

2520040763238

100 Hospital Drive
Bennington, VT 05201
phone 802 442 6361
fax 802 447 5013
www.svhealthcare.org



**NOTICE OF ALTERNATIVE METHOD OF COMPLIANCE
FOR TOP-HAT PLAN**

February 18, 2004

Certified Mail # 7003 2260 0000 1119 9519

Administrator - Top Hat Exemption
PWBA - Room N5638
U.S. Department of Labor
200 Constitution Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20210

Re: The SVHC Deferred Compensation Plan (the "Plan")

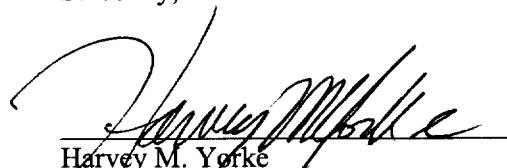
Dear Program Administrator:

As President and Chief Executive Officer of Southwestern Vermont Health Care, Inc. (the "Company") and administrator of the Plan, I am filing this statement pursuant to DOL Reg. §2530.104-23 to satisfy the one time reporting and disclosure requirements of Part 1 of Title I of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974, as amended.

The Company established the Plan for select highly compensated employees. Only a select group of physicians and executives of the Company that I select to participate in the Plan (in my sole discretion) may participate in the Plan. The Plan covers only Thirty-one (31) of the Company's One Thousand Two Hundred Ninety-five (1,295) employees. The Plan is the only employee benefit plan that covers a select group of management and highly compensated employees maintained by the Company and provides a maximum deferred compensation deferral equal to the maximum amount permitted under Sections 457(b)(2) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended. Solely the Company pays plan benefits. The address of the Company is 100 Hospital Drive, Bennington, VT 05201, and the employer identification number of the Company is 03-0179435.

Please acknowledge receipt of this statement by date stamping the duplicate copy of this statement and returning it in the enclosed prepaid envelope. Thank you.

Sincerely,



Harvey M. Yofke
President and Chief Executive Officer

Enclosures

Southwestern Vermont Medical Center • Bennington Area Home Health • Centers for Living and Rehabilitation • Deerfield Valley Health Center •
Northshire Medical Center • Bennington Allergy Practice • Southwestern Vermont Associates in Psychiatry and Psychotherapy •
Southwestern Vermont Health Care Auxiliary

*Southwestern
Vermont Health Care*

0 Hospital Drive
Burlington, VT 05201

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PLACE STICKER AT TOP OF ENVELOPE TO THE RIGHT
OF THE RETURN ADDRESS. FOLD AT DOTTED LINE

CERTIFIED MAILTM



7003 2260 0000 1119 9519



PTNEY ROWES

\$ 04.65⁰

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0009312480 FEB 18 2004

MAILED FROM ZIP CODE 05201

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