

**AG Management & Investment Corp.**  
8649 W. 98<sup>th</sup> St.  
Palos Hills, IL 60465  
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**RECEIVED**

SEP 03 2013

HEALTH FACILITIES &  
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD

August 23, 2013

Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board  
Illinois Department of Public Health  
525 West Jefferson St., 2nd Floor  
Springfield IL 62761  
Attention: Ms. Courtney Avery, Administrator

**Re: Project 13-007 (Preferred SurgiCenter, LLC), Letter of Support**

Dear Ms. Avery:

Please let the Review Board members know that I fully support CON project 13-007, which is proposing the establishment of a multi-specialty surgery center in Orland Park, Illinois.

I am a business owner who understands the health care marketplace in Chicago's southwest suburbs. This is a necessary project that should be approved because it addresses the unmet needs to my community's residents. For the following reasons, I ask the members of the Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board to support the CON project submitted by Preferred SurgiCenter.

- The surgery center will increase access to health care services, especially to persons of Arab American descent who feel disenfranchised from the existing health care system.
- The surgery center will decrease health disparities in the Arab American community by giving this population group a place where they feel comfortable obtaining services.
- This facility will directly serve the growing Arab American community of the southwest suburbs, especially the immigrant population and elderly who experience language and cultural barriers in their health care.

For the reasons noted above, I ask the Review Board to support this CON application. Thank you.

Sincerely,



Abder Ghouleh  
President  
AG Management & Investment Corp.

**AMANI MEDIA, INC.**  
9820 S. 50<sup>th</sup> Ct.  
Oak Lawn, IL 60453  
708-601-3713

August 23, 2013

Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board  
Illinois Department of Public Health  
525 West Jefferson St., 2nd Floor  
Springfield IL 62761  
Attention: Ms. Courtney Avery, Administrator

**Re: Project 13-007 (Preferred SurgiCenter, LLC), Letter of Support**

Dear Ms. Avery:

Please inform the Review Board members know that I fully support CON project 13-007, which is proposing the establishment of a multi-specialty surgery center in Orland Park, Illinois.

As a member of the media who has attended the Association of Health Care Journalists (AHCJ) conference and reported on Health Issues primarily in the Arab-American community, I understand the health care situation in Chicago's southwest suburbs. This is a necessary project that should be approved because it addresses the unmet needs to my community's residents. For the following reasons, I ask the members of the Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board to support the CON project submitted by Preferred SurgiCenter.

- By 2030, the number of elders in America will double, with a growing percentage expected to be **ethnic** elders. The established system has underserved this demographic, and remains under-informed about the wide-ranging challenges of ethnic aging in America. From health care disparities and income struggles, generational coverage is too often lacking, yet how to prepare for the coming increase in ethnic seniors is **crucial**. This project will serve those needs as it directly addresses Arab American elderly and immigrants and their distinct cultural and linguistic needs.
- The surgery center will increase access to health care services, especially to persons of Arab American descent who feel disenfranchised from the U.S. health care system. As well as decrease health disparities in the Arab American community by giving this population group a place where they feel comfortable obtaining services.
- The surgery center will also save the state money. Generally, surgery centers cost less than hospital services providing the same type of care, in some cases cost is 75% of the equivalent level of care provided in a hospital-based setting.

For the reasons noted above, I ask the Board to approve this CON application. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Amani Ghoulah  
President, Amani Media, Inc.

August 1<sup>st</sup>, 2013

Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board  
Illinois Department of Public Health  
525 West Jefferson St., 2nd Floor  
Springfield IL 62761  
Attention: Ms. Courtney Avery, Administrator

**Re: Project 13-007 (Preferred SurgiCenter, LLC)**

Dear Ms. Avery:

My name is Mrs. Samira Ahmad and I support CON project 13-007, which is proposing the establishment of a multi-specialty surgery center in Orland Park, Illinois.

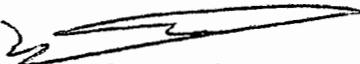
My support for this project is based on a personal experience with a health care professional that has affected me to this day. A number of years ago, I was dealing with some post-natal chiropractic issues. My neck and back were in constant pain, and although I was not yet fully comfortable with the language and culture of my adopted homeland, the United States, I still made an appointment to see a chiropractor.

When I arrived at the clinic, I noticed that the doctor had no nursing staff with him, and no other female doctors to support him. My English language skills were poor at the time, but I tried my best to make it clear that I was not comfortable with a male doctor tending to my chiropractic needs. I had no choice but to leave the clinic, and believing that all other clinics, doctors' offices, and hospitals would have treated me the same way, I never received any medical care for my pain.

Preferred SurgiCenter would know how to talk to me, to treat me, to respect my language, nationality, and religion. It is the type of medical care facility that a practicing Muslim like me needs today, and definitely could have used so many years ago. Other religious groups have had their needs met by corporate and government entities in this country over the years. I do not see why Muslims should not also have a medical care facility that understands our specific needs, but still serves and treats everyone—from all faiths and nationalities—equally.

I believe that the experience I just described is a powerful reason to ask you and the members of the Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board to support the CON project submitted by Preferred SurgiCenter.

Sincerely,



Mrs. Samira Ahmad  
5129 W. 85<sup>th</sup> Street  
Burbank, IL 60459