Debbie Dullinger
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Golconda, IL 62938

May 24, 2011

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MAY 26 2011
HEALTH FACILITIES &
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD

Dale Galassie, Chair
Illinois Health Facilities and
Services Review Board
525 West Jefferson St., 2nd Floor
Springfield, IL 62761-001

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

Dear Mr. Galassie:

Please accept this as a letter of support in favor of granting the above referenced exemption application. I have known of Marion Surgery Center since sometime after it was opened in 1986 and was employed there from 1986 to 1992, at which time I resigned to pursue other interests.

During my time at the Surgery Center, I worked as a Scrub Nurse for Dr. Dennis Ryll and also Dr. Maqbool Ahmad. Ronald E. Osman was associated with Dr. Ryll until about 1988 or 1989, when Dr. Ryll's practice and the Surgery Center were sold by him to Medivison, Inc. During the time I worked at the Surgery Center, I witnessed Mr. Osman become and remain intimately involved in the day-to-day management and operations of the Surgery Center.

In 2009, my mother developed cataracts in both eyes, and I recommended that she see Dr. Ahmad for medical services. Dr. Ahmad accepted her as a patient, and sometime late in 2009 he removed cataracts from both her eyes, with both operations being performed at the Surgery Center. During those operations, the staff at the Surgery Center was extremely professional and took excellent care of my mother. Both she and I were pleased with the care provided by Dr. Ahmad and the Surgery Center staff.

I presently live in Golconda, Illinois, which is approximately 1 hour from Marion. One of my friends and neighbor, an 84 year old man, recently developed cataracts in both eyes. I recommended that he see Dr. Ahmad in his Marion, Illinois office, for medical care, and on April 28, 2011, I accompanied him to Dr. Ahmad's Marion, Illinois office for his appointment at 1:05 p.m. When we arrived, I told the intake clerk that I was confident my friend had cataracts, wanted Dr. Ahmad to examine him and perform surgery if cataracts

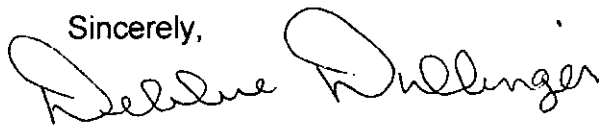
were present. The clerk presented my friend and I with a packet of papers containing various instructions, notifications, directions and a one page letter addressed to "Dear Patients". A copy of that letter is enclosed. I read the letter and upon seeing that it stated that Dr. Ahmad did not trust Ronald Osman, I questioned the clerk about the letter. She told me that all Dr. Ahmad's patients were receiving a copy of the letter, made derogatory items about Mr. Osman, said that Mr. Osman was trying to steal the Surgery Center from Dr. Ahmad and reported that if Dr. Ahmad did not get the Surgery Center he would not do any more surgery in Marion. I told the clerk that I knew Mr. Osman well, that he was trustworthy and that I doubted what she said was correct.

I accompanied my friend through his examination with the technicians and later with Dr. Ahmad. Dr. Ahmad recognized me and asked how I was doing. I told him fine and asked about the letter. He told me that the situation been going on about 3 months and that Mr. Osman went behind his back and bought the Surgery Center. He also told me he had built a surgery center in Mt. Vernon, Illinois, and that was where he was currently doing all his surgeries. We then talked about both his sons becoming doctors.

Dr. Ahmad thereafter examined my friend and confirmed he had cataracts in both eyes. Dr. Ahmad told him he would be scheduled for cataract surgery sometime in May and that he would have to go to Mt. Vernon for his surgery. I asked why he could not have his surgery in Marion, and Dr. Ahmad said he would not do the surgery in Marion. I then stated that it was a long way from Golconda to Mt. Vernon (approximately 1¾ hours by car), and Dr. Ahmad told me that was not a problem because he had vans and would provide transportation.

I am certain that I do not know all the details about the sale of the Surgery Center, but I am certain that Mr. Osman has the managerial ability, financial ability, knowledge of medicine and other attributes necessary to own and operate the Surgery Center. In addition, I know Mr. Osman to have the highest integrity and be completely trustworthy. I myself retained Mr. Osman a few years ago to represent me as Executrix of my late husband's estate. Mr. Osman's services were of the highest quality. I do not have any reservations in recommending Mr. Osman receive this exemption.

Sincerely,



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