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UNITED STATES OF AMERICA FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION DENVER REGIONAL OFFICE

August 26,1996

Robert L. Magielnicki, Esquire Kutak Rock The Omaha Building 1650 Farnam Street Omaha, NE 68102

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Dear Mr. Magielnicki,

The Commission has conducted an investigation involving Mercy Hospital's possible violation of the Federal Trade Commission Act and the Clayton Act through the acquisition of, and vertical integration with, various physicians and physician practices.

Upon further review of this matter, it now appears that no further action is warranted by the Commission at this time. Accordingly, 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,

Claude C. Wild III Regional Director