



UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20580

JAN - 5 2009

Office of the Director
Bureau of Competition

David Beddow, Esq.
O'Melveny & Myers, LLP
1625 Eye Street, NW
Washington, DC 20006

Re: New Hanover Regional Medical Center/Cape Fear Memorial Hospital, File No. 021-0213

Dear Mr. Beddow:

The Federal Trade Commission's Bureau of Competition conducted a nonpublic investigation to determine whether the acquisition of Cape Fear Memorial Hospital by New Hanover Regional Medical Center may violate Section 7 of the Clayton Act or Section 5 of the Federal Trade Commission Act or any other statute enforced by the Commission.

Pursuant to authority delegated by the Commission, 49 Fed. Reg. 6171 (1984), the investigation has been closed. This action is not to be construed as a determination that a violation may not have occurred, just as the pendency of an investigation should not be construed as a determination that a violation has occurred. The Commission reserves the right to take such further action as the public interest may require.

Sincerely yours,

David P. Wales, Jr.
Acting Director
Bureau of Competition