



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT:

KAREN MILLER

225.927.5642

LNHA NAMES MARK BERGER EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR EFFECTIVE JANUARY 2017

(Baton Rouge – July 28, 2016) The Louisiana Nursing Home Association (LNHA) Board of Directors announced on Wednesday the selection of Mark Berger to succeed its long-serving executive director Joe Donchess. Mr. Donchess will continue as executive director until his retirement on December 31.

Mr. Berger currently serves as LNHA's Reimbursement Director and his experience at LNHA spans 26 years. Mark Berger has been a certified public accountant for 31 years. Beyond his accounting skills, Berger is actively involved with the legislative and regulatory processes. He has played an integral role in several major successes of LNHA, most notably the design and implementation of the case mix reimbursement system and legislative measures to advance quality care for residents of nursing facilities.

"The Board of Directors is confident that Mark Berger is the right person to lead LNHA into the next chapter of growth," said Ron Goux, President of the LNHA Board. "Mark brings a great deal of experience to the job and is well prepared to lead this association. He has demonstrated the leadership skills, experience and vision necessary to succeed in this position."

"We are pleased to have an accomplished internal candidate to carry on the future and mission of LNHA," said Joe Donchess, executive director of LNHA. "Mark has been a tremendous partner through both successes and challenges. I expect the transition to be seamless, as we have worked closely together for several years. I couldn't be more pleased with the Board's selection."

Louisiana Nursing Home Association is a nonprofit organization representing more than 250 nursing facilities and assisted living communities that care for approximately 30,000 elderly and disabled individuals each day. On behalf of its members, LNHA advocates for providing quality care and nurturing environments to Louisiana's frail and elderly. For more information on LNHA, visit our website at www.lnha.org.

-30-