## **EXHIBIT L**

#### ASSESSMENT AND MONITORING AGREEMENT

This Assessment and Monitoring Agreement (the "Assessment and Monitoring Agreement") is entered into as of the \_\_\_\_\_ day of September, 2011 by and among MARTHA COAKLEY, as she is the Attorney General of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts (hereinafter on behalf of herself and her successors and assigns, the "Attorney General"), MORTON HOSPITAL AND MEDICAL CENTER, INC., a Massachusetts non-profit, charitable corporation ("Morton"), for itself and on behalf of Morton Property, Inc. and its non-profit charitable affiliate Morton Physician Associates, Inc. (collectively, together with Morton, the "Morton Entities"), and STEWARD HEALTH CARE SYSTEM LLC, a Delaware limited liability company (together with its current and future affiliates, successors and assigns, collectively, "Steward").

#### **RECITALS**

The Morton Entities and a subsidiary of Steward are parties to an Asset Purchase Agreement, dated March 29, 2011, as amended by an Amendment No. 1 to Asset Purchase Agreement, dated September\_\_\_\_, 2011 (as so amended, the "APA"), pursuant to which the Morton Entities are selling substantially all of their assets used in the operation of a health care system to a Steward subsidiary.

The Attorney General and Steward are also parties to an Assessment and Monitoring Agreement, dated October 20, 2010 (the "Caritas Monitoring Agreement"), pursuant to which the Attorney General, on behalf of the public, is overseeing and studying the impact of a prior transaction in which Steward acquired certain Massachusetts hospitals.

The transactions contemplated by the APA (the "Transaction"), are required to be reviewed by the Attorney General, pursuant to G.L. c.180, § 8A(d). In connection with such review, which review includes consideration of the public interest, as well as the health care assessment provisions of G.L. c. 180, § 8A(d)(5), the Attorney General wishes to evaluate, assess, and monitor the impact of certain aspects of the Transaction, and wishes to better enable the Department of the Public Health (the "Department") to evaluate, assess, and monitor the impact of certain other aspects of the Transaction on the availability, access, and cost of health care services within the communities served by Steward's acute care hospitals, including the hospital being acquired in the Transaction, and any other Massachusetts hospitals acquired by Steward (the "Communities") for the time period covered by the Caritas Monitoring Agreement, subject to the rights and responsibilities of a subsidiary of Steward under Section 11.6 of the APA, all as more specifically set forth herein.

### **TERMS**

For good and valuable consideration, the receipt and sufficiency of which is hereby acknowledged, the parties agree as follows:

- Attorney General Monitoring Responsibilities. The Attorney General shall, on behalf of the public, (a) oversee Steward's compliance with certain post-Closing conditions of the APA pursuant to that certain Enforcement Agreement by and among the Attorney General, Steward, and the Morton Entities, dated as of September , 2011, including, without limitation, establishing a baseline for the commitments set forth in Section 11.6(c) of the APA, and (b) evaluate, assess, and monitor the impact of the Transaction on (i) the cost of health care, by price, total medical expense, or other appropriate measures of cost impact as determined by the Attorney General, (ii) changes in treatment and referral patterns including, without limitation, those related to physician recruitment and contracting, and (iii) consumer options and choice within the Communities, all in accordance with the terms and conditions of this Assessment and Monitoring Agreement. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the parties hereto acknowledge that (x) the health care system is rapidly changing and the Attorney General may, in consultation with Steward but otherwise in her sole discretion, determine that additional metrics or areas of inquiry, not otherwise under the primary responsibility of the Department pursuant to Section 4 hereinafter, are required to adequately measure and assess the impact of the Transaction on the provision of health care services to the Communities, and (y) certain aspects of the evaluation and assessment may incorporate, rely upon, or support otherwise independent investigations by the Attorney General of costs within the Massachusetts health care system. For purposes of this Assessment and Monitoring Agreement, the evaluation, assessment, and monitoring undertaken by the Attorney General, including all responsibilities referenced in this Assessment and Monitoring Agreement, shall be referred to as the "Attorney General Study." While focused on the Communities, the Attorney General Study will take into account, incorporate, and provide comparisons to broader regional and state trends and use, to the extent possible, publicly available information.
- 2. Cooperation with Attorney General. Steward shall cooperate, at its sole cost and expense, in providing information reasonably required by the Attorney General, and any individual or firm retained by the Attorney General, in connection with the Attorney General Study. Consistent with applicable law including, without limitation, that governing public records, information provided shall be subject to appropriate safeguards with respect to the confidentiality of information that Steward provides and nothing in this Assessment and Monitoring Agreement is to be construed as a waiver by Steward of any rights it may have to assert that information it provides pursuant hereto is not subject to public disclosure under applicable law. Notwithstanding the foregoing, Steward recognizes and acknowledges that the purpose and intent of this Assessment and Monitoring Agreement and the Attorney General Study conducted hereby is to periodically inform the public about the impact of the Transaction and, in the furtherance thereof, information and data provided by Steward may be used in an aggregated form in reports released to the public. Steward shall be provided with a draft copy of any report prior to its issuance and shall have a reasonable opportunity to comment on the form or content of the aggregated information released therein. The provisions of this Section 2 relate only to information requested and provided with respect to the Attornev General Study and do not alter, restrict, limit, waive, expand, or further define any rights or obligations of the Attorney General, with respect to information demanded, requested,

obtained from, or delivered by, Steward pursuant to the authority of her office under existing law in matters other than the Attorney General Study.

- 3. Payment of Costs, Fees and Expenses of the Attorney General Study. The costs, fees, and expenses of the Attorney General in undertaking the Attorney General Study including, without limitation, the fees and expenses of any individuals or firms retained by the Attorney General to assist in conducting the Attorney General Study shall be payable from the trust account or accounts funded by Steward and established pursuant to Section 3 of the Caritas Monitoring Agreement. Steward shall have no further obligation to the Attorney General or any individual or firm retained by the Attorney General under this Assessment and Monitoring Agreement for such costs, fees and expenses.
- 4. Department Monitoring Responsibilities under G.L. c.180 § 8A(d)(5). The Attorney General, Steward, and Morton acknowledge that the Department will conduct an evaluation, assessment, and monitoring of the impact of the Transaction on the availability of, and access to, health care services within the Communities in accordance with the provisions of G.L. c. 180, § 8A(d)(5) (the "Department Study"). The costs, fees, and expenses of the Department in undertaking the Department Study including, without limitation, the fees and expenses of any individuals or firms retained by the Department to assist in conducting the Department Study shall be payable from the trust account or accounts funded by Steward and established pursuant to Section 4 of the Caritas Monitoring Agreement. Steward shall have no further obligation to the Department, or any individual or firm retained by the Department, under G.L. c.180 § 8A(d)(5), for such costs, fees and expenses. By his signature hereinafter, the Commissioner of the Department of Public Health hereby acknowledges the provisions of this paragraph 4.
- 5. <u>Enforceability/No Assignment.</u> The invalidity or unenforceability of any term or provision of this Agreement shall not affect the validity or enforceability of any other term or provision of this Agreement. This Agreement may not be assigned by Morton or Steward without the written consent of the Attorney General or by the Attorney General without the written consent of Morton and Steward. The terms hereof shall be binding upon any successor to the interests of Morton or Steward.
- 6. <u>Amendment</u>. This Assessment and Monitoring Agreement may be amended only by a writing executed by each of the parties.
- 7. <u>Waiver</u>. Any waiver by any party of any breach hereof by another party shall not be deemed to be a waiver of any subsequent or continuing breach or breach of any other provision hereof, by such party.
- 8. <u>Execution.</u> This Assessment and Monitoring Agreement may be executed in any number of counterparts, all of which taken together shall constitute one agreement, and any of the parties hereto may execute this Assessment and Monitoring Agreement by signing any one counterpart.

- 9. <u>Contract Under Seal.</u> This Assessment and Monitoring Agreement shall be deemed to be a contract under seal, to be governed by and construed in accordance with the laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.
- 10. <u>Jurisdiction/Venue.</u> Any action or proceeding seeking to enforce any provision of, or based on any right arising out of, this Assessment and Monitoring Agreement shall be brought against any of the parties solely in the courts of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and each of the parties (a) consents to the jurisdiction of such courts in any such action or proceeding and (b) waives any objection to venue laid therein and any defense of inconvenient forum to the maintenance of any action or proceeding so brought.

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IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties have caused this Agreement to be executed on the first day above written.

# **COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS** By: \_\_\_\_\_ Name: Title: MORTON HOSPITAL AND MEDICAL CENTER, INC. By: \_\_\_\_\_ Name: Title: STEWARD HEALTH CARE SYSTEM LLC By:\_\_\_\_\_ Name: Title:

ATTORNEY GENERAL OF THE

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Acknowledged:

John Auerbach, Commissioner Department of Public Health