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News Release

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Freeman Announces Leadership at Nevada Regional Medical Center *Wes Braman Named Interim Chief Executive Officer*

Joplin, Mo. – Freeman Health System announces Wes Braman, Freeman Vice President of Business Development, will serve as interim chief executive officer of Nevada Regional Medical Center. Freeman assumed management of the hospital November 1 under a two-year contract with the City of Nevada. Braman will oversee day-to-day operations of the facility including finances, leadership, physician engagement and human resources.

“Nevada is a wonderful community and has a wonderful hospital,” said Braman. “We are providing resources, assistance and advice to help return Nevada Regional Medical Center to a state of profitability. We want to expand upon the services they offer so residents in this community have access to the quality care they need without having to travel a long distance.”

“Wes is the perfect person to serve as interim chief executive officer,” said Paula F. Baker, Freeman President and Chief Executive Officer. “He has the experience, passion and drive to help Nevada Regional Medical Center build on its strengths and move in a positive direction.”

An 18-year employee of Freeman, Braman has guided Freeman Managed Care and Freeman Business Development teams in efforts to contract with national health networks and payors, regional health plans and directly with area employers. Additional responsibilities include oversight of occupational health, population health and Marketplace health insurance programs. Braman was also instrumental in the development of several Freeman outreach clinics and in establishing school-based health programs with several school districts in southwest Missouri.

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About Freeman Health System

Locally owned, not-for-profit and nationally recognized, Freeman Health System includes Freeman Hospital West, Freeman Hospital East, Freeman Neosho Hospital and Ozark Center – the area’s largest provider of behavioral health services – as well as two urgent care clinics, dozens of physician clinics and a variety of specialty services. In 2017, Freeman earned dozens

of individual awards for medical excellence and patient safety from CareChex[®], a quality rating system that helps consumers evaluate healthcare providers. The Leapfrog Group awarded Freeman the highest grade possible in the Fall 2017 Hospital Patient Safety Score. With more than 300 physicians on staff representing more than 70 specialties, Freeman provides cancer care, heart care, neurology and neurosurgery, orthopaedics, children's services and women's services. Additionally, Freeman is the only Children's Miracle Network Hospital in a 70-mile radius. For more information, visit freemanhealth.com.