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March 23, 2004

Mr. Dale Hardy Roberts, Secretary/Chief Regulatory Law Judge
Missouri Public Service Commission
P.O. Box 360
Jefferson City, MO 65102

Re: St. John's Mercy Hospital
Case No. TC-2004-0407

FILED⁴

MAR 24 2004

Missouri Public
Service Commission

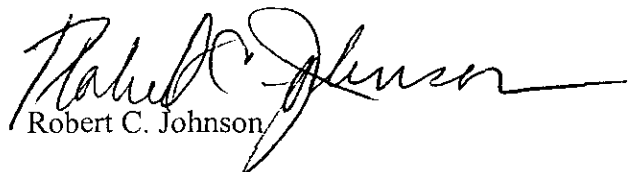
Dear Mr. Roberts:

I enclose herewith original and 8 copies of Answer to Complaint filed by the Commission Staff in the above matter together with our electronic transmittal letter, which we attempted to file yesterday using the EFIS system. We calculate that yesterday was the last day for filing the enclosed Answer under the Applicable Commission Rule.

Unfortunately, we were unable to complete the filing by EFIS and accordingly are making the filing by overnight delivery. While we will be one or two days late with this filing, we understand that under the circumstances the 30-day filing rule will be waived. We are still attempting to make an EFIS filing on this date but so far have been unable to effect delivery to the Commission electronically.

Thank you for your consideration and assistance in this matter.

Yours very truly,


Robert C. Johnson

RCJ/mkp
Enclosures

March 22, 2004

FILED⁴

MAR 24 2004

VIA ELECTRONIC FILING

**Missouri Public
Service Commission**

Mr. Dale Hardy Roberts, Secretary/Chief Regulatory Law Judge
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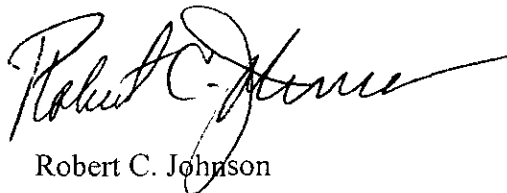
Re: St. John's Mercy Hospital
Case No. TC-2004-0407

Dear Mr. Roberts:

On behalf of our client St. John's Mercy Hospital, I enclose herewith Answer to Complaint in response to the Complaint previously filed herein by the Staff of the commission.

Please bring this filing to the attention of the Commission.

Yours very truly,



Robert C. Johnson

mkp
Enclosure
cc: All parties of record

**BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI**

The Staff of the Missouri Public Service
Commission,)
)
)
Complainant,)
)
v.)
)
St. John's Mercy Hospital,)
)
Respondent.)

Case No. TC-2004-0407

ANSWER TO COMPLAINT

COMES NOW St. John's Mercy Hospital ("Hospital") and for its answer to the Complaint filed herein by the Staff of the Missouri Public Service Commission, states as follows:

Hospital denies each and every allegation contained in said Complaint, except that Hospital admits the allegations contained in paragraphs 2 and 3 of the Complaint. Hospital's counsel is in the process of reviewing the facts and law in this matter and reserves the right hereafter to assert affirmative defenses to the Complaint.

WHEREFORE, Hospital requests that the Commission deny said Complaint and dismiss this proceeding.

Respectfully submitted,



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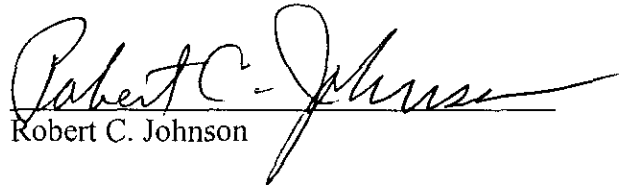
911 Washington Avenue

St. Louis, MO 63101-1290

Fax: 314-436-8400

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that copies of the foregoing have been mailed, hand-delivered, transmitted by facsimile or electronically mailed to all counsel of record 22nd day of March 2004.


Robert C. Johnson

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