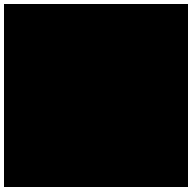


UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20580



Office of the Secretary

November 23, 2009

Lawrence Monahan, M.D.
Commonwealth of Virginia

Re: In the Matter of Carilion Clinic, Docket No. 9338

Dear Dr. Monahan:

Thank you for your comments regarding the proposed consent order accepted by the Federal Trade Commission for public comment in the above-captioned matter. The Commit Carilion will acquire

specific transactions, and does not constitute a ruling by the Commission that subsequent mergers or acquisitions by Carilion are either legal or illegal. With respect to such other transactions, the Commission reserves the right to take such further action as the public interest may require.

Notwithstanding the above, please note that the order does contain provisions that place certain restrictions on Carilion's ability to acquire physician practices. In particular, Paragraph III.B of the Order prohibits Carilion from soliciting for employment any physician or physician practice that has referred patients to CAI since the acquisition. The prohibition is effective for six

For these reasons, the Commission has determined that the public interest would best be served by issuing the Decision and Order in final form without modification. A copy of the final Decision and Order is enclosed for your information. Relevant materials also are available from the Commission's website at <http://www.ftc.gov>.

It helps the Commission's analysis to hear from a variety of sources in its work on antitrust and consumer protection issues, and we appreciate your interest in this matter.

By direction of the Commission.

Donald S. Clark
Secretary