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MAR 30 2011

HEALTH FACILITIES &  
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD

Dale Galassie, Chair  
Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board  
2<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
525 West Jefferson Street  
Springfield, IL 62761

3-27-11

RE: Certificate of Exemption No. E-001-11, Surgery Center of Southern Illinois

Dear Chairman Galassie,

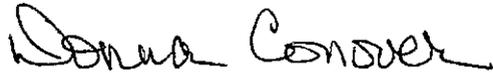
I am writing this letter in support of the pending Certificate of Exemption application which is referenced above. It is my understanding that this requested change in ownership does not require substantive review because the applicant, Mr. Ronald E. Osman, meets the requirements for exemption. However, I would like to express my support for the project. This change of general partner would give managing control to a long standing local businessman, who is interested in continuing the quality community healthcare and expanding the services provided to patients and doctors by the Surgery Center of Southern Illinois. Mr. Osman has experience as one of the individuals originally involved with the development of the Surgery Center of Southern Illinois and understands the complexities of the health care system. I am confident that the Surgery Center of Southern Illinois will be run and operated with the best interest of its patients and staff in mind.

I am well aware that the reason for this public hearing is that one of the limited partners has challenged this change in ownership. This partner was also in negotiations for the purchase of the Surgery Center and is still pursuing all avenues to achieve his goal of taking control. We were already notified that if this limited partner became owner, ALL employees would be terminated. Due to a one-on-one appointment with this limited partner, I was already aware that this would be the outcome if he were to purchase the Surgery Center. After receiving the CON for his surgery center in Mt. Vernon, I was offered a job to join him there. I was also told that if I didn't take the job at that time, I would be jobless. He pointedly told me that he would shut down the Surgery Center of Southern Illinois. I left this meeting knowing his intentions were to pull his cases and those of the doctors that worked for him. I also knew I would not be offered employment opportunities at a later date. Since that meeting, he has without justification pulled all the above mentioned cases and has intentionally damaged our business. Due to his actions half the original staff has been laid off and the remaining staff is struggling to obtain their hours. He has tried to blame this decline on mismanagement, poor staffing, and multiple other false allegations. For a few months it looked as though he was going to achieve his goal. However, we have begun to rebuild and now a 3<sup>rd</sup> party, Mr. Ron Osman, has made an offer to purchase the surgery center. The limited partner opposes this sale because he knows it eliminates any opportunity for him to take control. With Mr. Osman as the general partner I have complete confidence that the Surgery Center of Southern Illinois will flourish. Our current services can continue, allowing ALL limited partners to continue their services if they so choose, and allowing the business to grow with the community as the healthcare industry continues to change. I believe Mr. Osman will take into account the interests of all

parties involved, and we will be able to continue our high quality of moral and ethical care of patients. I believe he will manage the Surgery Center of Southern Illinois with the greatest of integrity. I fully support his endeavors.

Thank you for your time. Please feel free to contact me if you have any further questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Donna Conover". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the typed name and address.

Donna Conover  
500 Lakeshore Dr.  
Carterville, IL 62918  
618-559-7107