



FOR RELEASE  
December 14, 2016

Contact: Rebecca Reid  
410-212-3843

## **Julie Khani to Lead ACLA as Next President**

*Retiring President Alan Mertz to Assume Role as Key Policy Advisor to the Nation's Largest Association Representing Clinical Laboratories*

(Washington, D.C.) – The board of directors of the [American Clinical Laboratory Association \(ACLA\)](#) announced today that Julie Khani will be its next president effective January 1, 2017. Khani will succeed outgoing president Alan Mertz, who is retiring but will continue to serve the association in a key advisory role.

“Julie has provided strong leadership and sound direction on public policy and advocacy as diagnostic innovation has become increasingly significant in the movement to advance precision medicine,” said Steve Rusckowski, chairman of the ACLA Board of Directors and president and CEO of Quest Diagnostics. We look forward to Julie at the helm of ACLA, building upon the association’s strengths and leading us into the future.”

Khani joined ACLA in the newly created position of senior vice president in 2013 and was promoted earlier this year to executive vice president, taking on additional management responsibilities encompassing association operations and leading policy initiatives such as the implementation of the Clinical Laboratory Fee Schedule (CLFS) provisions of the Protecting Access to Medicare Act (PAMA). Prior to joining ACLA, Khani served in senior roles at the National Association of Chain Drug Stores and Ford Motor Company.

“The ACLA board and I want to recognize and thank Alan for his tremendous leadership of ACLA since becoming president in 2003,” Rusckowski said. “During his tenure, ACLA’s membership, advocacy successes, and visibility as the industry leader have grown exponentially.”

“Julie has earned the confidence and praise of ACLA members and has been instrumental in elevating the credibility and leadership of the association on Capitol Hill and in the regulatory environment,” said Mertz. “I appreciate the opportunity to have served ACLA members for the last 13 years and I look forward to continuing to work with Julie and the ACLA staff on a challenging and exciting future for the clinical lab industry.”

“I am honored to lead ACLA and represent an industry with such an essential role in health care decision-making,” said Khani. “I look forward to continuing to partner with ACLA members, staff and the broader health care community to advance public policies that promote innovation and protect and enhance patient access to life-saving diagnostics.”

###

*The ACLA is a not-for-profit association representing the nation’s leading national, regional and esoteric clinical laboratories on key issues of common concern, including federal and state government reimbursement and regulatory policies.*