

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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### **Morgan Memorial Hospital Awarded Accreditation From the Joint Commission**

Madison, GA—Morgan Memorial Hospital (MMH) has earned the Joint Commission’s Gold Seal of Approval® for Hospital Accreditation by demonstrating continuous compliance with its performance standards. The Gold Seal of Approval® is an industry-recognized symbol of quality that reflects an organization’s commitment to providing safe and effective patient care.

“We voluntarily sought re-accreditation for our organization because we want to demonstrate our commitment to our patients and their safety through quality care,” said Ralph Castillo, Morgan Memorial CEO. “This is another step in our quest to become a patient-focused center of excellence by requiring organization-wide dedication to the overall care and safety of our patients.”

Morgan Memorial underwent a rigorous three-day, unannounced, on-site survey in July of 2016. A team of two surveyors evaluated MMH for compliance with hospital standards related to several areas, including emergency management, environment of care, infection prevention and control, leadership, and medication management. Surveyors also conducted onsite observations and interviews.

The hospital recently received the formal notification of continued accreditation. Joint Commission surveys are generally conducted every three years. Having also been surveyed in 2004, 2007, 2010 and 2013, this is MMH’s fifth successive accreditation.

Castillo credits the successful survey to the efforts of the staff members working at MMH. “I am grateful for each and every one of our employees who give their lives and hearts to the care of our patients. A survey is a snapshot of the continuous, every-day care we give our patients. The survey this year is evidence that our employees are excellent.”

The Joint Commission has accredited hospitals for more than 60 years. More than 4,000 general, children’s, long-term acute, psychiatric, rehabilitation and specialty hospitals maintain the accreditation, awarded by The Joint Commission for a period of three years. In addition, approximately 360 critical access hospitals, such as MMH, maintain accreditation through a separate program.

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“Joint Commission accreditation provides hospitals with the processes needed to improve in a variety of areas from the enhancement of staff education to the improvement of daily business operations,” said Mark G. Pelletier, RN, MS, chief operating officer, Division of Accreditation and Certification Operations, The Joint Commission. “In addition, our accreditation helps hospitals enhance their risk management and risk reduction strategies. We commend Morgan Memorial Hospital for its efforts to become a quality improvement organization.”

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### **About The Joint Commission**

Founded in 1951, The Joint Commission seeks to continuously improve health care for the public, in collaboration with other stakeholders, by evaluating health care organizations and inspiring them to excel in providing safe and effective care of the highest quality and value. The Joint Commission accredits and certifies nearly 21,000 health care organizations and programs in the United States. An independent, nonprofit organization, the Joint Commission is the nation’s oldest and largest standards-setting and accrediting body in health care.

### **About Morgan Memorial Hospital**

Morgan Memorial Hospital is 25-bed non-profit Critical Access Hospital located in Madison, Georgia. Certified as a Level IV Trauma Center and a Remote Treatment Stroke Center, the facility hosts a 24-hour emergency room, wide array of diagnostic outpatient services, and serves patients through acute care and swing bed programs. Morgan Memorial Hospital was established in 1960 and is accredited by The Joint Commission.