OraSure CEO named to presidential HIV/AIDS panel

Douglas Michels, chief executive officer of OraSure Technologies in Bethlehem, has been named to the Presidential Advisory Council on HIV/AIDS.

The council provides advice, information and recommendations to the president through the secretary of Health and Human Services on domestic and global HIV/AIDS policy issues.

OraSure makes the OraQuick HIV test and other medical products.

Pennsylvania Sens. Arlen Specter and Bob Casey issued a joint statement Tuesday noting Michels’ appointment.

“It is an honor to have a Pennsylvania business leader among those selected to advise the president and the secretary on the critically important issue of HIV/AIDS,” Casey said in a statement. “Through his leadership of one of the Commonwealth’s leading diagnostics companies, Mr. Michels has demonstrated a keen business acumen and a dedication to fighting the HIV/AIDS epidemic.”

Said Specter, “I am also proud to count OraSure Technologies, one of Pennsylvania’s leading small businesses, among the companies that are making an impact on the global HIV/AIDS epidemic. Under Mr. Michels’ leadership, Orasure is helping to save lives with its innovative oral fluid diagnostic products.”

Michels joined OraSure in June 2004. He serves on the board of St. Luke’s Hospital and Health Network and previously served on the board of the National Blood Foundation, the board of the National Committee for Quality Health Care and the Coalition to Protect America’s Health Care.

— Gregory Karp