



Press Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Media Contact:

Joanne McElhenney
617.856.8311
jmcelhenney@brbilaw.com

BROWN RUDNICK REPRESENTS ST. MARY'S HOSPITAL IN ITS UNPRECEDENTED, SUCCESSFUL STATE BID FOR NEW HEART CARE PROGRAM

*In Connecticut, two independent private hospitals and a public hospital
join together to reshape and extend cardiac care*

Boston, MA – On July 23, 2004, Brown Rudnick, a premier international law firm, completed its successful representation of one of the three recipients of an unprecedented regulatory decision – approval from the Connecticut Office of Health Care Access of the three parties' application for a single comprehensive heart care program that will be sited at two of the three applicants' facilities.

Brown Rudnick's client, St. Mary's Hospital (Waterbury, CT), joint venturing with Waterbury Hospital (CT) and the University of Connecticut Health Center, submitted a Certificate of Need (CON) application last year under the Connecticut CON statute for a comprehensive cardiac program. The proposed program included open heart surgery and primary and elective angioplasty to serve the Greater Waterbury Connecticut region through programs at each of Waterbury's community hospitals, rather than at just one.

Dr. J. Robert Galvin, Connecticut Public Health Commissioner, announced his decision to approve this application based upon, among several criteria, the "contribution of the proposal to the quality, accessibility, and cost-effectiveness of health care delivery in the region" and "public need."



Press Release

This decision marks the first time that multiple, independent Connecticut hospitals have jointly applied for and received a single CON for an open heart program housed at more than one of the applicants' facilities. The decision is further distinguished by the fact that the CON combines the Waterbury institutions' efforts with the renowned faculty, students and administration at the University of Connecticut Health Center, a premier academic medical center. For the newly announced program, the Health Center will provide surgeons, on-site training and supervision.

Robert Anthony, partner at Brown Rudnick and leader of the team that assisted in this effort, commented, "It has been a true privilege to be part of this milestone in Connecticut health care. The need has been established, and now the resources and advocacy are in place. We are very happy and proud to see this successful outcome."

Over the last dozen years, St. Mary's and Waterbury Hospitals have been denied approval for open heart surgery and angioplasty programs, and similar CON applications for cardiac care have been denied in Connecticut. With the July 23 announcement, availability of these critical health services is significantly extended. Also noteworthy are the collaborative efforts between the private and public entities. The new level of services is expected to be available within the next six months to a year.

Brown Rudnick's legal team supported this application to operate a "one stop postoperative model for post procedure care" through an interdisciplinary slate of expertise including healthcare, corporate, real estate and administrative law, as well as government relations.

St. Mary's Hospital, an acute care hospital with 379 beds, has been a long-standing client of the firm for more than seven years. During this tenure, Brown Rudnick has assisted the Hospital with matters such as joint venture transactions, managed care contracting, confidentiality and HIPAA privacy matters, lobbying, and advice related to fraud and abuse and regulatory matters.

The expanded cardiac services will be managed by the Waterbury Area Heart Center (WAHC), a management company established and owned jointly by the applicants.



Press Release

Commenting on this landmark decision, Dr. Galvan said, "This program represents an innovative and collaborative venture by two hospitals with a close relationship together to provide comprehensive health services to over 300,000 people in the Waterbury area."

About Brown Rudnick Berlack Israels LLP

Brown Rudnick Berlack Israels LLP is a full-service, international law firm with offices in the United States and Europe. The firm's 200 attorneys provide representation across key areas of the law: Health Care, Corporate & Securities, Real Estate, Government Law & Strategies, Finance, Bankruptcy & Corporate Restructuring, Energy, Intellectual Property and Complex Litigation. Combining a dedication to excellence with the implementation of sophisticated technologies, Brown Rudnick provides its clients with a breadth and depth of expertise uniquely suited to their legal needs.

The Brown Rudnick Center for the Public Interest is a measure of the Firm's strong commitment to the community and serves as an umbrella entity to encompass all of the Firm's pro bono legal work, charitable giving, community involvement and public interest efforts.