

Release: IMMEDIATE
July 13, 2010

Contact: Kristin Davis
(602) 445-4318

Arizona Hospital and Healthcare Association Announces New Vice President of Advocacy

PHOENIX – The Arizona Hospital and Healthcare Association (AzHHA) has named Debbie Johnston as vice president of advocacy. Currently the director of regulatory advocacy, Johnston will step into her new role on September 7.

Johnston has managed AzHHA’s federal and state regulatory advocacy efforts since 2004. As a liaison with association members and other stakeholders, Johnston has worked to improve policy on issues affecting our state’s hospitals, including emergency services, disaster preparedness and infection prevention.

“During her six years at AzHHA, Debbie has distinguished herself as a passionate advocate for Arizona’s hospitals who has a keen grasp of the myriad complex issues facing our members,” said Laurie Liles, senior vice president of public affairs. “Debbie’s integrity, together with her considerable intellectual gifts and strong interpersonal skills uniquely qualify her to serve as AzHHA’s vice president of advocacy and the Association’s top lobbyist.”

Prior to joining AzHHA, Johnston worked for 10 years at the Arizona State Senate, first as a research analyst and later was promoted to research staff director. She has extensive



Arizona Hospital and Healthcare Association

MEDIA RELEASE

knowledge of the policy issues facing the state's hospital community and looks forward to her new role.

Johnston will succeed Laurie Liles, who will begin her role as AzHHA's new president and CEO on September 7.

About AzHHA

AzHHA is an organization of hospitals and healthcare systems dedicated to providing leadership on issues affecting the delivery, quality, accessibility and cost-effectiveness of healthcare. For more information, please contact Kristin Davis at kdavis@azhha.org or the following phone numbers: (602) 445-4318 (office) or (602) 561-9646 (cell).

###