



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**West Florida Healthcare Names New Chief Financial Officer**

PENSACOLA, FL – West Florida Healthcare, an affiliate of HCA, has announced the appointment of **Stewart Whitmore** as its Chief Financial Officer effective January 9, 2017.

Whitmore joins West Florida Healthcare from Putnam Community Medical Center where he served as Chief Financial Officer since May 2015. He joined Putnam Community Medical Center on the first day it became an HCA facility and during his time there, he led the transition from Lifepoint Health to HCA where he played a pivotal role in converting the various systems and processes. In addition, he successfully deployed capital dollars throughout Putnam to modernize their equipment and worked diligently to establish relationships with their medical staff to further improve documentation and length of stay. Whitmore's tenure with HCA began in 2008 when he served as Assistant Controller and later Associate Chief Financial Officer for Memorial Hospital in Jacksonville. He also served as Controller at Orange Park Medical Center, another HCA facility.

Whitmore holds an undergraduate degree in Accounting as well as a Master's in Business Administration degree from Florida State University in Tallahassee.

Prior to joining West Florida Healthcare, Whitmore was an active community volunteer with several community organizations in central Florida, including Ronald McDonald House Charities, the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation and a Rotary Club. While employed at Memorial Hospital of Jacksonville, Whitmore was also the recipient of the Frist Humanitarian Award, the highest honor that can be bestowed within HCA. He is married with two children.

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## **About West Florida Healthcare**

The first hospital in the area to offer all private rooms, West Florida Healthcare proudly provides market-leading quality outcomes performance. Named for the second year in a row as one of the “100 Top Hospitals” in the nation by Truven Health Analytics, the facility has also been recognized as a Top Performer on Key Quality Measures for five years in a row by The Joint Commission, earned an “A” rating in patient safety from The Leapfrog Group for three consecutive reporting periods, and named by *Becker’s Hospital Review* to its 2016 national list of “100 Great Community Hospitals.” The area’s first Accredited Chest Pain Center and Breast Imaging Center of Excellence, West Florida Hospital is also the first hospital in the state of Florida to have earned Atrial Fibrillation with Electrophysiology Services Accreditation. The hospital is also an Advanced Primary Stroke Center and offers specialized Emergency Department services tailored specifically to the needs of seniors as well as a Kids’ ER dedicated to serving the emergency medical needs of children. The West Florida Healthcare campus includes the all private room acute care hospital, the area’s only comprehensive, CARF-accredited physical rehabilitation hospital, and a mental health facility. Affiliated with HCA, the nation’s leading provider of healthcare, West Florida Healthcare meets the community’s healthcare needs in major services such as cardiology, cardiovascular surgery, oncology, orthopedics, robotic-assisted surgery, critical care, neurology/neurosurgery, emergency care, urology, behavioral health, gastroenterology, obstetrics, pulmonary, and rehabilitative medicine. For more information, visit [www.westfloridahospital.com](http://www.westfloridahospital.com) or call (850) 494-3212.

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