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## **Massachusetts First Lady Diane Patrick to Speak at Schwartz Center Celebration of Women in Healthcare Event**

*More than 500 female healthcare executives expected to attend*

Boston (May 23, 2011) – The Schwartz Center for Compassionate Healthcare, a nonprofit organization that works to strengthen the relationship between patients and caregivers in the U.S. healthcare system, today announced that Massachusetts First Lady Diane Patrick will be the guest speaker at its annual Celebration of Women in Healthcare event on Wednesday, May 25<sup>th</sup>, at Tufts Health Plan in Watertown.

The event, which is expected to attract more than 500 female healthcare executives, will be held from 5-7:30 pm at Tufts Health Plan's corporate offices at 705 Mount Auburn Street. Diane Patrick will be the featured speaker beginning at 6:15 pm.

In addition to serving as Massachusetts' First Lady, Diane Patrick has had a distinguished professional and public service career. She received her undergraduate degree in early childhood education in 1972 from Queens College of the City University of New York. She received her law degree in 1980 from Loyola University.

After graduating from law school, she joined the firm of O'Melveny & Myers and was asked to help open its New York City office. In 1986, she took a position as University Attorney in the Harvard University Office of General Counsel and later became Harvard's Assistant Vice President of Human Resources.

When Deval Patrick was chosen to head the Justice Department's Civil Rights Division in 1994, Diane Patrick took a position with the Washington, DC, law firm of Hogan & Hartson, where she worked on both education and labor and employment law issues.

In 1995, she joined the Boston law firm of Ropes & Gray, where she is currently a partner. Diane Patrick serves on the boards of the United Way of Massachusetts Bay, Jane Doe Inc., Brigham and Women's Hospital, and the Posse Foundation.

*The Schwartz Center for Compassionate Healthcare ([www.theschwartzcenter.org](http://www.theschwartzcenter.org)) was founded in 1995 by Ken Schwartz, a prominent Boston healthcare attorney who died of lung cancer at the age of 40. The center is dedicated to promoting compassionate healthcare and strengthening patient-caregiver relationships. Its signature program, Schwartz Center Rounds®, which provides an opportunity for caregivers to discuss difficult emotional and psychosocial issues that arise in caring for patients, are held at more than 235 hospitals, outpatient centers and nursing homes in the U.S. and the United Kingdom and reach more than 60,000 clinicians a year.*