

**Roate, George**

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**From:** Joseph Van Leer [JVanLeer@Polsinelli.com]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, October 25, 2011 10:17 AM  
**To:** Roate, George  
**Cc:** Constantino, Mike; Kara Friedman; Anne Cooper  
**Subject:** Woodlawn Dialysis (Proj. No. 11-068)  
**Attachments:** Alderman Dowell Support Ltrr.pdf

George,

Please find the attached support letter submitted by Alderman Dowell for Woodlawn Dialysis. Let me know if you have any questions. Thanks,

Joe

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OCT 25 2011

**HEALTH FACILITIES &  
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD**



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### PAT DOWELL

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October 18, 2011

Mr. Dale Galassie, Chair  
Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board  
525 West Jefferson Street, 2nd Floor  
Springfield, Illinois 62761

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OCT 25 2011

HEALTH FACILITIES &  
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD

**Re: Letter of Support for Woodlawn Dialysis – Project Number 11-068**

Dear Mr. Galassie:

I am the Alderman representing Chicago's 3<sup>rd</sup> Ward, which includes Woodlawn Dialysis' proposed site and the surrounding community. I am writing to express my support for DaVita's proposal to relocate its existing facility to 5060 S. State St., Chicago. (HFSRB Project No. 11-068). Woodlawn Dialysis provides dialysis treatment for patients living in or near the Woodlawn and Bronzeville communities in Chicago. This new location will ensure continued access to dialysis services for our community.

I have discussed this project with my community on several occasions and DaVita representatives have presented this project to my constituents in a community meeting. The community has been given an opportunity to voice its opinion about this project and has not identified any problems with the facility's relocation to 5060 S. State St. I support this site for the relocation of the dialysis facility. I believe that this project will help meet the health care needs of my ward. As such, I fully support DaVita's application for a certificate of need to relocate and expand its existing facility.

I understand that the patient base of Woodlawn Dialysis is primarily African-American and many of these patients are senior. Unfortunately, I've learned that the kidney failure incident rate for African Americans is much higher than in the general population. Woodlawn Dialysis delivers essential health care services to our community and needs to be relocated as soon as possible to provide for continuity of care for its patients.

If this facility is required to close, there is no reasonable option for the patient base to receive treatment as other area dialysis facilities do not have room for them and patients would have to travel much too far to find an open treatment slot. There are many hardships for dialysis patients and there is no reason to deprive them of receiving continued service from their current University of Chicago physicians and their patient care staff. As such, the relocation of Woodlawn Dialysis is necessary to continue providing vital services for our community. I urge you to approve this relocation as presented by DaVita.

Sincerely,

Pat Dowell

Alderman, 3<sup>rd</sup> Ward