

## A Message from Justin Doss CHRISTUS Spohn Health System President

Let me take this opportunity to thank you for the compassionate care you deliver to our patients and their families each day. Our 113-year ministry has thrived because of you and your commitment to care for our sick and vulnerable. We are a blessed community to have experienced, skilled and dedicated professionals working within our hospitals and clinics. So, when our Health System's reputation is threatened and the skills of our providers is questioned, I take issue.

Recently, KRIS-TV news station aired a series of unfair and unbalanced news segments regarding CHRISTUS Spohn's anesthesiology care model and our new provider EmergencHealth. Their reporting has been inaccurate, and has raised unsubstantiated falsehoods questioning our commitment to quality and our compliance with state regulations. Unfortunately, this unbalanced reporting has the potential to create unnecessary anxiety for our Associates, our providers, our patients and their families. CHRISTUS Spohn takes these inaccurate claims very seriously.

To protect our CHRISTUS name and reputation, our team has sent a "cease and desist" letter to Dr. Girish P. Joshi, president of the Texas Society of Anesthesiologists for his false claims about CHRISTUS Spohn. And, we have notified the news station that our legal team is documenting all communications and broadcasts related to this topic. We will continue to take the necessary steps required to ensure that our CHRISTUS name and our values of dignity, stewardship, integrity, compassion and excellence are protected.

In the United States, everyone has the legal right to be protected against reckless statements that damage their reputation or put them in a false light. For more than a century, CHRISTUS Spohn has been part of this community here in South Texas with the mission to extend the healing ministry of Jesus Christ. There are thousands of exceptional physicians, Associates and volunteers who we owe thanks to everyday. They don't deserve to be judged by the falsehoods and inaccuracies presented by one news organization. We owe it to our Associates and this community to stand up for what is right.

Both CHRISTUS Spohn and EmergencHealth are dedicated to excellence. The anesthesia team who are part of EmergencHealth are highly qualified and experienced. They are our friends and neighbors who have lived in our community and have worked side-by-side with us for many years. They do an exceptional job of providing high quality care to our many patients. They are all appropriately boarded, credentialed and practice consistently with all applicable rules and regulations applicable to anesthesia providers.

I will continue to defend our providers and all of the health care professionals who dedicate their careers to the CHRISTUS Spohn Ministry in light of false claims. I encourage you to reach out to your manager to address any questions you have.

Our Mission, our patients, our providers and our community rely on you each and every day; so, I thank you for your continued support and for your positive spirit.