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Radiology Associates' Administrator Tim Barrett Participates in RBMA's 2018 Hill Day

Baton Rouge, La. (September 27, 2018) Radiology Associates CEO, Tim Barrett, CPA joined other Radiology Business Management Association colleagues participating in the RBMA 2018 Hill Day by visiting with Senators and Congressman to advocate for better access to care for radiology patients.

In addition to meeting with key staff from Sen. Bill Cassidy and Sen. John Kennedy's office, Tim also met with Congressman Garrett Graves. Critical issues discussed include preventative lung cancer screening in IDTFs, Medicare coverage for CT Colonography screening, and protecting access to ultrasound services.

One of the RBMA's Hill Day key issues is Medicare Coverage for CT Colonography Screening. Colorectal cancer is one of the leading causes of cancer deaths in the United States. While Medicare pays for several colorectal cancer screening procedures, including optical colonoscopy, it does not currently cover CT Colonography (CTC). The CTC or virtual colonoscopy is equally as effective and less expensive than an optical colonoscopy. Screening rates for colorectal cancer are below 60% in most parts of the country.

Another issue discussed was lung cancer screening which can help find lung cancer in "30 year" smokers at an earlier stage when it's easier to treat. At this time, studies have shown that a low-dose CT (LDCT) scan is an instrumental lung cancer screening tool that reduces the risk of dying from lung cancer. While CMS allows patients to receive these scans in an Independent Diagnostic Testing Facility (IDTF) setting, some Medicare Administrative Contractors are denying patients' access in IDTFs forcing these patients to pay hundreds of dollars out-of-pocket.

"As a radiology practice administrator and an RBMA board member, I feel it's important to take opportunities to engage in advocating for our radiology patients," Tim Barrett says. "I want to thank Sen. Cassidy, Sen. Kennedy, and Congressman Graves for setting aside time to learn more about these important issues."

About Radiology Associates

Radiology Associates, L.L.C. brings more than 65 years of quality radiology care to South Louisiana. The 23-member group services the Baton Rouge Metropolitan Area and surrounding communities at Our Lady of the Lake Regional Medical Center, Woman's Hospital, Mary Bird Perkins Cancer Center, Breast & GYN Cancer Pavilion, Lake Imaging Center, Moran Imaging Center, OLOL Livingston, OLOL LSU Health Clinics, and with full-service diagnostic and state of the art interventional radiology. The practice services men, women, infant, and children-based radiology.

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