



October 21, 2010

Elliot Joseph
President & C.E.O.
Hartford Hospital
80 Seymour Street
Hartford, CT 06102

David Fusco
President
Anthem Blue Cross Blue Shield of CT
370 Bassett Rd.
North Haven, CT 06473

Re: Continuing Contract Dispute between Anthem and Hartford Hospital

Dear Mr. Joseph and Mr. Fusco:

I write on behalf of the thousands of state residents who are Anthem enrollees and patients of Hartford Hospital and its affiliates. These people, your neighbors, rely on you both for the provision and financing of a wide range of health care services – from day surgery, to mental health services, to cancer care. They rely on you both to fairly and appropriately discharge your duties, so that they can receive the care they need with the highest quality and in the most cost-effective way possible.

I am sorry to report that the view from outside the walls of your respective institutions is that you are forgetting to put patients and their families first.

As you return to the negotiating table, I ask that you end this game of corporate “chicken,” that has caused such fear and uncertainty, and make patients your first priority. They cannot be a forgotten party in this dispute because they have the most to lose, and without them your companies would cease to exist.

My office is monitoring this situation closely and will continue to do so. In your ongoing discussions, I hope you consider carefully the impact of your actions on Connecticut’s healthcare consumers, who contribute toward the fiscal health of both your organizations. It is time to come to resolution and end the uncertainty. Thank you for your consideration.

Very truly yours,

Kevin Lembo
Healthcare Advocate

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NOW YOU’LL BE HEARD