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## to Headline 2018 ACLA Annual Meeting

Former Three-Term Governor and HHS Secretary Michael Leavitt

Credited with the Successful Implementation of Medicare Part D, Leavitt Will Address the Current Health Care Climate From Policy, Political and Economic Perspectives

(Washington, D.C.) – The American Clinical Laboratory Association (ACLA) announced today that former U.S. Health and Human Services (HHS) Secretary Michael Leavitt will be the keynote speaker at the organization's annual meeting on Tuesday, March 6, 2018, in Washington, DC. The former Utah governor and cabinet secretary to two departments under President George W. Bush, will lend his insight into the current health care policy discussion and share his experience leading the nation's federal health care policy agenda from 2005 – 2009.

"ACLA welcomes Mr. Leavitt as a widely respected expert in federal health care policy," said Julie Khani, president of ACLA. "A seasoned government executive, cabinet secretary and diplomat, Mr. Leavitt's insight into the health care marketplace will be an invaluable offering at our annual conference as clinical laboratories continue to meet legislative and regulatory challenges."

ACLA advocates for policies that recognize the essential role that laboratory services play in delivering cost-effective health care. Association advocacy priorities include reform of the Clinical Laboratory Fee Schedule provisions of the Protecting Access to Medicare Act (PAMA) and the advancement of legislation to develop a new, comprehensive framework for the regulation of both laboratory developed tests (LDTs) and In Vitro Diagnostics (IVDs).

ACLA's annual conference is the premier meeting for the clinical lab community that brings together national leaders in the diagnostic sector, payors, patients, congressional lawmakers and administration officials for presentations and discussions on federal legislative and regulatory policy.

Currently, Leavitt is the founder and chairman of Leavitt Partners where he helps clients navigate the future as they transition to new and better models of care.

For more information and to register to attend, visit the ACLA annual meeting website, <u>click</u> <u>here.</u>

ACLA is a not-for-profit association representing the nation's leading clinical and anatomic pathology laboratories, including national, regional, specialty, hospital, ESRD and nursing home laboratories. The clinical laboratory industry employs nearly 277,000 people directly, and generates over 115,000 additional jobs in supplier industries. Clinical laboratories are at the forefront of personalized medicine, driving diagnostic innovation and contributing more than \$100 billion to the nation's economy.