

# CALIFORNIA PRISON HEALTH CARE SERVICES

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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## **Federal Receiver Appoints New Statewide Medical Executive**

**SACRAMENTO, Calif** – Federal Receiver J. Clark Kelso announced today the appointment of Dr. Robert “Steven” Tharratt, M.D. as the Statewide Medical Executive for California Prison Health Care Services, effective Oct. 25, 2010. Dr. Tharratt served most recently as the Director for California Emergency Medical Services Authority in the Health and Human Services Agency. As the Statewide Medical Executive, Dr. Tharratt will coordinate all medical services within the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation 33 adult prisons.

“Dr. Tharratt was chosen for his outstanding leadership ability, depth of experience, and ability to effectively implement statewide programs and initiatives. Dr. Tharratt is a well-respected health care leader in California and the University of California, and I am confident we will benefit from his considerable skills and talents,” Kelso said.

Dr. Tharratt served as Director of the California Emergency Services Authority from 2008 to 2010, where he was responsible for the strategic vision and leadership of emergency medical services and out of hospital care for California. He is formerly medical science advisor to the California Governor’s Office of Emergency Services, chief medical consultant to the Emergency Medical Services Authority, and vice chairman of the California Commission on Emergency Medical Services. He previously served for 13 years as Medical Director for Sacramento County Emergency Medical Services and all Sacramento City and County fire agencies. Dr. Tharratt was one of two physicians deployed to the World Trade Center Collapse on Sept. 11, 2001 with the Sacramento Urban Search and Rescue Team.

Dr. Tharratt received his medical degree from the University of California, Los Angeles and his Master of Preventative Veterinary Medicine degree (Public Health) from the University of California, Davis. He is board-certified in emergency medicine, internal medicine, pulmonary diseases, critical care medicine and medical toxicology. He is a professor of Clinical Internal Medicine and anesthesiology at the University of California, Davis School of Medicine.

Dr. Tharratt replaces Dr. Dwight Winslow M.D. as the Statewide Medical Executive, who is retiring after a long and distinguished medical career in both public and private service.

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Photo of Dr. Tharratt (ther-ett) is available.