Fitzgerald Statement on UPMC Leadership Announcement

PITTSBURGH – County Executive Rich Fitzgerald released the following statement in response to the announcement this morning that Leslie Davis will succeed Jeffrey Romoff as President and CEO of UPMC:

"Today’s announcement is an end of an era. Jeffrey Romoff has been a giant in the healthcare field. The benefits to southwestern Pennsylvania, both economically and medically, have been tremendous under his leadership. Much of our economic diversity after the collapse of the steel industry began with eds and meds beginning to grow here. His pioneering enterprises have developed a true medical and life science ecosystem that has benefitted those of us who live in southwest PA."

"Much of our ability to handle the pandemic better than most places in the country is because of the confidence our citizenry has in our healthcare professionals. Contrast that to the last pandemic a century ago, with the Spanish flu, when Pittsburgh led the country in death. UPMC, Pitt Med, AHN and our health department have all contributed to that – and UPMC, under Mr. Romoff’s leadership, were at the top of that list, leading the charge in that regard."

"Neighborhoods like Lawrenceville wouldn’t be what they are today without the investment a decade and a half ago by UPMC and Children’s Hospital. That’s just one example of many of the improvement of a neighborhood and a community because of investment by UPMC."

"Having worked with Leslie Davis these last number of years gives me the confidence that she will be able to carry on in the same manner and carry on the good work that UPMC has done for us. We look forward to working with you and the continued cooperation between the county and UPMC."

“Thank you, Jeffrey Romoff, for your contributions to our community.”

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