



Media Release
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HCHD Board Appoints Lopez President and CEO

Selection concludes more than a year-long search

The Harris County Hospital District (HCHD) Board of Managers appointed David S. Lopez president and CEO during a special meeting this morning. Board members voted 5-4 for Lopez after an hour and 10 minute closed-door deliberation.

The announcement concludes more than a year for the organization without a permanent leader, since its president and CEO, John A. Guest, resigned in March 2004. Lopez, chief operating officer at the time, was appointed to the interim position.

“We felt that one of the advantages that David had is that he is on the ground, knows the Hospital District and is in the middle of a plan to reorient our activities to fit within the current budget,” said J. Evans Attwell, board chair.

The other finalist being considered for the position was Denny DeNarvaez, former president of Abbott Northwestern Hospital in Minneapolis.

A search committee comprising two HCHD board members, Texas Medical Center executives and community leaders, selected the finalists. Candidates were then presented to the board for consideration.

The Harris County Hospital District is the fifth largest public metropolitan healthcare system in the nation. It includes three hospitals—Ben Taub General Hospital, Lyndon B. Johnson General Hospital and Quentin Mease Community Hospital; a network of 12 community health centers; a dental center; 13 satellite homeless shelter clinics; seven school-based clinics; and four mobile health units.

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