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Presence℠
Saint Joseph Medical Center

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HEALTH FACILITIES &
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD

From the Office of Beth Hughes, President/CEO

December 17, 2012

Mr. Philip Kambic
President & CEO
Riverside Medical Center
350 Wall Street
Kankakee, IL 60901

Dear Mr. Kambic:

I am in receipt of your letter of December 3, 2012 requesting information regarding the staffing of our emergency department.

Recognizing the importance of maintaining a fully staffed ED with high quality personnel, Presence Saint Joseph works very hard on its ED nurse recruitment efforts and has been able to maintain its vacancy rate at 8.06% for the time period of October 1, 2011 through September 30, 2012, which is the time frame for which you requested our data. Therefore, we cannot say that we currently have a staff shortage, as defined by the state standard of 10%; however, it must be stated that ED personnel, both licensed and non-licensed are among the most difficult to recruit and retain. Riverside's freestanding emergency center project in Frankfort, if approved, will have a significant negative impact on the ability to maintain appropriate staffing levels at the Presence Saint Joseph ED since it will be competing with Saint Joseph for the same candidates. It is likely, if this project is approved, that Presence Saint Joseph Medical Center will suffer an ED staffing shortage of more than 10% in the future.

As you requested that I do, I swear and attest that this data is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

Thank you,

Sincerely,

Beth Hughes
President and CEO
Presence St. Joseph Medical Center

Cc: Ms. Courtney Avery, Administrator
Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board
2nd Floor, 525 West Jefferson Street
Springfield, Il 62761