



**For Immediate Release**

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## **Connecticut Hospital Association to Recognize the Hospital for Special Care First Responders with a 2012 Healthcare Hero Team Award**

WALLINGFORD – At its 94th Annual Meeting on June 27, the Connecticut Hospital Association (CHA) will recognize the Hospital for Special Care First Responders in a *2012 Healthcare Hero* team award. The team was nominated for this award by Lynn Ricci, Senior Vice President, Administration.

On the evening of February 22, 2012, the Hospital for Special Care experienced a shocking act of violence when two employees were shot. The hospital's First Responders maintained composure, instinctively took action, and saved the lives of their injured colleagues. While several team members cared for their fallen colleagues, others maintained the utmost in poise and professionalism on the phone with 911 dispatch, clearly communicating the danger of the situation and keeping watch during this unprecedented crisis. After the 911 calls, local EMS and law enforcement officials soon arrived on the scene, cared for the injured, and locked down the facility.

"I have never been more proud of this staff for the way they responded and showed dedication to their fallen colleagues as well as the patients during this incident," said John Votto, DO, President and CEO, Hospital for Special Care. "It thrust the team above and beyond their regular call of duties, and they performed selflessly and flawlessly."

The team includes Dieter Balck, Sheila Basquil, John Bean, Phyllis Chojnowski, Del Cyr, Jaimie Dalton, Kelly Gadd, Juliana Goncalves, Pam Held, Alice Hubbell, Elizabeth Kalinowski, Shari LaPointe, Joe Marino, Nafees Rahman, George Roche, Marilyn Rosario, Michael Ruthen, Fe Simbulan, Christy Stack, Karen Summit, and Sharon Yoon.

CHA's Healthcare Heroes award was developed in 2002 to celebrate the invaluable contributions of healthcare workers, both to their field and to the community at large. Now in its 11th year, the presentation of the Healthcare Heroes awards has become a highlight of CHA's Annual Meeting.



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**About CHA**

The Connecticut Hospital Association has been dedicated to serving Connecticut's hospitals since 1919. Through state and federal advocacy, CHA represents the interests of Connecticut's hospitals on key healthcare issues in the areas of quality and patient safety, access and coverage, workforce, community health, and hospital reimbursement.