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STATEMENT FROM THE WEST VIRGINIA HOSPITAL ASSOCIATION REGARDING THE UNREPORTED COVID-19 RELATED DEATHS BY HOSPITALS

CHARLESTON, WV – Jim Kaufman, President and CEO of the West Virginia Hospital Association (WVHA), provides the following statement regarding the unreported COVID-19 related deaths by hospitals:

Like others in West Virginia, today we learned of unreported COVID-19 related deaths by hospitals and other facilities across the State. It is unfortunate that this reporting error occurred during the peak of the COVID-19 pandemic in December and January.

The process the State has put in place that led to today's announcement demonstrates the close partnership between the state and hospitals in responding to this pandemic. Today's announcement provides an important opportunity to ensure accurate reporting in the future.

We thank our healthcare workers for their hard work and express sympathy to the families who have lost loved ones during the pandemic.

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