

DANIEL J. BUSSEL (State Bar No.121939),
MICHAEL L. TUCHIN (State Bar No. 150375),
BRENDT C. BUTLER (State Bar No. 211273), and
MICHAEL J. WEINBERGER (State Bar No. 223164), Attorneys with
KLEE, TUCHIN, BOGDANOFF & STERN LLP
2121 Avenue of the Stars, 33rd Floor
Los Angeles, California 90067
Telephone: (310) 407-4000
Facsimile: (310) 407-9090

Reorganization Counsel for
Debtors and Debtors in Possession

Debtors' Mailing Address
27442 Portola Parkway, Suite 200
Foothill Ranch, CA 92610

**UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT
CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA
LOS ANGELES DIVISION**

In re:

FOUNTAIN VIEW, INC., a Delaware
corporation, et al.

Debtors.

Case No.: LA 01-39678 BB through
LA 01-39697 BB

And LA 01-45516 BB;
LA 01-45520 BB; and
LA 01-45525 BB

(Jointly Administered under Case No.
LA 01-39678 BB)

Chapter 11

**NOTICE OF MOTION AND
MOTION FOR ORDER
AUTHORIZING SUBSTANTIVE
CONSOLIDATION OF DEBTOR
ENTITIES; MEMORANDUM OF
POINTS AND AUTHORITIES IN
SUPPORT THEREOF;
DECLARATION OF WILLIAM C.
SCOTT**

Hearing

Date: July 3, 2003
Time: 11:00 a.m.
Place: Courtroom 1475
Roybal Federal Building
255 E. Temple Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012

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1 TO THE HONORABLE SHERI BLUEBOND, UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY
2 JUDGE, AND ALL PARTIES ENTITLED TO NOTICE:

3 PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that on July 3, 2003 at 11:00 a.m., or as soon
4 thereafter as the matter may be heard in the above-entitled court, before the Honorable Sheri
5 Bluebond, United States Bankruptcy Judge, a hearing will be held on this *Notice Of Motion*
6 *And Motion For Order Authorizing Substantive Consolidation of Debtor Entities* (the
7 "Motion"), filed by Fountain View, Inc. and its 22 debtor affiliates, the debtors and debtors
8 in possession in the above-captioned, jointly administered chapter 11 cases (collectively, the
9 "Debtors").

10 PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that by this Motion, the Debtors seek
11 an order of this Court, pursuant to Bankruptcy Code section 105(a) and applicable decisional
12 law, authorizing the substantive consolidation of Fountain View, Inc. with its 22 debtor
13 affiliates. The *Debtors' Joint Plan of Reorganization* (the "Plan") provides for the
14 substantive consolidation of all of the Debtors under the Plan. The Debtors will shortly
15 submit their *Memorandum Of Points And Authorities Supporting Confirmation Of The*
16 *Debtors' Plan Of Reorganization* (the "Memorandum"), which supports confirmation of the
17 Plan and the substantive consolidation of the Debtors as an appropriate means of
18 implementing the Plan. As set forth in the Memorandum, the Debtors believe substantive
19 consolidation is appropriate under the Plan where, as here, each class of creditors and interest
20 holders entitled to vote on the Plan voted in favor of the Plan and in favor of substantive
21 consolidation of the Debtors, and, in fact, no creditor or interest holder voted to reject the
22 Plan. Nevertheless, out of an abundance of caution and because of a recent decision of the
23 United States Bankruptcy Court for the Northern District of California,¹ the Debtors submit
24 this Motion seeking an order of the Court approving substantive consolidation separate and
25 apart from the Plan.

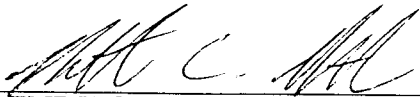
26
27
28 ¹ See *In re Central European Indus. Dev. Co.*, 288 B.R. 572 (Bankr. N.D. Cal. 2003) (finding substantive consolidation of related estates through plan provision—as opposed to a court's ordering substantive consolidation based on its general equitable powers under section 105(a)—requires the affirmative vote of each class of creditors of the related entities, counted before consolidation).

1 **PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE** that this Motion is based upon the
2 Notice of Motion, the accompanying Memorandum of Points and Authorities and
3 Declaration of William C. Scott (the "Scott Decl.") annexed hereto, the Declaration of
4 William C. Scott filed in support of the Memorandum, the evidence submitted by the
5 Debtors in connection with the confirmation of the Plan, the record in these cases, including
6 the pleadings and documents filed on behalf of the parties, the arguments and representations
7 of counsel, and any oral or documentary evidence presented at or prior to the time of the
8 hearing on the Motion.

9 **PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE** that pursuant to Local Bankruptcy
10 Rule 9013-1(a)(7), any opposition, joinder or response to the Motion must be in writing,
11 must be accompanied by supporting evidence, must otherwise comply with Local
12 Bankruptcy Rule 9013-1, and must be filed with the Court and served upon the undersigned
13 counsel no later than fourteen (14) days prior to the hearing. Pursuant to Local Bankruptcy
14 Rule 9013-1(a)(11), failure to file and serve a timely response may be deemed by the Court
15 to constitute consent to the granting of the relief requested herein.

16 **WHEREFORE**, the Debtors respectfully request that the Court enter its order
17 pursuant to Bankruptcy Code section 105(a) and applicable decisional law authorizing the
18 substantive consolidation of the Debtors, which is conditioned upon confirmation of the Plan
19 and consummation of the transactions contemplated thereunder.

20
21 DATED: June 9, 2003


BRENDT C. BUTLER, an Attorney with
KLEE, TUCHIN, BOGDANOFF & STERN LLP
Reorganization Counsel for
Debtors and Debtors in Possession

1 **MEMORANDUM OF POINTS AND AUTHORITIES**

2 **I.**

3 **STATEMENT OF FACTS**

4 **A. General Background.**

5 On October 2, 2001 (the "Petition Date"), Fountain View, Inc. and nineteen of
6 its subsidiaries filed voluntary petitions under chapter 11 of the Bankruptcy Code. On
7 November 28, 2001, voluntary chapter 11 petitions were filed for three additional Fountain
8 View, Inc. subsidiaries. Pursuant to Bankruptcy Code sections 1107(a) and 1108, all 23
9 entities are now operating their businesses and managing their affairs as debtors in
10 possession.

11 The Debtors operate 48 long-term care facilities containing approximately
12 6,600 beds in California and Texas. They also distribute pharmaceuticals, and provide an
13 array of ancillary skilled nursing services to over 5,400 patients in their facilities and to
14 outside operators. The services the Debtors provide are intensive, provided on a daily basis,
15 and are absolutely essential to the day-to-day health and well-being of the elderly, disabled
16 and otherwise ill population they serve. The Debtors employ approximately 6,400 people
17 and generate annual revenues substantially in excess of \$340 million.

18 **B. The Plan Provides for the Substantive Consolidation of the Debtors and**
19 **the Estates.**

20 Section IV.A of the Plan provides that, solely for purposes of the Plan, the
21 assets, claims and affairs of the Debtors and their estates will be substantively consolidated
22 pursuant to Bankruptcy Code section 105(a). The substantive consolidation has three major
23 effects. First, it eliminates all the intercompany claims between and among the Debtors and
24 their estates without entitlement to any distribution under the Plan. Second, it eliminates
25 guaranties of one Debtor by another Debtor. Thus, any joint and several liability of any of
26 the Debtors shall be deemed to be one obligation of the substantively consolidated Debtors.
27 Finally, as a result of the substantive consolidation, on the effective date of the Plan (the
28 "Effective Date"), all property, rights and claims of the Debtors and their estates, and all

1 claims against the Debtors and their estates will be deemed pooled for purposes of
2 allowance, treatment and distributions under the Plan and multiple proofs of claim on
3 account of any claim upon which any of the Debtors are co-obligors or guarantors or
4 otherwise may be contingently liable will without necessity of objection by any party be
5 deemed to constitute a single proof of claim entitled to a single satisfaction from the
6 substantively consolidated estates in accordance with the terms of the Plan; the duplicative
7 claims being otherwise deemed disallowed.

8 Notably, the substantive consolidation will not affect the legal organizational
9 structure of the reorganized Debtors contemplated under the Plan, guaranties or the grants of
10 collateral in connection with the exit financing, or the issuance of new securities under the
11 Plan, or distributions out of any insurance policies or proceeds of policies. The substantive
12 consolidation will eliminate multiple and duplicative claims as well as joint and several
13 liability claims, and will afford payment of allowed claims against each of the Debtors from
14 a common fund.

15 As of the date of the submission of this Motion, it appears that all voting-
16 eligible classes of claims and interests have accepted the Plan and its provisions, including
17 the substantive consolidation of the Debtors and their estates. Moreover, it appears that
18 every single eligible ballot cast was voted in favor of the Plan and its provisions. It is
19 apparent that the substantive consolidation of the Debtors is in the best interests of the
20 creditors, as shown by their unanimous support. Certainly, substantive consolidation will not
21 hurt or impair any creditor, as the Plan provides for the payment in full of all classes except
22 Class 16 (Existing Class B Common Stock) and Class 19 (Existing Management Incentives
23 and Other Existing Interests), which represent junior equity interests if the parent that have
24 no reorganization value. Substantive consolidation is an integral means of implementing the
25 Plan, given the interwoven financial affairs of the Debtors. It will be less burdensome and
26 less costly implementing the Plan by pooling the claims of all creditors rather than
27 attempting to disentangle the financial affairs of the various Debtors.
28

C. The Debtors' Creditors Relied on the Debtors as a Consolidated Company, and Not the Separate Identity of Each Debtor, in Extending Credit.

The Debtors' principal financial creditors, the agent and secured lenders (the "Agent and Lenders") under that certain Amended and Restated Agreement dated April 16, 1998 (the "Prepetition Credit Agreement") and the holders of the 11¼% Senior Subordinated Notes due 2008 (collectively holding over 95% of the total claims against the Debtors) dealt with the Debtors as a single economic unit and did not rely on the separate identities of the individual Debtor entities in extending credit. Specifically, almost all of the Debtors are co-obligors under the Prepetition Credit Agreement and the indenture governing the 11¼% Notes. In addition, almost all of the Debtors granted first priority security interests in substantially all their assets (including cash collateral) pursuant to pledge, guaranty, security agreements, and deeds of trust entered into as collateral support for the obligations under the Prepetition Credit Agreement.

Moreover, all financial information disseminated to the public by the Debtors, including to customers, suppliers, landlords, lenders, and credit agencies, is prepared and presented on a consolidated basis. While the individual Debtor entities have personnel that separately compile financial information, that information is upstreamed to the financial officers of Fountain View, Inc. who consolidate that information for presentation to creditors and other interested parties as needed. As a result, creditors cannot demonstrate that they relied upon the separate identity of one or more Debtors in extending credit. Having relied upon the creditworthiness of the Debtors as a consolidated company, creditors should be entitled to satisfaction of their claims from a single pool of assets.

D. The Debtors' Affairs Are Entangled.

The Debtors consist of Fountain View, Inc. and 22 of its direct and indirect subsidiaries. The Debtors' integrated healthcare networks provide inpatient, pharmacy, medical supply, and other healthcare services through skilled nursing facilities, assisted living facilities, therapy facilities, long-term care pharmacies and durable medical equipment

1 supply distributions to the Debtors' facilities and unaffiliated facilities in both California and
2 Texas. There is little correlation between the names of the facilities and the names of the
3 legal entities that technically own such facilities, which the Debtors operate under fictitious
4 names. Until the present, the Debtors have been operated as a consolidated business with
5 highly integrated operations. The Debtors' operations have been organized around business
6 segments and regions, and are operated pursuant to a centralized management organization
7 that provides essential services such as day-to-day accounting, purchasing, human resources,
8 legal, regulatory compliance, risk management, and other overhead functions. As a result,
9 few, if any, of the Debtors currently are capable of operating as stand-alone entities. These
10 facts alone will make it difficult for creditors to ascertain against which Debtors they have a
11 claim.

12 In addition, the financial relationship of the Debtors further indicates their
13 current interconnections. In fact, due to the organization of their books and records, the
14 Debtors filed with the Bankruptcy Court their statement of financial affairs, schedules of
15 assets and liabilities, schedules of executory contracts and unexpired leases on a partially
16 consolidated basis. While most Debtor entities maintain their own books, the financial
17 information is upstreamed to the Debtors central financial management team that creates
18 consolidated books and records without which the financial affairs of the Debtors would
19 appear incomplete and misleading.

20 The books and records of the Debtors also reflect a large amount of
21 intercompany claims showing, among other things, advances from Fountain View, Inc. to
22 fund and build operations, upstreamed funds from the other Debtors to enable Fountain
23 View, Inc. to make payments to creditors, the allocation of corporate overhead, and the
24 transfer of other property from one Debtor to another. In view of the complexity of such
25 transactions and the adjustments that have been made over time, it would be difficult to
26 reconcile intercompany claims without embarking on an enormous effort that would
27 diminish return for all creditors and interest holders.

28 Finally, for the most part, the business units of the Debtors operate as

1 integrated units, without all the formalities of separate corporate entities. As such, the
2 Debtors participate in a unified cash management system (which includes non-Debtor
3 subsidiaries), which would make it extremely difficult to confirm a plan of reorganization for
4 the individual Debtors. The overwhelming majority of the Debtors' expenditures are also
5 made from commingled, centralized accounts.

6 II.

7 LEGAL ARGUMENT

8 A. Although the Debtors' Plan Provides for Substantive Consolidation of the 9 Debtors' Estates and Although All Voting-Eligible Creditors Have 10 Approved the Plan, Applicable Case Law Authorizes the Substantive 11 Consolidation Outside the Context of the Plan.

12 As of the date of the submission of this Motion, it appears that all voting-
13 eligible classes of claims and interests have accepted the Plan and its provisions, including
14 the substantive consolidation of the Debtors and their estates. Moreover, it appears that
15 every single eligible ballot cast has been voted in favor of the Plan and its provisions. It is
16 apparent that the substantive consolidation of the Debtors is in the best interests of creditors,
17 as shown by their unanimous support. Certainly, substantive consolidation will not hurt or
18 impair any creditor, as the Plan provides for the payment in full of all classes except the
19 holders of junior interests in the parent corporation classified in Classes 16 and 19.
20 Substantive consolidation is an integral means of implementing the Plan, given the
21 interwoven financial affairs of the Debtors. It will be less burdensome and less costly
22 implementing the Plan by pooling the claims of all creditors rather than attempting to
23 disentangle the financial affairs of the various Debtors.

24 Even though the Plan, with the unanimous approval of voting-eligible
25 creditors, contemplates the substantive consolidation of the Debtors and their estates as a
26 means of implementing the Plan,² the Debtors believe that the Court may independently
27

28 ² Courts in the Ninth Circuit have also found that substantive consolidation is appropriate where all voting classes voted in favor of the debtor's plan of reorganization and there were no objections to such consolidation. See, e.g., In re Standard Brands Paint Co., 154 B.R. 563, 565 (Bankr. C.D. Cal. 1993) (court granted substantive consolidation despite

1 order substantive consolidation under its Bankruptcy Code section 105(a) equity power.³

2 Courts exercising jurisdiction in bankruptcy have long recognized substantive
3 consolidation to be a part of their general equitable powers. See generally Sampsell v.
4 Imperial Paper & Color Corp., 331 U.S. 215, 219 (1941); Alexander v. Compton (In re
5 Bonham), 229 F.3d 750, 762 (9th Cir. 2000). As the Ninth Circuit noted in In re Bonham:

6 Although substantive consolidation was not codified by the
7 Bankruptcy Reform Acts of 1978 or 1994, see Pub.L. No. 95-598
8 1978) and Pub.L. No. 103-394, § 104(a) (1994), as were related
9 provisions allowing for procedural consolidation or joint
10 administration, courts, as well as the bankruptcy rules, recognize
its validity and have ordered substantive consolidation subsequent
to the enactment of the Bankruptcy Code.

11 229 F.3d at 763. “For many purposes, courts of bankruptcy are essentially courts of equity,
12 and their proceedings inherently proceedings in equity.” Pepper v. Litton, 308 U.S. 295, 304
13 (1939) (internal quotations and citations omitted). The bankruptcy court’s power of
14 substantive consolidation has been considered part of the bankruptcy court’s general
15 equitable powers since the passage of the Bankruptcy Act of 1898. See Reider v. Fed.
16 Deposit Ins. Corp. (In re Reider), 31 F.3d 1102, 1105 (11th Cir. 1994). At present,
17 consistent with its historical roots, the power of substantive consolidation derives from the
18 bankruptcy court’s general equity powers as expressed in Bankruptcy Code section 105(a).
19 See Union Savings Bank v. Augie/Restivo Banking Co., Ltd., (In re Augie/Restivo Banking
20 Co., Ltd.), 860 F.2d 515, 518 (2d Cir. 1988).

21 The Ninth Circuit has adopted the two-factor test set forth by the Second
22

23 its deviation from typical consolidation where no party objected to the consolidation and there was a consensual plan for
24 consolidation that could be confirmed without cramdown).

25 ³ Substantive consolidation may be ordered either upon separate motion pursuant to section 105(a) or upon confirmation
26 of a plan of reorganization as authorized by section 1123(a)(5)(C) (“Notwithstanding any otherwise applicable
27 nonbankruptcy law, a plan shall ... provide adequate means for the plan’s implementation, such as ... merger or
28 consolidation of the debtor with one or more persons.”). In particular, courts in the Ninth Circuit have found that
substantive consolidation under the terms of a reorganization plan is appropriately ordered on less rigorous standards
where all voting classes voted in favor of the debtor’s plan of reorganization and there were no objections to such
consolidation. See, e.g., In re Standard Brands Paint Co., 154 B.R. at 565 (court granted substantive consolidation on
less rigorous showing where no party objected to the consolidation and there was a consensual plan calling for
consolidation). Accord In re Cent. European Indus. Dev. Co. LLC, 288 B.R. 572, 576 (Bankr. N.D. Cal. 2003)
 (“substantive consolidation via a plan would require the affirmative vote of each class of each of debtors’ creditors,
counted before consolidation”).

1 Circuit in In re Augie/Restivo, 860 F.2d 515 (2d Cir. 1988). See In re Bonham, 229 F.3d at
2 766 (“The Second Circuit’s approach is more grounded in substantive consolidation and
3 economic theory; it is also more easily applied. Thus, we adopt it and utilize it in our
4 analysis of this case.”) The two factors considered in this test are: (1) whether creditors
5 dealt with the entities as a single economic unit and did not rely on their separate identity in
6 extending credit; or (2) whether the affairs of the debtor are so entangled that consolidation
7 will benefit all creditors. Id. at 766. The presence of either factor is a sufficient basis to
8 order substantive consolidation. Id.

9 The propriety of substantive consolidation is grounded on a finding that the
10 consolidation is fair to all creditors and will result in an equitable distribution and efficient
11 administration of the bankruptcy estates. See In re Bonham, 229 F.3d at 767-69 & n.12.
12 Typically, the consolidation of a solvent (or less insolvent) separate estate into an insolvent
13 consolidated estate raises the possibility of prejudice to the creditors of the financially
14 stronger estate. These concerns are not present in this case where the consolidated whole
15 will be solvent and each creditor of every estate is realizing reorganization value in an
16 amount equal to the allowed amount of its claims. Here the significant benefits of
17 consolidation are not achieved on the backs of the creditors of any particular subsidiary.
18 Consolidation is not only efficient here, it is fair to all.

19 The first Augie/Restivo factor, reliance on the separate credit of the entity, is
20 based on the consideration that lenders “structure their loans according to their expectations
21 regarding the borrower and do not anticipate either having the assets of a more sound
22 company available in the case of insolvency or having the creditors of a less sound debtor
23 compete for the borrower’s assets.” In re Augie/Restivo, 860 F.2d at 518-19. Consolidation
24 under the second factor, entanglement of the debtor’s affairs, is justified only where “the
25 time and expense necessary even to attempt to unscramble them [is] so substantial as to
26 threaten the realization of any net assets for all the creditors” or where no accurate
27 identification and allocation of assets is possible. Id. at 519.
28

B. Because The Debtors' Affairs Are Sufficiently Entangled and Because the Debtors' Creditors Did Not Rely on the Debtors as Separate Entities, the Debtors Should Be Substantively Consolidated.

With respect to the entanglement factor, the facts in this case demonstrate a substantial identity and an extensive interrelationship, interdependence, and entanglement between and among the Debtors. As described above, few if any, of the Debtors currently are capable of operating as stand-alone entities. In addition, the Debtors ultimately consolidate all of the financial records and information of the individual Debtors and maintain a unified set of books and records. Without these consolidated books and records, the financial information of the individual Debtors might appear misleading and incomplete. Moreover, the books and records of the Debtors also reflect a large amount of intercompany claims showing, among other things, advances from Fountain View, Inc. to fund and build operations, upstreamed funds from the other Debtors to enable Fountain View, Inc. to make payments to creditors, the allocation of corporate overhead, and the transfer of other property from one Debtor to another. In view of the complexity of such transactions and the adjustments that have been made over time, it would be difficult to reconcile intercompany claims without embarking on an enormous effort that would diminish return for all creditors. Finally, the Debtors participate in a unified cash-management system, which would make it extremely difficult to confirm a plan of reorganization for the individual Debtors.

With respect to the factor of whether creditors relied on the Debtors as a consolidated company, the Debtors' primary financial creditors dealt with the Debtors as a single economic unit and did not rely on the separate identities of the individual Debtor entities in extending credit. Specifically, almost all of the Debtors are co-obligors under the Prepetition Credit Agreement and the indenture governing the 11¼% Notes. See In re Genesis Health Ventures, Inc., 266 B.R. 591, 619 (Bankr. D. Del. 2001) ("In light of the

⁴ The discussion of the highly interrelated and unitary operation of the Debtors' subsidiary operations described in this memorandum refers to the Debtors' historical practices only. Through their corporate restructuring plan, the Debtors intend to completely restructure their corporate structure. Thus, the historical grounds for substantive consolidation will be inapplicable with respect to the Debtors' post-confirmation operations, and nothing herein may be construed as an admission or waiver of rights with respect to the nature of the reorganized Debtors' corporate structure.

1 indebtedness of nearly all of the . . . debtors to the Senior Lenders, the only way to provide
2 any recovery to individual creditors of the subsidiaries is to treat all unsecured creditors on a
3 consolidated basis.”). These courses of dealing and the expectations of the holders of the
4 11¼% Notes and the Agent and Lenders justify consolidation of the Debtors. See, e.g.,
5 Bruce Energy Centre Ltd v. Orfa Corp. of Am. (In re Orfa Corp.), 129 B.R. 404, 415 (Bankr.
6 E.D. Pa. 1991) (“the presence of inter-company guarantees . . . are indicative of an
7 interrelationship of companies within a larger enterprise, and negate the claim of separate
8 reliance on creditors”); In re Murray Indus., 119 B.R. 820, 827 (Bankr. M.D. Fla. 1990)
9 (substantive consolidation ordered where it was impossible to determine the respective
10 liabilities of the subsidiaries on certain loans, which liabilities were not only guaranteed by
11 the subsidiaries, but whose assets were also pledged as security for such loans).

12 Because the Debtors’ affairs are integrated, interrelated, and entangled from
13 both a functional and an accounting perspective, substantive consolidation of the Debtors
14 would be fair and equitable for all creditors. The factors demonstrating the Debtors’
15 entanglement as well as demonstrating the treatment of the Debtors as a single economic unit
16 are similar to factors identified by the Ninth Circuit as justifying substantive consolidation.
17 See In re Bonham, 229 F.3d at 766 n. 10. Having relied upon the creditworthiness of the
18 Debtors as a single economic unit, such creditors should be entitled to satisfaction of their
19 claims from a single pool of assets. Absent substantive consolidation, the Debtors would be
20 required to disentangle their respective operations and businesses. Because the operational
21 and financial affairs of each of the Debtors are deeply entangled, disentanglement, although
22 not impossible, would likely be so costly as to consume any benefits that would be derived.

23 Finally, it must be noted that because the Debtors have made a *prima facie*
24 showing that substantive consolidation is warranted, the burden shifts to any dissatisfied
25 creditor to demonstrate that it did not rely on the separate credit of one of the Debtors and
26 that it will be prejudiced by substantive consolidation. Id. (quoting Drabkin v. Midland Ross
27 Corp. (In re Auto-Train Corp.), 810 F.2d 270, 276 (D.C. Cir. 1987)). Thus, absent such a
28 showing by a dissatisfied creditor, the Court should authorize the substantive consolidation

1 of the Debtors.

2 **C. The Debtors Seek Substantive Consolidation Solely as a Means of**
3 **Implementing the Plan.**

4 The substantive consolidation of the Debtors is solely for purposes related to
5 the Plan, including for purposes of voting, confirmation and distribution. Following
6 confirmation of the Plan, on the effective date the Debtors' corporate restructuring plan will
7 be consummated. Other courts have approved similar consolidations. For example, in In re
8 Standard Brands Paint Co., 154 B.R. 563, 567 (Bankr. C.D. Cal. 1993), a parent and four of
9 its wholly-owned direct and indirect subsidiaries operated paint manufacturing, distribution,
10 and retail businesses. One of the debtors owned or managed the retail store locations. The
11 debtors requested that the court apply the doctrine of substantive consolidation to suppress
12 the separateness of the five debtors to survive and continue as separate corporations
13 subsequent to plan confirmation. The court granted the motion, noting that substantive
14 consolidation was an equitable doctrine that could be tailored to fit the needs of a particular
15 case. Id. at 570. Utilizing the Augie/Restivo test for substantive consolidation, the court
16 concluded that there was "substantial identity" among the debtors, which operated as a
17 consolidated entity with multiple intercompany guarantees and indebtedness. Id. at 573. See
18 also In re Bonham, 229 F.3d at 769 ("However, the bankruptcy court has the power, in
19 appropriate circumstances, to order less than complete substantive consolidation, or to place
20 conditions on the substantive consolidation....")

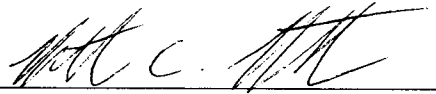
21 Similarly, in the instant case, the deemed consolidation is necessary to
22 distribute property efficiently, avoid the calculation, resolution, and classification of inter-
23 Debtor claims, and reduce the administrative burden of soliciting and tabulating votes in
24 respect of the 23 Debtors. A limited consolidation, for plan purposes only, is necessary to
25 avoid adverse tax consequences that a permanent consolidation could entail. Lastly,
26 consolidation of the Debtors will promote judicial economy and ease of administration and
27 minimize the costs of administration of the Debtors' cases.

III.

CONCLUSION

The Debtors respectfully request that the Court enter its order pursuant to Bankruptcy Code section 105(a) and applicable decisional law authorizing the substantive consolidation of the Debtors, which is conditioned upon confirmation of the Plan and consummation of the transactions contemplated thereunder.

DATED: June 9, 2003



BRENDT C. BUTLER, an Attorney with
KLEE, TUCHIN, BOGDANOFF & STERN LLP
Reorganization Counsel For
Debtor And Debtor In Possession

DECLARATION OF WILLIAM C. SCOTT

I, William C. Scott, declare as follows:

1. I submit this Declaration in support of the Motion For Order Authorizing Substantive Consolidation of Debtor Entities (the "Motion") filed by Fountain View, Inc., one of the debtors and debtors in possession in the above-captioned, jointly administered chapter 11 cases (the "Debtors"). I am over 18 years of age and I have personal knowledge of the facts set forth herein, or I have obtained such knowledge from business records and documents within my custody and control that are regularly maintained in the ordinary course of business by the Debtors.

2. I am the Chairman of the Board of Directors of Fountain View, Inc. In that capacity, I am familiar with the nature and scope of the Debtors' operations and financial affairs. I have held that position since the April, 1998 merger pursuant to which the Debtors adopted their present structure.

3. As part of their continuing efforts to restructure the operation of their businesses, the Debtors have decided to substantively consolidate for the limited purpose of implementing the Debtors' Joint Plan of Reorganization Dated April 22, 2003 (the "Plan"). Notably, the substantive consolidation will not affect the legal organizational structure of the reorganized Debtors contemplated under the Plan, guaranties or the grants of collateral in connection with the exit financing, or the issuance of new securities under the Plan, or distributions out of any insurance policies or proceeds of policies. The substantive consolidation will eliminate multiple and duplicative claims as well as joint and several liability claims, and will afford payment of allowed claims against each of the Debtors from a common fund. I believe it will be less burdensome and less costly implementing the Plan by pooling the claims of all creditors rather than attempting to disentangle the financial affairs of the various Debtors.

4. The Debtors consist of Fountain View, Inc. and 22 of its direct and indirect subsidiaries. The Debtors' integrated healthcare networks provide inpatient, pharmacy, medical supply, and other healthcare services through skilled nursing facilities,

1 assisted living facilities, therapy facilities, long-term care pharmacies and durable medical
2 equipment supply distributions to the Debtors' facilities and unaffiliated facilities in both
3 California and Texas. There is little correlation between the names of the facilities and the
4 names of the legal entities that technically own such facilities, which the Debtors generally
5 operate under fictitious names. Until the present, the Debtors have been operated as a
6 consolidated business with highly integrated operations. The Debtors' operations have been
7 organized around business segments and regions, and are operated pursuant to a centralized
8 management organization that provides essential services such as day-to-day accounting,
9 purchasing, human resources, legal, regulatory compliance, risk management, and other
10 overhead functions. As a result, few, if any, of the Debtors currently are capable of
11 operating as stand-alone entities.

12 5. Due to the organization of their books and records, the Debtors filed
13 with the Bankruptcy Court their statement of financial affairs, schedules of assets and
14 liabilities, schedules of executory contracts and unexpired leases on a partially consolidated
15 basis. While most Debtor entities maintain their own books, the financial information is
16 upstreamed to the Debtors' central financial management team that creates consolidated
17 books and records without which the financial affairs of the Debtors would appear
18 incomplete and misleading.

19 6. The books and records of the Debtors also reflect a large amount of
20 intercompany claims showing, among other things, advances from Fountain View, Inc. to
21 fund and build operations, upstreamed funds from the other Debtors to enable Fountain
22 View, Inc. to make payments to creditors, the allocation of corporate overhead, and the
23 transfer of other property from one Debtor to another. In view of the complexity of such
24 transactions and the adjustments that have been made over time, it would be difficult to
25 reconcile intercompany claims.

26 7. For the most part, the business units of the Debtors operate as integrated
27 units, without all the formalities of separate corporate entities. As such, the Debtors
28 participate in a unified cash management system (which includes non-Debtor subsidiaries).

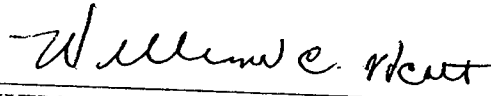
1 The overwhelming majority of the Debtors' expenditures are also made from commingled,
2 centralized accounts.

3 8. Almost all of the Debtors are co-obligors under that certain Amended
4 and Restated Agreement dated April 16, 1998 (the "Prepetition Credit Agreement") between
5 the Debtors and the Debtors' principal financial creditors, the agent and secured lenders (the
6 "Agent and Lenders") and under the indenture governing the 11¼% Senior Subordinated
7 Notes due 2008 (collectively holding over 95% of the total claims against the Debtors). In
8 addition, almost all of the Debtors granted first priority security interests in substantially all
9 their assets (including cash collateral) pursuant to pledge, guaranty, security agreements, and
10 deeds of trust entered into as collateral support for the obligations under the Prepetition
11 Credit Agreement.

12 9. All financial information disseminated to the public by the Debtors,
13 including to customers, suppliers, landlords, lenders, and credit agencies, is prepared and
14 presented on a consolidated basis. While the individual Debtor entities have personnel that
15 separately compile financial information, that information is upstreamed to the financial
16 officers of Fountain View, Inc. who consolidate that information for presentation to creditors
17 and other interested parties as needed.

18 10. For all of the reasons stated above, I believe that their creditors,
19 including and especially the Agents and Lenders and the holders of the 11¼% Notes, dealt
20 with the Debtors as a single economic unit and did not rely on the separate identities of the
21 individual Debtor entities in extending credit.

22 I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct and that
23 this declaration was executed on this 9th day of June, 2003, at Buena Vista, California.

24
25 
26 WILLIAM C. SCOTT
27
28

PROOF OF SERVICE

I am over eighteen years of age, and I am not a party to this action. I am employed by Klee, Tuchin, Bogdanoff & Stern LLP, and my business address is: Fox Plaza, 2121 Avenue of the Stars, Thirty-Third Floor, Los Angeles, CA 90067-5061. Klee, Tuchin, Bogdanoff & Stern LLP employs a member of the bar of the State of California at whose direction this service was made.

On June 9, 2003, I served the following pleading:

**NOTICE OF MOTION AND MOTION FOR ORDER AUTHORIZING
SUBSTANTIVE CONSOLIDATION OF DEBTOR ENTITIES;
MEMORANDUM OF POINTS AND AUTHORITIES IN SUPPORT
THEREOF; DECLARATION OF WILLIAM C. SCOTT FILED UNDER
SEPARATE CAPTION PAGE**

on the interested parties in this action by placing true and correct copies of the pleading with the United States Postal Service, enclosed in sealed envelopes, with postage fully paid, addressed as indicated on the attached list.

I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the United States that the foregoing is true and correct.

EXECUTED on June 9, 2003, at Los Angeles, California.



Yvonne Alamillo, Declarant

Debtors
Fountain View, Inc.
Attn: Roland Rapp
2 Portola Parkway, Suite 200
Foothill Ranch, CA 92610

Counsel to Creditors' Committee
Michael Lubic/Christopher Prince
Sonnenschein Nath & Rosenthal
601 S. Figueroa St, Suite 1500
Los Angeles, CA 90017-5704

Secured Lender
Bank of Montreal
Mark F. Spencer, Managing Dir.
601 South Figueroa Street, Suite 4900
Los Angeles, CA 90017

Atty/Bank of Montreal
Pillsbury Winthrop LLP
Attn: Kenneth Russak, Esq.
725 S. Figueroa St, #2800
Los Angeles, CA 90017-5406

Attys to Heritage Partners LP
Choate, Hall & Stewart
Stephen Cohen/Charles Glerum
Exchange Place
53 State Street
Boston, MA 02109-2891

UCC Party
Union Bank of CA, N.A.
As Admin & Syndication Agent
445 S. Figueroa St, 16th Fl
Los Angeles, CA 90017

UCC Party
Robert & Sheila Snukal
8489 W. 3rd Street #101
Los Angeles, CA 90048

UCC Party
Manuel Padama
8489 W. 3rd Street #1001
Los Angeles, CA 90048

UCC Party
Calif Thrift & Loan
P. O. Box 1199
Santa Barbara, CA 93102-1199

UCC Party
Western Bank
1251 Westwood Blvd.
Los Angeles, CA 90024-4811

U.S. Trustee
Office of the United States Trustee
Attn: Joseph Caceres, Esq.
Ernst & Young Plaza
725 South Figueroa Street, 26th Floor
Los Angeles, CA 90017

Counsel to Bondholders—via FED EX
Akin Gump Strauss Hauer & Feld LLP
Attn M. Stamer/J. Savin
590 Madison Avenue
New York, NY 10022

Counsel for the Secured Lenders
Chapman and Cutler
James E. Spiotto/Ann Acker
111 West Monroe Street
Chicago, IL 60603

Indenture Trustee/20 Largest
State St Bank & Trust Co of CA N.A.
Attn. Corporate Trust Dept
633 W. Fifth St, 12th Fl
Los Angeles, CA 90071

Counsel for Margaret Muccianti, et al.
Stephen M. Garcia, Esq.
Wilkes & McHugh
222 W. Sixth St, #780
San Pedro, CA 90731

UCC Party
Union Bank of California, N.A.
18300 Von Karman Ave, #200
Irvine, CA 92612

UCC Party
Robert & Sheila Snukal
Locomotion Therapy, Inc.
10284 Century Woods Dr
Los Angeles, CA 90067

UCC Party
HLFC Group
35 S. Raymond Ave., Ste. 206
Pasadena, CA 91105

UCC Party
Garnet & Co.
P.O. Box 92165
Pasadena, CA 91109-2165

UCC Party
Bank of the West
1450 Treat Blvd.
Walnut Creek, CA 94596

Counsel/Creditors Committee—via FED EX
Carole Neville, Esq.
Sonnenschein Nath & Rosenthal
1221 Avenue of the Americas
New York, NY 10020-1089

Counsel to Bondholders
Akin, Gump, Strauss, Hauer & Feld, LLP
Attn: Robert M. Aronson, Esq.
2029 Century Park East #2600
Los Angeles, CA 90067

Counsel for Bank Midwest, N.A.
Bryan Cave LLP
Sheldon Eisenberg, Esq.
120 Broadway, Suite 300
Santa Monica, CA 90401

Counsel for Indenture Trustee
Brown, Rudnick, Freed & Gesmer
Attn. Kevin Mallery, Esq.
City Place I, 185 Asylum St
Hartford, Ct. 06103

Internal Revenue Service
Special Procedures Function
Collection Division
Rm 4062 Federal Bldg. (Stop 5022)
300 N. Los Angeles St
Los Angeles, CA 90012

UCC Party
Bank of Montreal, As Agent
115 South LaSalle St
Chicago, IL 60603

UCC Party
Consolacion Padama
8489 W. 3rd Street, #1001
Los Angeles, CA 90048

UCC Party
Cal Fed Credit
25 E. Anapamu St., 3rd Flr.
Santa Barbara, CA 93101-2704

UCC Party
Garnett & Co.
35 S. Raymond Ave., #206
Pasadena, CA 91105-1931

UCC Party
Shackelford Incorporated
10900 Northwest Fwy., Ste. 103
Houston, TX 77092

UCC Party
Safeco Credit Co. Inc.
Celine Leasing
1 Willows Rd. NE
Redmond, WA 98052

UCC Party
Norwest Financial Leasing, Inc.
1700 Iowa Ave., Ste. 240
Riverside, CA 92507

UCC Party
First Nat'l Bank of Chicago/Agent
1 First National Plaza, 8th Flr., #0091
Chicago, IL 60670

UCC Party
Harris Trust & Savings Bank, Coll Agent
Attn: Indenture Trust Admin
311 W. Monroe St, 12th Fl
Chicago, IL 60606

UCC Party
Minolta Business Systems Inc.
POB 728
Park Ridge, NJ 07656

UCC Party
Fleet Leasing Corp
P.O. Box 7023
Troy, MI 48007

UCC Party
FUL Incorporated
100 Corporate North
Bannockburn, IL 60015

UCC Party
Standard Restaurant Equip
2922 East McDowell Road
Phoenix, AZ 85008

UCC Party
Ikon Office Solutions
2090 Woodward
Austin, TX 78744

UCC Party
Board of Equalization
P.O. Box 942879
Sacramento, CA 94279-0001

UCC Party
Employment Develop Dept
P.O. Box 826880
Sacramento, CA 94280-0001

UCC Party
Mellon First United Leasing
100 Corporate North
Bannockburn, IL 60015

UCC Party
IRS - Los Angeles
300 N. Los Angeles St., Rm 1216
Los Angeles, CA 90012

UCC Party
Master Lease Corp.
One Presidential Blvd.
Bala Cynwyd, PA 19004-1017

UCC Party
Chemical Trust Co. of CA
Attn Corporate Trust Depart
300 South Grand Ave., 4th Floor
Los Angeles, CA 90071

UCC Party
Hans Henry Helley, Jr., As Trustee
300 S, Grand Ave., 4th Fl
Los Angeles, CA 90071

UCC Party
Delight Gunnarsson
Locomotion Therapy, Inc.
10284 Century Woods Drive
Los Angeles, CA 90067

UCC Party
Gundi Gunnarsson
Locomotion Therapy, Inc.
10284 Century Woods Drive
Los Angeles, CA 90067

UCC Party
AmerisourceBergen Drug Corp.
Financial Services Dept.
POB 5910
Orange, CA 93813-5910

UCC Party
Wallace Moir Co.
130 El Camino
Beverly Hills, CA 90212-2705

UCC Party
The Great West Life Assurance Co.
60 Osborne St. North
Winnipeg, Manitoba
Canada R3C 1V3

Member of Unsecured Creditors' Committee
Twin Med, Inc.
Steve Rechnitz, President/CEO
4646 Hampton Street
Vernon, CA 90058

Member of Unsecured Creditors' Committee
Pharmacy Support Services
Attn Andrew F. Torok, Esq.
27071 Aliso Creek Road, Suite 100
Aliso Viejo, CA 92656

Member of Unsecured Creditors' Committee
U.S. Food Service
Attn Mark H. Speiser
9755 Patuxent Woods Drive
Columbia, MD 21046

Member Unsec Creditors' Committee
Service Employees Int'l Union, AFL-CIO
Andrew L. Stern, Int'l. President
1313 L Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20005

Member Unsec Creditors Committee
SEIU Local 399, AFL-CIO
Attn Jorge Rodriguez, Ex Sec
1247 W. 7th St
Los Angeles, CA 90017

20 Largest
Intercare Insurance Services
Attn Mike Silcox
3010 Lava Ridge Court #200
Roseville, CA 95661

20 Largest
Intelista Healthcare
1900 Spring Rd #515
Oak Brook, IL 60523

20 Largest
Aseterth Medical Services
Attn Teresa Taylor
1224 E. Green St 2nd Fl
Pasadena, CA 91106

20 Largest
Symphony Mobilex
Attn Mary Johnson
920 Ridgebrook Rd
Sparks, MD 21152

20 Largest
Jonathan Walker LLP
1111 Congress Ave, Ste 1100
Austin, TX 78701-9722

20 Largest
US Foodservice, Inc.
Attn: Linda Fitzgerald
80 International Dr., Ste. 200
Greenville, SC 29615

20 Largest
Sysco Food Services
Attn: Jim Peightal
20701 E. Currier Road
Walnut, CA 91789

20 Largest
Starmed Staffing Group
Attn: Brandi Hubert
7737 Forsyth Blvd #1700
Clayton, MO 63105

20 Largest
Healthcare Design & Supply
6217 Rimbark Ave
Pico Rivera, CA 90660

Request for Special Notice
Attys/Jackson Walker LLP
Jackson Walker LLP
Attn: C. Wade Cooper
100 Congress Ave, #1100
Austin, TX 78701

Request for Special Notice
Attys/Floor Covering Design
Attn: Steven L. Bergh
Prenovost Normandin Bergh & Dawe
2122 N. Broadway, #200
Santa Ana, CA 92706-2614

Request for Special Notice
Attys/Brenda Low/Harlan Estate
Floyd, Isgur, Rios & Wahrlich
Marvin Isgur/Patrick Griffin
700 Louisiana, Suite 4600
Houston, TX 77002-2732

Request for Special Notice
Attys/Twin Med
Alan J. Stomel, Esq.
369 S. Doheny Dr #374
Beverly Hills, CA 90211

Atty/New Braunfels ISD/Bexar Cty
Linebarger Goggan Blair
Pena & Sampson LLP
711 Navarro #300
San Antonio, TX 78205

20 Largest
Vencare Ancillary Services
680 S 4th Ave 5th Fl
Louisville, KY 40202

Member of Unsecured Creditors' Committee
Mediq
Attn: Alan Einhorn, Esq.
1 Mediq Plaza
Pennsauken, NJ 08110

20 Largest/Member of Unsecured Creditors'
Committee
Ancillary Provider Service
Attn: Cora
5416 Jillson Street
Commerce, CA 90040

20 Largest
Diagnostic Laboratories
Attn: Don Goldberg
1111 S. Central Ave
Glendale, CA 91204

Global Crossing
PO Box 741276
Cincinnati, OH 45274-1276

Request For Special Notice
Amelia Tovar
Wise Senior Serv Ombudsman
255 S. Hill St, Rm 406
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Request for Special Notice
Atty/Ancillary Provider Services
Law Office of Baruch C. Cohen
4929 Wilshire Blvd, #940
Los Angeles, CA 90010

Request for Special Notice
Radcliff Frandsen Dongell & Lawrence
Jules G. Radcliff, Jr.
707 Wilshire Blvd, 45th Fl
Los Angeles, CA 90017

Req Spec Not/Atty-Arkansas /Round Rock ISD/
McMallenCity/Lavaca Cty/Live Oak/New
Braunfels
Lori Robertson/David G. Aelvoet,
Linebarger Goggan Blair Pena & Sampson
1949 South IH 35
Austin, TX 78741

Request for Special Notice
Mark Schreiber, Esq.
16501 Ventura Blvd, #401
Encino, CA 91436-2068

20 Largest
Foley & Lardner
Jonathon E. Cohn, Esq.
2029 Century Pk East, 35th Fl
Los Angeles, Ca 90067-3000

20 Largest/Member of Unsecured Creditors'
Committee
Culver Dairy, Inc., dba Dairy King
Attn: Allan Dalfen, President/CEO
815 Thompson Avenue
Glendale, CA 91201

20 Largest
Floor Covering Design Specialists
13006 E Philadelphia, # 509
Whittier, CA 90601

20 Largest
Nestle USA
Attn: William T. Ferioli, Esq.
800 N. Brand Blvd
Glendale, CA 91203

Request for Special Notice
Atty to State St Bank & Trust
Buchalter, Nemer, Fields & Younger
Attn: R. Soref/ B. Seigel
601 S. Figueroa St, #2400
Los Angeles, CA 90017-5704

Request for Special Notice/Member of
Unsecured Creditors' Committee
Waltz Medical Specialties, Inc.
Attn: Phyllis Waltz
4520 E. Eisenhower Circle
Anaheim, CA 92807

Request for Special Notice
Attys/AmerisourceBergen Drip Corp.
Henrichs Law Firm
Attn: Alan W. Forsley, Esq.
835 Wilshire Blvd #300
Los Angeles, CA 90017

Request for Special Notice
Attys/Tranquilino & Raynaldo Mendoza
and Brenda Low/Harlan Estate
David Marks/The Marks Firm
10000 Memorial Dr, #760
Houston, TX 77024

Atty to Jefferson County
Linebarger Goggan Blair Pena & Sampson
Attn: Clayton Mayfield, Esq.
1148 Park Street
Beaumont, TX 77701-3614

Request for Special Notice
Atty/State St Bank
Steven B. Levin, Esq.
Brown Rudnick Fiedel & Gesmer
One Financial Center
Boston, MA 02111

Request for Special Notice
State St Bank Trust Co/Global Inv Serv
C... Trust
rt C. Butzier
2 Ave de Lafayette, 6th Fl
Boston, MA 02102-0778

Request for Special Notice
Jonathan Mitchell, President
2828 Roanoke Lane
Tyler, TX 75701

Request for Special Notice
Holly E. Kendig, Esq.
O'Melveny & Myers LLP
400 South Hope St
Los Angeles, CA 90071-2899

Req Spec Not/Atty County of Comal
Michael Reed, Esq.
McCreary Veselka Bragg & Allen PC
Post Office Box 26990
Austin, TX 78755

Req for Spec Not/IOS Capital, Inc.
Rosa Dominy, Bankruptcy Admin
IOS Capital, Inc.
1738 Bass Road
Post Office Box 13708
Macon, GA 31208-3708

Req for Spec Not
Atty/Meridian/Lloyd's/Great Lakes
Musick Peeler & Garrett LLP
Attn: Richard S. Conn
624 S. Grand Ave #2000
Los Angeles, CA 90017

Req for Spec Notice
Co- Def Atty to Nandlal Patel MD
Wright & Kidwell PC
Attn: Matt Catalano
505 N. Big Spring #300
Midland, TX 79701

Req Spec Not/Atty for McIlroy Estate
Gray.Hart LLP
Attn: Jay K. Gray
2419 Highway 121
Bedford, TX 76021

Req Spec Not/Atty HPH Associates
Hardy & Atherton, P.C.
Attn Jerry L. Atherton
909 ESE Loop 323, Suite 750
Tyler, TX 75701

Req Spec Not
AT&T Corp
Attn: Judith Archer, Esq.
295 N. Maple Ave, Rm 1128M1
Basking Ridge, NJ 07920

Request for Special Notice
Attys/Robert & Sheila Snukal
Milbank Tweed Hadley & McCloy LLP
Attn G.Bray/F. Neufeld
601 S. Figueroa St, 30th Fl
Los Angeles, CA 90017

Req Spec Not/US Dept of Health &
Human Svcs. Ctrs Medicare/Medicaid Svcs.
Assistant U.S. Attorney
J.Gordon/L.Weidman/C.Bauer
300 N. Los Angeles St #7516
Los Angeles, CA 90012-9834

Request for Special Notice
Atty/Fayette County Appraisal Dist
John T. Banks, Esq.
Perdue, Brandon, Fielder, Collins & Mott
6300 La Calma, Suite 450
Austin, TX 78752

Req Spec Not Atty/Eleanor Fleming
Houck & Balisok
Attn: Russell S. Balisok, Esq.
PO Drawer 8170
Universal City, CA 91618-8170

Req for Spec Not/Atty for
Superior Nat'l Ins Co In Liquidation
Carole Runcie Sherman, Esq.
26541 Agoura Road
Calabasas, CA 91302

Req for Spec Notice
Dennis Simon
Crossroads LLC
9 Executive Circle, Suite 190
Irvine, CA 92614

Req for Spec Not/John Przybyla
Provost Umphrey Law Firm
Attn: J. Fisher/M.Sparks
490 Park Street
Beaumont, TX 77704

Req Spec Not/Atty for Covenant Care
Pharmacy Support Services
c/o Andrew Torok, Gen Counsel
27071 Aliso Creek Rd #100
Aliso Viejo, CA 92656

Req Spec Not/Atty Osburn Estate
Noteboom & Parker
Attn: Dina K. Madison
669 Airport Freeway, #100
Hurst, TX 76053

Req Spec Not
Sun Healthcare Group, Inc.
Alicy Nystel Page, Esq.
101 Sun Ave NE
Albuquerque, NM 87109

Request for Special Notice
Attys/Sysco Foodservice/Citicorp Vendo
Financer
Hemar Rousso & Heald LLP
Attn: Kenneth G. Lau
15910 Ventura Blvd, 12th Fl
Encino, CA 91436-2829
Req Spec Not/US Dept of Health &
Human Svcs. Ctrs Medicare/Medicaid
Suzanne K. Yurk
Ass't Regional Counsel
Health Care Financing Admin
50 United Nations Plaza #420
San Francisco, CA 94102

Request for Special Notice
Todd Andrews
3924 Park Place No. 20
Montrose, CA 91020

Req Spec Not
Bill Angelowitz
Daily Insights
225 West 34th St #403
New York, NY 10122

Req for Special Notice
L.Degroat/C.Geller/Heirs DeGroat Estate
The Williams Firm
Attn: Stephen N. Williams
2467 Calder Ave
Beaumont, TX 77702

Req for Spec Notice
Atty/Asereth Medical Services Inc.
Paul B. Nesbitt, Esq.
Nesbitt & Associates
9601 Wilshire Blvd, #828
Los Angeles, CA 90210

Req Spec Not/Atty for Mildred Gaines
Bain, Files, Jarrett & Bain
109 West Ferguson
PO Box 2013
Tyler, TX 75710

Req Spec Not/Atty M. Muccianti
Rein Evans & Sestanovich LLP
Attn: Byron Z. Moldo/Patrick Fraioli
1925 Century Park East, 16th Fl
Los Angeles, CA 90067

Req Spec Not/Atty to Comal and
Taylor Counties/Abilene
Attn Michael Reed, Esq.
McCreary Veselka Bragg & Allen
PO Box 26990
Austin, TX 78755-0990

Spec Not Req/Atty for O'Quinn
Charles Soechting
O'Quinn, Laminack & Pirtle
400 West Hopkins, Suite 101
San Marcos, TX 78666

Spec Not Req/Atty for Quinn
Gerald Treece
Texas College of Law
San Jacinto
Houston, TX 77002

Spec Not Req/Atty to Shepard Estate
Perkins Coie LLP
Attn: Steven G.F. Polard
1620 26th St, 6th Fl
Santa Monica, CA 90404

Spec Not Req/Atty to So Desert Clinic Pharm e
tal
Irell & Manella
Jeffrey Reisner/Ravi Flanagan
840 Newport Center Dr, #400
Newport Beach, CA 92660-6324

Spec Not Req/O'Burton Estate
Law Office Jeffrey H. Rasansky
Attn Davette J. Speer, Paralegal
3811 Turtle Creek Blvd #1640
Dallas, TX 75219

Spec Not Req/Atty Lloyds, et al
Kristi Weiler Dean, Esq.
Law Office Kristi Weiler Dean
6345 Balboa Blvd
Office Park II Suite 230
Encino, CA 91316-1525

Spec Not Req/Atty to Riverside Cty
Paul McDonnell – Treasurer/Tax Collector
Attn Maria O'Neil
County of Riverside
P.O. Box 12005
Riverside, CA 92502-2205

Spec Not Req/Regan Capital I, Inc.
Regal Capital I, Inc.
Attn Elliot H. Herskowitz
PO Box 626 Planetarium Station
New York, NY 10024-0540

Spec Not Req/Atty to May
Sorrell Anderson Lehman Maixner Ridulfo
711 N. Carancahua, #1200
Corpus Christi, TX 78475

Spec Not Request
Tyler & Wilson
Attn Francesca Brotman-Orner
6500 Wilshire Blvd #125
Los Angeles, CA 90048

Attorneys for the Estate of Carol Prophet,
Deceased Steven T. Gubner, Esq.
Ezra, Brutzkus & Gubner
16830 Ventura Blvd, Suite 411
Encino, CA 91436

Spec Not Req/Atty for the Bradys
Nunley Davis Jolley & Hill LLP
Attn: William A. Brant, Esq.
1580 S. Main St, Suite 200
Boerne, TX 78006

Spec Not Req/Atty Gates McDonald Gibbons
#120515 Gates McDonald fka Gibbons Co
Seals & Tenenbaum, APC
Attn: Jay M. Tenenbaum, Esq.
2323 W. Lincoln Ave, #127
Anaheim, CA 92801

Spec Not Req
Southern Desert Clinic Pharmacy
27071 Aliso Creek Road
Aliso Viejo, CA 92656

Spec Not Req/Atty to Andrews-Beseda
Law Offices of Dean W. Greer
2929 Mossrock, Suite 105
San Antonio, TX 78230

Spec Not Req/Atty TX Human Resources
Flora A. Fearon, Asst Atty Gen of TX
Bankruptcy & Collections Div
P.O. Box 12548
Austin, TX 78711-2548

Spec Not Req/Atty to Amer Express
SVCS Co Inc Corp Card
c/o Becket & Lee LLP
PO Box 3001 Dept. AC
Malvern, PA 19355-0701

Spec Not Req/TX Comptroller
John Mark Stern
Ass't Atty General
Bankruptcy & Collections Division
PO Box 12548
Austin, TX 78711-2548

Spec Not Request
Leonard & Catherine May
7433 FM 70
Bishop, TX 78343

Spec Not Request
Atty to AIES Ins Co
Brad Reager, Claims Analyst
A.I.G.T.S
Healthcare Claims Department
2 Rincon Center
121 Spear Street, 6th Floor

Attorney for Medicom, Inc.
Vincent M. Lentini, Esq.
600 Old County Road, Suite 202
Garden City, NY 11530

Spec Not Req/Atty for Anna Louis Daniels
Clarkson, Gore & Marsella
Attn: Scott C. Clarkson, Esq.
3424 Carson Street, Suite 350
Torrance, CA 90503

Spec Not Req/Atty for Summit Care TX
Leonard A. Goldman, Esq.
Law Office of Leonard A. Goldman
1900 Ave of the Stars, #1800
Los Angeles, CA 90067

Spec Not Req/Atty to GE Cap
Glass & Goldberg
Attn Marshall F. Goldberg
21700 Oxnard St, #430
Woodland Hills, CA 91367-3665

Spec Not Req/Atty Lloyds, London et al
J. Sheldon Capeloto
McKinley & Capeloto
225 South Lake Avenue, Suite 300
Pasadena, California 91101

Spec Not Req/Atty to Susan Fleishman
Law Office of Marc Lieberman
Attn Marc Lieberman/Karie Kaiser
1875 Century Park East, #2200
Los Angeles, CA 90067-2523

Spec Not Req/Atty to G. Scurlock
Attn J. Wayne Little
Riley Dornburg Little & Wham
220 W. Davis
Conroe, TX 77301

Spec Not Req/Atty to E. Zolla
Good Wildman Hegness & Walley
Attn John A. Stillman, Esq.
5000 Campus Drive
Newport Beach, CA 92660

Spec Not Request Atty to Baylor Health
Haynes & Boone LLP
900 Main St, Suite 3100
Dallas, TX 75202

Spec Not Request
Atty to Calwest Industrial Properties
Glen Dresser, Esq.
12650 Riverside Dr #100
North Hollywood, CA 91607

Attorneys for Ken Kerr
Robert Brumfield, Esq.
Price & Brumfield
841 Mohawk Street, Suite 200
Bakersfield, CA 93309

Kaye Scholer LLP
Paul L. Leibow
Avenue of the Stars, Ste. 1600
Los Angeles, CA 90067

Madison Liquidity Investors
4210 Shawnee Mission Parkway, Suite
310A
Fairway, KS 66205
Attn: Antonia Roberson

Scott Krochek
Argo Partners
12 W 37th Street, 9th Floor
New York, NY 10018

Spec Not Request
Attys. For Cedar-Sinai Med. Ctr.
Lance N. Jurich, Esq.
Loeb & Loeb LLP
10100 Santa Monica Boulevard, Suite 2200
Los Angeles, CA 90067-4164

Spec Not Request
Neil H. Herskowitz
ReGen Capital I, Inc.
PO Box 626, Planetarium Station
New York, NY 10024-0540