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Mary Calzaretta Named Most Influential Business Women Honoree

ST. LOUIS – Physician group <u>Esse Health</u>'s Corporate Counsel, Mary Calzaretta, has been chosen as one of the St. Louis Business Journal's 2011 Most Influential Business Women honorees. To view the full list of the 25 winners, click here: <u>http://www2.bizjournals.com/stlouis/event/36021</u>.

The award recognizes women who excel in careers in the business arena but who also are active members of their community. These women illustrate the breadth of talent and achievement among St. Louis-area women, according to the St. Louis Business Journal. A special section of the Business Journal highlighting the honorees will be published on Friday, Aug. 12, along with a luncheon at the America's Center.

Calzaretta joined Esse Health, one of the largest independent physician groups in the greater St. Louis area, more than three years ago and continues to assist its executive team in navigating through all of the legal and regulatory waters that accompany health care and health care reform. As potential business-changing laws and concepts such as Accountable Care Organizations are being considered, Esse Health relies on Calzaretta to provide them with the tools to steer through such changes and understand the legal ramifications that come with each passing. She also played a vital role in developing the Esse Health Foundation as a means for the organization to give back to the community.

Outside of Esse Health, Calzaretta serves as one of the St. Louis Mental Health Board's 13 trustees, appointed by the mayor of St. Louis. The Board is responsible for dolling out money to various groups within the city of St. Louis to provide mental health and substance abuse services. Calzaretta has helped the Board expand its funding to support much-needed children's services, initiate new strategic plans, and provide millions of dollars through grants to numerous organizations. She also is a five-year board member of Loyola Academy, a Jesuit middle school for boys. The school's mission is to serve boys who have the potential for college preparatory work, but who are in danger of failing to achieve that potential because of poverty, residence in distressed neighborhoods, or other social or economic factors. Lastly, Calzaretta has served on various United Way allocation committees for a number of years.

Esse Health is a St. Louis-based physician group that strives to improve the overall well-being of its patients through patient education, lifestyle modification and prevention. With 28 locations throughout the St. Louis and Metro East area, Esse Health's services include asthma, allergy and immunology, family medicine, internal medicine, nutrition,

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pediatrics and radiology. Esse Health is recognized as a leader in using technology in health care and physician accountability for both quality and cost-of-care. For more information on Esse Health, visit <u>www.essehealth.com</u>.