



Week of April 8, 2019

Dear Colleagues,

When I wrote to you last week, I promised that we would continue to keep you informed on any developments related to our Board of Directors. Since then, we have continued to receive both helpful comments and thoughtful questions from many of you across the system, so I wanted to take a few moments to address some of those questions and share some new information.

I saw new legislation about UMMS passed this week. What does that mean for the organization?

The legislation will not have any impact on the day-to-day operations of our clinical facilities or the vast majority of our staff. It is designed to support our efforts to enhance the transparency of our Board of Directors, and so, will have the most impact on our system Board. We are working to activate the provisions outlined in the legislation and will keep you informed of major milestones as we do.

Is there a chance UMMS will go back to being a public entity?

No. The University of Maryland Medical System became a private, not-for-profit entity in 1984, for a variety of very good reasons. At the time, the Medical Center (formerly known as University Hospital) and Shock Trauma were costing the state millions of dollars each year just to remain open. Transforming these institutions into a private, not-for-profit system provided a path to success and allowed us to expand into new communities in need of quality healthcare. Today, the University of Maryland Medical System employs 28,000 people and serves some of the most critical patients across the state of Maryland. That would not have been possible as a public entity, and there's no reason to think there will be any change to our status as a private, not-for-profit system.

Will UMMS continue to be in the news?

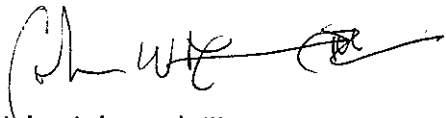
It's very likely you will continue to see our name in the news as we continue to implement changes at the Board level. It's hard to know exactly how and when these developments will occur, but here's what I can tell you: We are committed to becoming a best practice organization at every level. The review of our Board practices and policies is already underway, and the results will be shared with legislative leaders in the coming weeks.

We know the great work that takes place to care for our patients every day and many others throughout our community do, too. In fact, this commitment to our mission was highlighted in a letter written to the *Baltimore Sun* by a former leader, Dr. Stephen C. Schimpff, earlier this

week. In it, Dr. Schimpff writes: "...it is my strongly held belief that Baltimore and Maryland's citizens can rest assured that the UMMS hospitals and clinics, in partnership with the School of Medicine, offer the best in health care, a healing environment, the training of high-quality physicians and research innovations that rapidly advance medicine for all."

I know it's difficult not to become distracted during times like these and I am committed to keeping you informed moving forward. However, your role in providing this quality care to our patients and communities remains the number one priority, and I deeply appreciate your continued focus and commitment every day.

Thank you for all you do.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John Ashworth III", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

John Ashworth III
Interim President and CEO