

Business Courier of Cincinnati - December 22, 2009
[/cincinnati/stories/2009/12/21/daily16.html](#)

BUSINESS COURIER

Tuesday, December 22, 2009, 11:54am EST | Modified: Tuesday, December 22, 2009, 12:09pm

Ohio AG asks for delay in Mercy-Jewish deal

Business Courier of Cincinnati

Ohio's attorney general is trying to put the brakes on a deal to put Jewish Hospital in the hands of **Mercy Health Partners**.

The deal has been set to close as early as Jan. 4. But Attorney General Richard Cordray is requesting a 60-day delay.

Mercy is purchasing Jewish Hospital for \$180 million from the **Jewish Foundation of Cincinnati**.

In a letter dated Dec. 18, Cordray asks that current mediation efforts within the **Health Alliance**, designed to "cultivate a mutually agreeable resolution that would preserve the ability of the Health Alliance to provide care upon Jewish Hospital's potential departure," be given a chance to work.

University of Cincinnati leaders have complained that the profitability that has made Jewish an attractive acquisition target effectively came through subsidies by University Hospital. Now the UC board accuses the Jewish Foundation of Cincinnati of wanting to take the money and run.

Any destabilization of University Hospital, the board has said, could lead to cuts in services, resident training, education and research.

The loss of Jewish would likely mean an end for the Health Alliance, of which Jewish and University hospitals are members. Since 2006 Alliance has lost Christ Hospital and the two St. Luke hospitals. The remaining group of hospitals is unlikely to be able to support the overhead of the Health Alliance, whose business center still employs 800.

The Health Alliance also includes Fort Hamilton Hospital, Drake Center and West Chester Medical Center.

All contents of this site © American City Business Journals Inc. All rights reserved.