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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **AGAIN, NO ROSY SCENARIO FOR LUNG CANCER**

*Lung Cancer Alliance Reacts to New Statistics on Disease Incidence and Mortality Rates*

**Washington, DC (Thursday, January 18, 2007)** – Today, Lung Cancer Alliance (LCA) expressed disappointment with the American Cancer Society’s (ACS) portrayal of lung cancer in its recently released publication, *CA: A Cancer Journal for Clinicians*, and its companion piece, *Cancer Facts & Figures*. While ACS points out that “cancer deaths are down for a second year,” this is not true for lung cancer, which accounts for 30% of all cancer deaths.

“Again, the American Cancer Society would have the lung cancer community believe that significant progress has been made to reduce lung cancer’s impact on mortality, when in fact little, if any, has occurred,” said Laurie Fenton, President of Lung Cancer Alliance.

According to the estimates just released, there will be 213,000 new lung cancer cases in 2007 – this is an increase of 22% compared to 2006, and represents almost 40,000 more people who will be diagnosed. The five-year survival rates are projected to drop from 15.3% in 2006 to 15% in 2007. And, as stated in *CA*, there has been virtually no change in lung cancer death or incidence rates for more than a decade.

“We are going to have a record-setting number of new cases of lung cancer in 2007,” continued Fenton. “We’re also seeing a drop in the five-year survival rate with little discussion about the need to increase research funding to find better treatment options and support screening for those at high risk for lung cancer. How much lower do survival rates have to go before ACS and the National Cancer Institute start addressing lung cancer with a sense of priority and urgency?”

The mission of Lung Cancer Alliance is to lead the movement to reverse decades of stigma and neglect by empowering those with or at risk for the disease, elevating awareness and changing health policy.

The Lung Cancer Alliance ([www.LungCancerAlliance.org](http://www.LungCancerAlliance.org)) is the only national non-profit organization solely dedicated to patient support and advocacy for people living with, or at risk for, lung cancer. As the number one cancer killer, lung cancer will kill more than 160,000 Americans this year alone, causing more deaths than breast, prostate, colon, liver, kidney cancers and melanoma combined.

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**NO MORE EXCUSES. NO MORE LUNG CANCER.**