



STATE OF IDAHO
OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL
LAWRENCE G. WASDEN

February 24, 2012

**VIA E-MAIL TRANSMISSION neuhoffc@slhs.org
and US POSTAL SERVICE**

Christine Neuhoff
Vice President & General Counsel
St. Luke's Health System
190 E. Bannock Street
Boise, ID 83712

Re: Investigation of St. Luke's Acquisitions

Dear Christine:

As we discussed at our meeting earlier this week on Wednesday, the Federal Trade Commission is investigating certain acquisitions of St. Luke's under federal antitrust law. My office is also looking at these acquisitions under Idaho's Competition Act.

It has come to my attention that St. Luke's is presently involved in the purchase of the Saltzer Medical Group. This acquisition, if consummated, directly affects our current antitrust review. While there are various remedies available to address those acquisitions that substantially lessen competition, including divestiture, I would hope that upon conclusion of our investigation there would be an opportunity to share with you concerns we have, if any, and work to address them amicably and informally without the need for litigation and court participation. Having one more large acquisition in the mix complicates matters and would result in additional cost and expense for all parties involved. My hope is that St. Luke's will delay closing on its acquisition of the Saltzer Medical Group, and any other medical practice group it is considering acquiring, until our investigation is complete.

My senior staff and I remain willing to meet with you for further discussion.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "L. Wasden".

LAWRENCE G. WASDEN
Attorney General

LGW/btd:jc