

# **NEWS RELEASE**

**For Immediate Release**

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**Alameda Health System Trustee Valerie Lewis Honored as a  
2013 Most Powerful and Influential Woman of California**  
*Recognized for Leadership Excellence  
at California Diversity Council Conference*

**OAKLAND, CA (May 17, 2013)** — Valerie D. Lewis, Esq., vice president of Alameda Health System's (AHS) Board of Trustees recently received a 2013 Most Powerful and Influential Women of California Award from the California Diversity Council (CDC) at the 4<sup>th</sup> Annual California Diversity and Leadership Conference in Concord.

The CDC selected Lewis on the basis of her tenacity and proven leadership in the private and public sectors, her record of accomplishments within the legal field, her impact on the profitability and direction of AHS, her leadership and commitment to community well-being, as well as for her commitment to the highest ethical standards and professional excellence.

Said Kirk E. Miller, president of Alameda Health System's Board of Trustees, "Valerie Lewis is an invaluable member of our board: Her leadership and unwavering dedication are an inspiration as we prepare AHS to meet the challenges of the Affordable Care Act."

Commenting on the caliber of this year's honorees, Dennis Kennedy, Founder and CEO of the National Diversity Council said, "I am very proud to recognize these extraordinary individuals, who have risen above the numerous challenges and barriers barring their paths, and achieved success in their distinguished careers."

Lewis is an Assistant Vice President & Assistant Secretary for Safeway Inc., a Fortune 100 Company, and represents AHS on a number of industry legal and advisory councils, including as Secretary and Chair of the Governance Committee of The Executive Leadership Council (ELC). Lewis was appointed to the AHS Board of Trustees in December 2006 and elected Vice President in January 2013. She is Chair

of the Governance Committee and sits on the Executive Committee, Finance Committee, and Audit and Compliance Committee. Lewis is a graduate of the University of Virginia where she was an Echols Scholar, and later received her J.D. from the University of Virginia Law School. She is admitted to practice law in California and Michigan (inactive).

### **About Alameda Health System (AHS)**

Alameda Health System ([www.alamedahealthsystem.org](http://www.alamedahealthsystem.org)), a major public health care provider headquartered in Oakland, California, is recognized as a world-class patient and family centered system of care. The heart of its mission – caring, healing, teaching and serving all – sums up the AHS core objectives to promote wellness and eliminate disparities within the diverse communities it serves in Alameda County. As a regional and national leader in health care safety and excellence, AHS aims to optimize the health of all Alameda County residents by multiplying access points to its best-in-class care.

AHS creates positive patient experiences. Service and community engagement are a priority and the system offers programs that deliver value to individuals across all patient populations regardless of their social or economic status. Quality, financial strength and development of the workforce are also system hallmarks that ensure continual improvement to every aspect of our reach in the community.

A major economic force in Alameda County, AHS, formerly known as Alameda County Medical Center, employs nearly 3,000 people including over 500 physicians at six facilities. These include Highland Hospital, a major regional trauma center and teaching hospital, John George Psychiatric Hospital, an acute and emergency care facility in San Leandro, California; Fairmont Hospital, an acute rehabilitation hospital and skilled nursing facility, also in San Leandro; and four ambulatory wellness centers in Oakland as well as in Newark and Hayward, California.

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