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**Williamson Medical Center announces creation of Bone and Joint Institute of Tennessee**

*—Leading local surgeons partner with Williamson Medical Center to form county’s first orthopaedic institute—*

FRANKLIN, Tenn. – Officials with Williamson Medical Center, a regional leader in orthopaedic surgery, today announced that the organization is preparing to launch the Bone and Joint Institute of Tennessee in partnership with the nationally recognized orthopaedic surgeons currently practicing at Vanderbilt Bone & Joint in Franklin.

“The Institute will be the first of its kind for Williamson County, representing an all-encompassing orthopaedic destination,” said Don Webb, CEO of Williamson Medical Center. “We are extremely proud to be partnering with the most respected, talented and distinguished group of orthopaedic surgeons in Middle Tennessee. The tremendous legacy and credibility they bring instantly lends integrity, quality and professionalism to our new Institute. We look forward to building on that legacy together and providing patients with access to high-quality orthopaedic surgical care here in Williamson County and beyond.”

In 2009, Williamson County’s first orthopaedic practice, Franklin Bone and Joint Clinic, was purchased by VUMC. Now, the original founding partners who helped (the late) Dr. Craig Ferrell craft Franklin Bone and Joint are joining forces to break ground once again on the area’s first bone and joint institute. According to retired surgeons Shannon Curtis and Paul Parsons, the facility will be a dream come true for surgeons and patients alike.

“Dr. Ferrell’s vision was to create the best orthopaedic surgical practice for Williamson County,” said Dr. Parsons. “Together, the Franklin Bone & Joint Clinic and Williamson Medical Center delivered a level of orthopaedic care that rapidly became known for, not just its excellence, but for its service to the community. We had to grow in order to continue this level of service. The

doctors chosen to join us had to be highly trained and, in Craig's words, 'superstars,' referring as much to their sense of community and family as to their professionalism. I feel we accomplished this, and I see this as the culmination of Dr. Ferrell's original vision. The future is very exciting."

A long-time fixture in Williamson County's medical community, Dr. Ferrell died unexpectedly in 2012 from injuries sustained in a polo accident. His widow, Lorraine, shares Dr. Parson's sentiments, saying, "In many ways, it feels like this practice is coming home."

"When my husband founded Franklin Bone and Joint Clinic in 1979, patients were not a number and employees were not just someone who worked for you—they were, and are, family," she said. "That mindset and the culture my husband instilled in the practice is why they have been so successful in the past, and I support the partnership with Williamson Medical Center. I believe this is a step in the right direction because they, too, share those core values."

The Institute will be housed in a state-of-the-art facility on WMC's campus, but will temporarily be located on-site in Williamson Tower, located at 4323 Carothers Parkway, in Franklin. Final plans are underway, with groundbreaking expected to be announced in the near future. Patients seeking more information or to schedule an appointment may call (615) 791-2630.

Surgeons (listed below) will begin phasing in to the Bone and Joint Institute of Tennessee on Jan. 1, 2018. Officials will add support staff as the Bone and Joint Institute of Tennessee develops. More information about available positions will be announced in the coming weeks.

### **Orthopaedic surgeons joining Bone and Joint Institute of Tennessee in 2018:**

#### **January 1**

Michael McNamara, M.D.

#### **February 15**

Geoffrey I. Watson, M.D.

#### **March 20**

Scott T. Arthur, M.D.

Ian R. Byram, M.D.

Cory L. Calendine, M.D.

Ronald G. Derr, D.O.

John W. Klekamp, M.D.

Colin G. Looney, M.D.

Brian T. Perkinson, M.D.

Christopher T. Stark, M.D.

Paul A. Thomas, M.D.

Todd R. Wurth, M.D.

#### **September 1**

Jeffrey I. Kutsikovich, M.D.

## **ABOUT WILLIAMSON MEDICAL CENTER'S ORTHOPAEDIC SURGICAL CARE**

Williamson Medical Center is a national leader in orthopaedic surgical care. It has been recognized as being in the top 10 percent of hospitals in the United States for spinal surgery and fusion for medical excellence in quality and complication rates. WMC earned The Joint Commission's Gold Seal of Approval® for the management of Joint Replacement-Hip, Joint Replacement-Knee, and Joint Replacement-Spine Surgery. The Gold Seal of Approval® is a symbol of quality that reflects an organization's commitment to providing safe and effective patient care. It has also earned the 2017 Medical Excellence Award from CareChex®, a division of Comparion®. CareChex® is a medical quality rating system designed to assist hospitals in improving the quality of inpatient care and promoting medical excellence to consumers, payers and employers. Williamson Medical Center performs more than 3,150 surgical orthopaedic procedures annually.

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