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**Jeffrey Smith, M.D., Appointed as New
Santa Clara County Executive**
Public Policy Advocate to take the helm in September

SANTA CLARA COUNTY, CALIF.—Today, the County of Santa Clara Board of Supervisors announced the appointment of Jeffrey V. Smith, M.D., J.D., as the County Executive of the County of Santa Clara, effective September 1, 2009.

"After an extensive search process, Dr. Smith emerged as the Board's choice," said Supervisor Liz Kniss, President of the Board of Supervisors. "We are impressed by the range of his medical, legal and public policy experience."

Dr. Smith currently serves as Executive Director of the Contra Costa Regional Medical Center and Health Centers, where he is responsible for the leadership, operations and management of the county general acute care hospital, outpatient clinics, and detention health services for county jail facilities and the juvenile hall.

For more than 29 years, Dr. Smith has been involved in public service.

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"I had an early understanding that public service brought me satisfaction," said Dr. Smith.

"Throughout my career, I have been committed to providing quality care in the public health system and in playing an active role in shaping policies that lead to better governance."

From 1992 to 1996, Dr. Smith served on the Board of Supervisors in Contra Costa County. There he authored the Better Government Ordinance – a local open government plan, the original Industrial Safety Ordinance – allowing local regulation of heavy industry, and promoted program-based budgeting. He also emphasized the importance of the Children's and Families Budget for Contra Costa County.

Dr. Smith also played a key role in the creation of the Crockett Community Foundation, a local philanthropic program funded by the creation of a cogeneration plant in the area. He also created the County Arts Commission, and dealt with affordable housing issues, consolidation of fire districts, and expansion of the library system.

He also served for four years as Councilmember for the City of Martinez, where he addressed transportation, downtown revitalization, land use, and reorganization of administrative structures.

"I am no stranger to the issues confronting Santa Clara County," said Dr. Smith. "There are difficult times ahead and I am confident that the organization has the foundational strength and people to make it through these challenges. I am looking forward to being a 'servant/leader' to the employees and citizens of Santa Clara County."

Dr. Smith earned a Juris Doctor degree from Boalt Hall School of Law, University of California, Berkeley and has been a member of the California State Bar since 1989. In 1980, he graduated from the University of Southern California, School of Medicine, Los Angeles, as a Medical Doctor and has been certified by the American Board of Family Medicine since 1985. His undergraduate Bachelor of Science degree in Biology was earned in 1976 at Loyola Marymount University, Los Angeles.

He is married to Cynthia Ashbrook, M.D., and has four children Joshua, 32, Kellie, 28, Genevieve, 14 and Nicole, 11. He also has a two year old grandson named William.

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