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Center for American Nurses Honors Marla J. Weston, PhD, RN with the 2009 Workforce Advocacy Champion Award

Orlando, FL. – June 12, 2009 – Marla J. Weston, PhD, RN was awarded the prestigious 2009 Workforce Advocacy Champion Award by the Center for American Nurses at their annual educational conference, LEAD Summit, in Orlando, FL. This is a Board-designated award which recognizes an individual or organization that has made a significant contribution to strengthen the nursing workforce or workplace.

In presenting the award, Center for American Nurses President, Dennis Sherrod said, "The mission of the Center for American Nurses is to create healthy work environments through advocacy, education, and research. We are pleased to recognize the accomplishments of Dr. Weston in this area and look forward to working collaboratively with Dr. Weston as she assumes the her new position as CEO of the American Nurses Association."

Dr. Weston has dedicated herself to creating work environments that inspire employee commitment, encourage learning, foster sharing, and involve employees in decision making. In her most recent role as Deputy Chief Officer of Workforce Management and Consulting at the Department of Veterans Affairs in Washington, DC, as well as program Director for Workforce Development in the Department of Veterans Affairs Office of Nursing Services, Dr. Weston advocated for the establishment of professional practice environments that increase nurse satisfaction and improve patient outcomes.

"I am humbly honored to receive this award from the Center for American Nurses," said Dr. Weston in accepting the award. "As we reshape the healthcare delivery system it is critical that we continue to improve the work environment for nurses."

About the Center for American Nurses

The Center for American Nurses is a national professional nursing organization that educates, equips, and empowers nurses to advocate for themselves, their profession, and their patients.

The Center offers evidence-based solutions and powerful tools to navigate workplace challenges, optimize patient outcomes, and maximize career benefits. Established in 2003, the Center partners with organizational and individual registered nurse members nationwide to develop resources, strategies, and tools to help nurses manage evolving workforce issues, and succeed in their careers. Additional information about the Center can be found at www.centerforamericannurses.org