

Commencement Speaker



Ken West

**President and CEO
HCA Florida JFK Hospital**



Ken West currently serves as President and CEO of HCA Florida JFK Hospital in Atlantis, FL. Over the past 15 years with HCA Healthcare, based in Nashville, TN, Ken has progressed through roles such as Administrative Resident, Assistant Administrator, Associate Chief Operating Officer, Chief Operating Officer, and CEO of hospitals in Virginia, Florida, and California. His expertise spans general operations, P&L management, strategic planning, service line development, technology evaluation, labor union management, real estate development, and over \$700M in healthcare construction.

Recognized as one of South Florida Business Journal's Power Leaders in Healthcare, Modern Healthcare's Top 25 Emerging Leaders, Silicon Valley Business Journal's 40 under 40, and Northern California's Top 50 Diverse Leaders, Ken has also received the ACHE Service Award and been featured in Becker's Hospital Review Rising Stars: Top 25 Healthcare Leaders under 40.

Within HCA Healthcare, he serves on the Black Senior Leaders Council, the Leadership Institute Advisory Board, and has previously led the Chief Operating Office Development Initiative and mentored in the HCA Healthcare Leadership Excellence and HR Leadership Development Programs. He has also been part of the Ethics and Compliance Officer Advisory Committee multiple times.

Ken serves on the Georgetown University School of Health Board of Strategic Advisors and Health Systems Administration Advisory Board, as well as the Louisiana State University College of Agriculture Alumni Board.

Ken earned a bachelor's degree in Nutritional Sciences from Louisiana State University, where he was awarded the Louisiana Dietetic Association's Most Outstanding Dietetic Program Student Award. He holds a master's degree in health systems administration from Georgetown University and completed post-graduate training in Operations Integration at Johns Hopkins Health System.

Passionate about mentorship, technology, travel, and the arts, Ken lives in Palm Beach County, FL with his wife Erica and their children, Penelope and Kenneth III.