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November 3, 2008

To Whom It May Concern:

I have been asked by Governor Sarah Palin to provide information regarding her medical history and care. I am writing this letter as Governor Palin's personal family physician. Regarding my credentials, I have been board certified as a family physician by the American Board of Family Medicine since 1983 and am a fellow of the American Academy of Family Physicians. I was named 2002 Family Physician of the Year by the American Academy of Family Physicians. I am currently on consulting staff for Mat-Su Regional Medical Center, on active staff at Providence Alaska Medical Center and on courtesy staff at Alaska Regional Hospital. I was on active status at Mat-Su Regional Medical Center from 1985 to June 1, 2008. I changed status in order to devote more time to my work in the area of child abuse evaluation and prevention.

My employer, Providence Health & Services Alaska, and I are committed to protecting the confidentiality of patient health information. Therefore, this letter and the information contained herein are being released at the express request and with written consent of Governor Palin.

Governor Palin has been seen as a patient in our clinic since 1991. I have been her family physician since 1997. Over the past 17 years, Governor Palin has been in very good health. Her visits have been related to routine women's health care and pregnancy. She had four term deliveries in 1989, 1990, 1994, and 2000, and one pre-term delivery at 35 weeks gestation in 2008.

At the time of her most recent pregnancy, Governor Palin had no health risk factors other than her age. Routine prenatal testing early in the second trimester showed evidence of Trisomy 21, which was confirmed by perinatology consultation and amniocentesis. She followed the normal and recommended schedule for prenatal care, including follow-up perinatology evaluations to ensure there was no significant congenital heart disease or other condition of the baby that would preclude delivery at her home community hospital. This child, Trig, was born at 35 weeks in good health. He was able to go home at two days of age with his mother. He had some minor problems with jaundice that required phototherapy in the hospital and at home for several days. At the time of his last office visit, he was growing and developing normally for a child with Trisomy 21.

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Governor Palin has had no major medical problems. Her hospitalizations have been for childbirth. In 1992 she had a breast biopsy for what turned out to be a benign lesion. Her vital signs have been normal, with a blood pressure of 96/61 and a pulse of 77 at the time of her last office visit. It is not routine to perform screening tests such as electrocardiograms or liver enzyme panels on young healthy women with no risk factors—and as such I have not performed those tests on Governor Palin. Additionally, Governor Palin's family medical history includes no first degree relatives with major medical problems.

Governor Palin is on no routine prescription medications and has no known drug allergies. She is physically fit with a regular exercise regimen. At the time of her most recent medical evaluation, she continued to be in good health and was recovering well from the birth of her last child, Trig.

In summary, Governor Palin is in excellent health and has no known health problems that would interfere with her ability to carry out the duties and obligations of Vice President of the United States of America.

Sincerely,

Cathy Baldwin-Johnson MD FAAFP