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## **Cara Sansonia and James Yates Named to Hospice of the Valley Board of Directors**

*Healthcare attorney, risk management expert to share knowledge with nonprofit*

**SAN JOSE, Calif., July 8, 2013** – Hospice of the Valley has named Cara Sansonia, J.D., healthcare law attorney and regulatory compliance consultant, and James Yates, director of risk management at Good Samaritan Hospital, to its board of directors.



Cara Sansonia, JD



James Yates, JD

Sansonia relocated to Silicon Valley from Boca Raton, Fla., where she worked in a large law firm for a number of years before establishing her own firm. Prior to that, she served as a deputy counsel in the New York State Department of Mental Hygiene. Her areas of expertise include healthcare law, regulatory compliance, tax-exempt organization law, corporate law, business transactions, contracting, and facilities finance and development. She has represented large and small businesses and nonprofit corporations, including healthcare providers such as hospices, hospitals, physician practices, home health agencies, senior care providers and behavioral health companies.

Sansonia also serves on the Santa Clara County Senior Care Commission, continuing a long tradition of volunteerism and community leadership.

“I’m delighted to be working with Hospice of the Valley,” Sansonia said. “In addition to its end-of-life programs, the establishment of Palliative Care Center Silicon Valley™ demonstrates that this organization is on the cutting edge of patient-centered, coordinated, cost-effective care for those suffering

with chronic life-threatening or serious illnesses. It is an honor to be able to use my expertise in support of this quality care organization.”

As director of risk management at Good Samaritan Hospital in San Jose, Yates is responsible for patient safety in a 429-bed acute care facility offering a wide array of services. Prior to that, he was a director of risk management at Regional Medical Center of San Jose. He was a senior clinical laboratory scientist at San Jose Medical Center, and a clinical laboratory scientist at Wilcox Memorial Hospital in Kauai, Hawaii, and Good Samaritan Hospital.

Yates has a J.D. from Monterey College of Law and a B.S. in clinical laboratory science from San Jose State University. He is a certified professional in healthcare risk management (CPHRM), a certified healthcare mediator and a Clinical Laboratory Scientist (ASCP).

“Hospice of the Valley provides an integral service for Santa Clara County,” Yates said. “I am happy to be volunteering for such a vital organization grounded in compassion and quality care.”

“We look forward to Cara and James sharing their vast professional expertise with our board of directors,” said Sally Adelus, president and CEO of Hospice of the Valley. “Their leadership will provide important contributions to our community.”

### **About Hospice of the Valley**

Hospice of the Valley is a nonprofit organization in Silicon Valley that provides serious illness and end-of-life care programs and services, including palliative and hospice care, grief counseling for adults, children and families, and emotional support, education and practical assistance. The organization also provides individual counseling and loss-specific support groups to anyone who has experienced the loss of a loved one. In mid-2013, Hospice of the Valley will open the Palliative Care Center Silicon Valley™ as the first independent, community-based, outpatient center of its kind in California for seriously ill patients and their families. Hospice of the Valley also provides a community resource website for caregivers and families at [seriousillness.org/santaclaracounty](http://seriousillness.org/santaclaracounty). Serving Santa Clara County since 1979, Hospice of the Valley honors all cultures, beliefs, values and traditions and is committed to serving its diverse community and providing equitable access to care for all regardless of financial ability. For more information, call 408.559.5600 or visit [hospicevalley.org](http://hospicevalley.org).

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