

June 1, 1999

Federal Income Tax Information Regarding LifePoint and Triad Distribution

Dear Columbia/HCA Healthcare Corporation Stockholder:

On May 11, 1999, Columbia/HCA Healthcare Corporation effected the spin-off of LifePoint Hospitals, Inc. (NASDAQ: LPNT) and Triad Hospitals, Inc. (NASDAQ: TRIH) through a distribution of one share of LifePoint common stock and one share of Triad common stock for every 19 shares of Columbia/HCA common stock held by stockholders of record as of April 30, 1999.

On March 30, 1999, Columbia/HCA obtained a ruling from the Internal Revenue Service that its stockholders will not recognize any income, gain or loss, for federal income tax purposes, upon the receipt of LifePoint and Triad common stock (except with respect to any cash received in lieu of fractional shares of LifePoint or Triad). The IRS ruling also provides that each stockholder must allocate the tax basis in its Columbia/HCA common shares owned immediately before the distribution among its Columbia/HCA common shares held immediately after the distribution and the shares of LifePoint and Triad common stock received in the distribution (including any LifePoint and Triad fractional shares for which a shareholder received cash), in proportion to the relative fair market values of the common stock of Columbia/HCA, LifePoint and Triad.

Based on the mean between the high and the low of the "when issued" trading price for LifePoint common stock, the "when issued" trading price for Triad common stock and the trading price for Columbia/HCA common stock (as adjusted for the distribution of LifePoint and Triad) on May 11, 1999, Columbia/HCA believes that an appropriate method of allocating pre-distribution tax basis is as follows:

- 95.354% to post-distribution Columbia/HCA shares,
- 2.178% to LifePoint shares, and
- 2.468% to Triad shares.

To illustrate, suppose that you owned 1000 shares of Columbia/HCA stock with a tax basis of \$20,000 (\$20 per share). In the spin-off, you received 52 shares of LifePoint common stock and 52 shares of Triad common stock. In addition, you have received or will receive cash in lieu of a 0.632 fractional share of LifePoint common stock and a 0.632 fractional share of Triad common stock. Based on the foregoing methodology, your basis allocation would be as follows:

Basis in Columbia/HCA shares (post-distribution)	$\frac{95.354\% \times \$20,000}{1000 \text{ shares}}$	\$19.07 per share
Basis in LifePoint shares	$\frac{2.178\% \times \$20,000}{52.632 \text{ shares}}$	\$8.28 per share
Basis in LifePoint fractional share	0.632 x \$8.28 basis per LifePoint share	\$5.23
Basis in Triad shares	$\frac{2.468\% \times \$20,000}{52.632 \text{ shares}}$	\$9.38 per share
Basis in Triad fractional share	0.632 x \$9.38 basis per Triad share	\$5.92

You would recognize gain or loss on the sale of LifePoint and Triad fractional shares measured by the difference between the amount of cash received and the basis allocated to the fractional shares.

If you acquired your Columbia/HCA stock at different prices, you may be required to apportion your tax basis separately with respect to each block of Columbia/HCA stock and the related shares of LifePoint and Triad common stock distributed to you with respect to those shares.

To determine your holding period in the LifePoint and Triad common stock (including fractional shares), the IRS ruling provides that you should include the pre-distribution period during which you held the Columbia/HCA stock with respect to which the distribution was made.

IRS regulations require that you attach a statement setting forth certain information about the LifePoint and Triad distribution to your federal income tax return for the period including May 11, 1999. For those stockholders who are calendar year taxpayers, the statement should be attached to your 1999 federal income tax return. Enclosed is a sample statement that you may want to consider using for this purpose after consulting your tax advisor. To complete the statement, you should insert in item 4 the number of whole shares of LifePoint common stock and any cash you received in lieu of a LifePoint fractional share in the distribution and in item 5 the number of whole shares of Triad common stock and any cash you received in lieu of a Triad fractional share in the distribution.

While Columbia/HCA believes the information in this letter represents a reasonable interpretation of existing federal income tax law and regulations, this information does not constitute tax advice. Moreover, this letter does not purport to be complete or to describe tax consequences that may apply to particular categories of stockholders. Each stockholder is urged to consult its tax advisor as to the particular consequences of the distribution to such stockholder under federal, state or local tax laws and foreign tax laws, including, in particular, tax basis allocation rules (including possible alternative allocation methodologies) and the effect of possible changes in tax laws that may affect the descriptions set forth above.

If you have any questions, please contact Mark Kimbrough at Columbia/HCA (615/344-2688), LifePoint Investor Relations (615/344-6261) or Triad Investor Relations (972/701-2259). The transfer agent for LifePoint and Triad is National City Bank, Shareholder Services (800/622-6757).

**ATTACHMENT TO FEDERAL INCOME TAX RETURN FOR THE PERIOD
INCLUDING MAY 11, 1999**

**Statement of Shareholder
Receiving a Distribution of Stock
of LifePoint Hospitals, Inc. and Triad Hospitals, Inc.
Filed Pursuant to Treasury Regulation § 1.355-5(b)**

1. The undersigned, a stockholder owning common stock of Columbia/HCA Healthcare Corporation ("Columbia/HCA") as of April 30, 1999, received a distribution on May 11, 1999 from Columbia/HCA of shares of common stock of LifePoint Hospitals, Inc. ("LifePoint") and Triad Hospitals, Inc. ("Triad"), corporations controlled by Columbia/HCA, to which Section 355 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, applies.

2. The names and addresses of the corporations involved are:

- a. Columbia/HCA Healthcare Corporation
One Park Plaza
Nashville, Tennessee 37203
- b. LifePoint Hospitals, Inc.
4525 Harding Road
Nashville, Tennessee 37205
- c. Triad Hospitals, Inc.
13455 Noel Road
Dallas, Texas 75240

3. No stock or securities in Columbia/HCA were surrendered by the undersigned in connection with the distribution.

4. The undersigned received _____ whole shares of common stock of LifePoint in the distribution and \$ _____ in lieu of a fractional share of LifePoint common stock.

5. The undersigned received _____ whole shares of common stock of Triad in the distribution and \$ _____ in lieu of a fractional share of Triad common stock.

6. By letter dated March 30, 1999, the Internal Revenue Service ruled that the distribution by Columbia/HCA of stock of LifePoint and Triad was a tax-free Section 355 distribution.

Shareholder Signature