

Press Release
Marlene Harris
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FROM: Marlene Harris, LLC, 12712 Admiralty Way, Suite F-303,
Everett, WA 98204

For more information please call: Marlene Harris (freelance writer), 425-
353-4621

FOR: Ukiah Valley Medical Center, 275 Hospital Drive, Ukiah, CA 95482

Contact: Jendi Coursey, Administrative Director, Marketing &
Communication, 707-463-7606, cell 707-391-3522

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**Joanna Watkins, MD, Vanderbilt Graduate, Joins Mendocino-Lake
ENT Associates in Ukiah**

Joanna Watkins, MD, otolaryngologist, joins Drs. Don Coursey and Laura Spence at Mendocino-Lake ENT Associates in Ukiah. In her new position, Watkins will diagnose and treat patients for ear, nose, throat, head, and neck disorders. Surgery will be performed at Ukiah Valley Medical Center (UVMC).

In 2003, Watkins received her medical degree from the prestigious Vanderbilt University School of Medicine and completed a residency program at University of Wisconsin Hospital & Clinics in Madison in 2008.

Otolaryngologists are in high demand, especially in smaller communities.

“We are extremely fortunate to have Dr. Watkins join us. Besides her exceptional achievements at this early stage of her career, she has a keen ability to connect with patients,” says Don Coursey, MD, otolaryngologist of 33 years. “This is vital for quality health care.”

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Watkins contributed substantially to numerous publications and research studies in her field. She has received many awards and honors—including Outstanding Intern of the Year in Transplant Surgery, Outstanding Student Award in Pathology, Summa cum Laude, and Phi Beta Kappa.

The surgeon participated in medical trips to Nigeria and Honduras with surgical teams from Vanderbilt University Hospital and University of Wisconsin Foundation, to help underserved populations.

Watkins is board eligible in otolaryngology. She is a resident member of the American Academy of Otolaryngology, American Academy of Facial Plastics and Reconstructive Surgery, American Academy of Otolaryngic Allergy, and American Medical Association.

The newly married Watkins recently relocated from Wisconsin with Joshua Watkins, MD, anesthesiologist, another long awaited addition to the UVMC team.

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