

Roate, George

From: Joseph Van Leer [JVanLeer@Polsinelli.com]
Sent: Wednesday, May 16, 2012 5:19 PM
To: Roate, George
Cc: Kara Friedman
Subject: Proj. 11-103 Lawndale Support Letter
Attachments: Proj. No. 11-103 Lawndale Dialysis Patient Support Ltr.pdf

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MAY 16 2012

HEALTH FACILITIES &
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD

George,

Please find a support letter for Lawndale attached. This is last one we have for projects up at the June meeting. Thanks for all of your help!

Joe



Joseph Van Leer
Associate

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HEALTH FACILITIES &
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD

May 15, 2012

Dale Galassie
Chair
Health Facilities & Services Review Board
525 West Jefferson Street
Springfield, Illinois 62761

Re: Support for Proj. No. 11-103 (Lawndale Dialysis)

To Whom It May Concern:

I support the expansion of dialysis services in the City of Chicago by DaVita. I am 29 years old and have been on dialysis for 14 months. I always thought I was perfectly healthy but I didn't know that high blood pressure was killing my kidneys. As a young father in my 20s, I focused on health care for my daughter and wife, not myself. I didn't see any need to go to the doctor when I felt fine. One day though I started vomiting. When I finally went to the doctor, I learned that my kidneys had already stopped working. After being in the hospital for a week at Christ Hospital, I was referred to the Scottsdale dialysis facility about 9 miles from my house. I guess the Christ staff referred me to that unit because it was close to Christ but it took me between 30 and 45 minutes each way to get there and back from my house. Traffic is always unpredictable so to make sure I was on time, I'd usually leave about 50 minutes before my appointment.

I have a wife who also works and a three year old daughter and I work the night shift five days a week from 11 p.m. to 7 a.m. My job is more than 30 minutes from my house too. Because of my work shift and where my job is in relation to the Scottsdale facility, I was driving about 2 1/2 hours a day on days when I had dialysis trying to keep my job and to make sure I didn't miss my treatments.

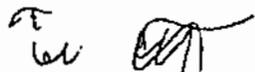
I also need my sleep. With a job on the night shift, I sleep from about 10 to 5 pm on days when I don't have dialysis. When I have dialysis, I sleep for 3 hours, then I'm awake for about two hours to get up and out of the house to treatment. Once I'm hooked up, I can go back to sleep for about 3 hours.

After being on dialysis for a while, I found out about the Little Village clinic. It is just about 5 minutes from my house. While the facility is full and has a wait list, I am now really glad to be getting my treatments at this facility. Dialysis still requires me to sleep in two or three short intervals throughout the day but now that I am close to home, I am better able to help care for my daughter and do get more sleep.

I do hope to get a transplant. Since I can now regulate my blood pressure with my pills, I am on the wait list and hope not to have to endure the hardships around dialysis for a long time.

Please approve the Lawndale Dialysis facility.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Tomas Chiquito', with a stylized flourish extending to the right.

Tomas Chiquito
2017 West 22nd Place
Chicago, Illinois 60608