UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT MIDDLE DISTRICT OF FLORIDA FORT MYERS DIVISION

JENNIFER GOODALL,

Plaintiff.

v. Case No: 2:14-cv-399-FtM-38CM

COMPREHENSIVE WOMEN'S
HEALTH CENTER, BAYFRONT
MEDICAL HEALTH GROUP,
BAYFRONT HEALTH PORT
CHARLOTTE, STEPHEN B.
RUSSELL, as the State Attorney for
Florida's Twentieth Judicial Circuit,
JOHN DOE I in his or her capacity as
Special Assistant State's Attorney,
JOHN DOE(S) II, physicians
providing obstetric care at Bayfront
Health Port Charlotte,

Defendants.		

ORDER¹

This matter comes before the Court upon *sua sponte* review of the Complaint (<u>Doc.</u> #1) filed on July 18, 2014. Under <u>28 U.S.C. § 455(a)</u>, "[a]ny justice, judge, or magistrate judge of the United States shall disqualify [her]self in any proceeding in which [her] impartiality might reasonably be questioned." Any doubt "must be resolved in favor of recusal." <u>See Murray v. Scott, 253 F.3d 1308, 1310 (11th Cir. 2001)</u>. Additionally, <u>28</u>

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U.S.C. § 455(b) enumerates certain circumstances in which judges must disqualify

themselves from cases. Pertinent here, judges should disqualify themselves when they

know their spouse "has a financial interest in . . . a party to the proceeding, or any other

interest that could be substantially affected by the outcome of the proceeding." 28 U.S.C.

§ 455(b)(4). Here, Community Health Services, Inc. owns Defendant Bayfront Health in

Port Charlotte, and employs the undersigned's spouse. As a result, the undersigned finds

a conflict of interest and must recuse herself from this case.

Accordingly, it is now

ORDERED:

The Honorable Sheri Polster Chappell is hereby **RECUSED** from the instant case.

The Clerk of the Court is directed to reassign the case to another United States District

Judge.

DONE and **ORDERED** in Fort Myers, Florida this 29th day of July, 2014.

Copies: All Parties of Record

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