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Dr. Steven Hartford Delivers 5,000th Baby at VHH

(GLENDALE, CA – February 23, 2009) – Steven Hartford, MD, an obstetrician-gynecologist on staff at Verdugo Hills Hospital (VHH) since 1984, delivered his 5,000th baby into the world on February 12 at the community hospital. Baby girl Julia Margaret Z. Antiporda is the firstborn of parents Michelle Zacarias and Billy James Antiporda of Los Angeles. Baby Julia weighed six pounds and eight ounces and was 20 inches tall.

“I consider Dr. Hartford one of the best doctors, especially in his field,” said Zacarias. “From the very beginning, we were well treated and well taken care of. Dr. Hartford was very open and gave us all of the answers to our questions...he has a passion for his expertise.”

“I also want to applaud the nursing staff in maternity,” she added. “They took very good care of me and my baby. In fact, I’m recommending the hospital to all of my friends who are expecting.”

Dr. Hartford said he is very proud of his accomplishment. “There is a certain amount of pride in this kind of accomplishment and the privilege that I’ve been able to deliver these many babies through the years,” he said. “Being able to be a part of the (birthing) experience and to be able to interact with the patients – it’s one of the few parts of medicine that is fun as opposed to sickness.”

Dr. Hartford also enjoys working with the nursing staff at VHH. “The nurses are great,” he said. “They watch over the patients while they are in labor – it has always been a close relationship at Verdugo because we are so small. I’ve always felt really reassured that my patients were well taken care of and that my nurses will be there to assist them.”

“Dr. Hartford is like a cheerleader for our department,” said Sandra Davis, Clinical Director of Perinatal Services at VHH. “He is always willing to help out whenever we have a need in the department, and he is certainly a pleasure to work with. He is an excellent physician and is very much admired in our community. We are privileged to have him on our medical staff for so many years.”

About the Hospital:

Verdugo Hills Hospital is a 158-bed nonprofit primary care facility nestled in the foothills between Glendale and La Cañada Flintridge. Hospital features include emergency services, comprehensive inpatient and outpatient diagnostic and treatment facilities, and a family birthing center. It is the only independent, free-standing hospital in the greater Foothills community and was voted “Foothills’ Best Hospital” for 2008 by readers of the *Glendale News-Press* for the fifth consecutive year. For more information, please visit www.vhhospital.org. For more information about funding initiatives or to support the hospital, please call the Foundation at 818.952.2226.

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