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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### **Leonard J. Chabert Medical Center Resumes Normal Operations**

**Baton Rouge (September 18, 2008)** -- Leonard J. Chabert Medical Center (LJCMC) in Houma, La., which received significant damage from Hurricane Gustav, will resume normal operations effective 3:00 p.m. on Thursday, September 18, 2008. The following services will be available:

- The Emergency Room will be open with Surgical Divert status – no cases requiring surgery should be transported for care.
- Internal Medicine Units and Intensive Care beds will be open for inpatients.
- Labor and Delivery services will be available.
- The Acute Care Psychiatric Unit will open 12 beds and gradually phase in all 24 beds through the weekend for behavioral health patients requiring inpatient treatment.
- Operating Room services are expected to resume on Friday, September 19, 2008, and all elective surgical cases will resume on Monday, September 22, 2008.
- All Outpatient Special Procedures will resume on Monday, September 22, 2008.
- All Outpatient Clinics will resume normal clinic hours from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., beginning Friday, September 19, 2008.
- The Patient Help Line will remain in effect through the weekend. For questions or concerns about clinic appointments or issues, call (985) 873-5130.

LJCMC began providing outpatient care shortly after Hurricane Gustav hit coastal Louisiana and assisted the Oregon Disaster Medical Assistance Team, which set up in a nearby Winn-Dixie parking lot.

With the arrival of Hurricane Ike, LJCMC and the DMAT suspended services for several days. LJCMC then again provided health care with a DMAT from Florida and Georgia replacing the Oregon DMAT.

For additional information regarding any of the above mentioned services or issues affecting LJCMC, please contact Lisa Schilling at LJCMC, (985) 873-1808, or Marvin McGraw, Director of Communications and Media Relations, LSU Health Care Services Division, 225.922.1424 or mmcgra@lsuhsc.edu.

The LSU Health System Health Care Services Division is one of the largest public health care delivery systems in the country. It has over 31,000 admissions, 180,000 patient days, 981,000 outpatient visits, and over 270,000 emergency department visits. Each year 1100 residents and fellows from the LSU and Tulane Schools of Medicine and Ochsner Health System and 2,200 nurses and allied health students from many colleges and universities are trained in LSU facilities.

LSU is the largest single provider of uncompensated inpatient care in Louisiana. LSU HCSD hospitals have an economic impact of over \$1.4 billion in asset business activity, \$568 million in personal earnings, and generate over 12,000 jobs.

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