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news release

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**Humana Inc. to Release Fourth Quarter Results on
February 7, 2005**

LOUISVILLE, KY – January 5, 2005 – Humana Inc. (NYSE: HUM) will release its financial results for the fourth quarter 2004 on Monday, February 7, 2005 at 5:00 a.m. eastern time. The company will host a conference call, as well as a virtual slide presentation at 9:00 a.m. eastern time that same morning to discuss its financial results for the quarter and earnings guidance.

All parties interested in the audio only portion of the conference call are invited to dial 888-625-7430. No password is required. The company suggests participants dial in approximately ten minutes in advance of the call.

A live virtual presentation (audio with slides) will be available and may be accessed via Humana's Investor Relations page at www.humana.com. The company suggests web participants sign on approximately 15 minutes in advance of the call. The company also suggests web participants visit the site well in advance of the call to run a system test and to download any free software needed to view the presentation.

For those unable to participate in the live event, the virtual presentation archive will be available in the Presentations section of the Investor Relations page at www.humana.com, approximately two hours following the live webcast. An audio

recording of the conference call will be available in the Audio Archives located on the Investor Relations page at www.humana.com approximately two hours after the live call.

Humana Inc., headquartered in Louisville, Kentucky, is one of the nation's largest publicly traded health benefits companies, with approximately 7 million medical members located primarily in 15 states and Puerto Rico. Humana offers a diversified portfolio of health insurance products and related services – through traditional and consumer-choice plans – to employer groups, government-sponsored plans, and individuals.

Over its 43-year history, Humana has consistently seized opportunities to meet changing customer needs.

Today, Humana is a leader in consumer engagement. Throughout its diversified customer portfolio, the company provides guidance that can both help lower costs and lead to a better health plan experience.

More information regarding Humana is available to investors via the Investor Relations page of the company's web site at www.humana.com, including copies of:

- Annual report to stockholders;
- Securities and Exchange Commission filings;
- Most recent investor conference presentation;
- Quarterly earnings press releases (including detailed description of unusual items, where applicable);
- Audio archive of most recent earnings release conference call;
- Calendar of events (includes upcoming earnings conference call dates, times, and access number, as well as planned interaction with institutional investors);
- Corporate Governance Information.

The company's fourth quarter 2004 earnings press release is expected to include financial measures that are not computed in accordance with Generally Accepted Accounting Principles ("GAAP"). A reconciliation of these non-GAAP financial measures to financial results under GAAP, as well as management's reasons for including the non-

GAAP financial measures, will be included in the company's fourth quarter 2004 earnings press release, a copy of which will be available on the Investor Relations page of www.humana.com on February 7, 2005.