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## ELBERT MEMORIAL HOSPITAL WELCOMES HOSPITALISTS TO MEDICAL STAFF

**ELBERTON** – Elbert Memorial Hospital is pleased to welcome Hospitalists Dr. Joshua Estep and Dr. Alan Rivera to our Medical Staff.

Dr. Estep is a Board-Certified physician in Internal Medicine. He earned his Doctor of Medicine from the University of Medicine and Health Sciences and completed his residency at Augusta University.

Dr. Rivera is also a Board-Certified physician in Internal Medicine. He earned his Doctor of Medicine from the American University of the Caribbean School of Medicine and completed his residency at The Medical College of Ohio.

Both Dr. Estep and Dr. Rivera have knowledge and experience as Hospitalists. The benefits of adding a Hospitalist Program to Elbert Memorial Hospital includes increasing the continuity and quality of patient care, maintaining best practices, improved and enhanced communication with our patients, their families, and our local Primary Care Providers, which leads to overall improved care for the community.

Interim CEO, Tammy Harlow states, "We are very excited to welcome Dr. Estep and Dr. Rivera to Elbert Memorial Hospital's Medical Staff. They have a wealth of knowledge and clinical experience to contribute to our community. The addition of Hospitalists will help decrease health disparities that rural hospitals often experience. We have a phenomenal group of physicians in our community and we want to continue to support their growth as well. Often, we care for people who do not regularly visit a Primary Care Provider. We hope to change that dynamic. Our Hospitalists will serve patients who are admitted to the hospital without a Primary Care Provider and we will assist in connecting them with local providers upon discharge from the hospital. Part of our purpose for starting the Hospitalist Program is to keep our community patients local and to connect them with healthcare resources here in Elbert County. Hospitalists have the opportunity to play an important role in stabilizing and providing local access to healthcare. We are excited to offer this service and look forward to how it will impact our community."

**About Elbert Memorial Hospital:** Elbert Memorial Hospital is a 25-Bed Critical Access Hospital that has been providing care to Elbert and surrounding counties for 70 years. Services include acute care, swing bed, emergency, inpatient and outpatient surgery, state of the art radiology, outpatient rehabilitation, infusion, wound and hyperbaric care and many more. Our Mission is to continuously seek ways to improve our delivery of healthcare and related services that exceed the expectations of our patients, their families, and all other customers. To learn more about Elbert Memorial Hospital visit <u>www.emhcare.net</u>