looking forward to working with Saint Francis to improve surgical care in Connecticut,” concluded Hayek.

Saint Francis and SCA will create a new joint venture limited liability company to work with local physicians to invest in subsidiary organizations that may own and operate one or more ambulatory surgery centers.

About Surgical Care Affiliates

SCA partners with physicians, hospitals, and health systems to develop and implement surgical services strategies across the country. SCA operates 145 surgical facilities – including ambulatory surgery centers, surgical hospitals, and hospital surgery departments – in partnership with approximately 2,000 physicians and in affiliation with 30 not-for-profit health systems across the country. SCA's clinical systems, service line growth strategies, benchmarking processes, and efficiency programs create measurable advantage for surgical facilities – clinically, operationally, and financially. For more information on SCA, visit www.scasurgery.com.

About Saint Francis Care

Saint Francis *Care* is an integrated healthcare delivery system established by Saint Francis Hospital and Medical Center, an anchor institution in north central Connecticut since 1897. Licensed for 617 beds and 65 bassinets, it is a major teaching hospital and the largest Catholic hospital in New England. Other major entities of Saint Francis *Care* include Saint Francis HealthCare Partners, The Mount Sinai Rehabilitation Hospital, the Connecticut Joint Replacement Institute, the Hoffman Heart and Vascular Institute of Connecticut, the Saint Francis/Mount Sinai Regional Cancer Center, and the Joyce D. and Andrew J. Mandell Center for Comprehensive Multiple Sclerosis Care. Its services are supported by a network of five major Access Centers and eight additional medical office centers sited throughout the region. For more information, visit www.stfranciscare.org.
