."

Office of the Director
Bureau of Competition

Robert Leibenluft, Esq.
Hogan & Hartson, L.L.P.
555 Thirteenth Street, NW
Washington, DC 20004

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION WASHINGTON, D.C. 20580

JAN - 5 2009

Re: New Hanover Regional Medical Center/Cape Fear Memorial Hospital, File No. 021-0213

Dear Mr. Leibenluft:

The Federal Trade Commission's Bureau ofCompetition conducted a nonpublic investigation to determine whether the acquisition ofCape Fear Memorial Hospital by New Hanover Regional Medical Center may violate Section 7 ofthe Clayton Act or Section 5 ofthe Federal Trade Commission Act or any other statute enforced by the Commission.

Pursuant to authority delegated by the Commission, 49 Fed. Reg. 6171 (1984), the investigation has been closed. This action is not to be construed as a determination that a violation may not have occurred, just as the pendency of an investigation should not be construed as a determination that a violation has occurred. The Commission reserves the right to