

## **Constantino, Mike**

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**From:** Moon, Shawn K [skmoon@uhl.com]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 19, 2011 9:33 AM  
**To:** Constantino, Mike  
**Subject:** U.S. Renal Care Oak Brook Dialysis and U.S. Renal Care Bolingbrook Support Letter  
**Attachments:** Support Letter 9-19-11 1.pdf

Good Morning Mike,

Please find the attached PDF copy of a letter written in support of the U.S. Renal Care Oak Brook Dialysis and U.S. Renal Care Bolingbrook Dialysis certificate of need applications, project numbers 11-024 and 11-025, respectively.

Please feel free to contact me with any questions or comments.

Thanks,  
Shawn

### **Shawn Kenneth Moon**

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Ms. Courtney Avery  
Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board  
525 West Jefferson, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
Springfield, Illinois 62761

RE: Project No. 11-024, U.S. Renal Care Oak Brook Dialysis  
Project No. 11-025, U.S. Renal Care Bolingbrook Dialysis

Dear Ms. Avery:

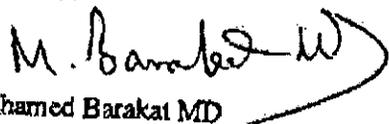
My name is Dr. Mohamad Barakat and I am a board-certified nephrologist that has been serving patients all over the Chicagoland suburbs for more than 30 years. I have a group of 3 nephrologists and we practice at RML Specialty Hospital, Christ Hospital, Little Company of Mary Hospitals. I write to you today to voice my strong support for U.S. Renal Care's proposed dialysis facilities for Oakbrook and Bolingbrook.

I fully support the addition of these facilities because the fact of the matter is that area dialysis patients do not have enough access to quality care and choice in making the decision about where to get that care. My concern here is that there is one provider that operates a majority of the dialysis facilities. This is troublesome because not every doctor has privileges to access each hospital and dialysis center which leads to patients being shuffled around, having to change physicians and ultimately interrupting their continuity of care. I have been practicing in the Southwest Suburbs and have a very strong working relationship with Dr. Rauf and Dr. Ahmed. They have taken excellent care of several of my patients in the Western Suburbs. They have also provided an additional choice for providing outstanding Nephrology care to my patients as there was not choice in the past.

I take great pleasure in helping my patients understand and deal with their health issues. It's an important responsibility and one which I take very seriously. But, it has grown increasingly difficult to do so given the limited access and choice issues with regard to dialysis centers in the Chicagoland suburbs. All too often my patients suffer a disruption in their care and that is just not acceptable. This has to change, and by allowing more providers to enter into the market patients will greatly benefit.

In closing, I want to urge this board to approve U.S. Renal Care's application to open new facilities in Oak Brook and Bolingbrook. U.S. Renal Care has a long-standing reputation of providing quality care with a committed and compassionate medical staff. Please do the right thing and approve these applications to provide access and choice to patients who need it most. Thank you.

Sincerely,



Mohamed Barakat MD