UNITED STATES OF AMERICA BEFORE THE FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION

COMMISSIONERS: Edith Ramirez, Chairwoman Maureen K. Ohlhausen Terrell McSweeny		
In the Matter of)	
Advocate Health Care Network, a corporation;		Docket No. 9369
Advocate Health and Hos a corporation		
and)	
NorthShore University HealthSystem, a corporation.		

ORDER GRANTING CONTINUANCE

The evidentiary hearing in this administrative proceeding is scheduled to commence on June 15, 2016, following the grant of a prior continuance to provide additional time for the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Illinois to rule on the Commission's request for a preliminary injunction.¹ Although the preliminary injunction hearing has now concluded, the district court has taken the matter under advisement and has not indicated when it will issue a ruling. Citing this circumstance, Complaint Counsel and Respondents now request that the Commission continue the evidentiary hearing and all pre-hearing deadlines by an additional 26 days.²

Respondents reaffirm that if the district court grants the preliminary injunction motion, they will abandon the proposed transaction, and that if the preliminary injunction motion is denied, they will file a motion pursuant to Commission Rule 3.26, which would trigger either a possible withdrawal of this matter from adjudication or a stay, pending further action by the Commission. The parties also note that if the evidentiary hearing is to begin on June 15, trial preparations will require both the parties and numerous non-parties to expend significant resources over the next two weeks.

¹ Advocate Health Care Network, Docket No. 9369, Commission Order Granting Continuance (May 6, 2016), https://www.ftc.gov/system/files/documents/cases/160506advocateorder.pdf.

² Advocate Health Care Network, Docket No. 9369, Joint Expedited Motion for Continuance of Administrative Proceedings (May 27, 2016).

In light of the foregoing, we find there is good cause here to grant the requested continuance. Accordingly,

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that the evidentiary hearing shall commence on July 11, 2016, and all related pre-hearing deadlines are extended by 26 days.

By the Commission.

Donald S. Clark Secretary

SEAL: ISSUED: June 2, 2016