

# Illinois Associates In Psychiatry, P.C.

Mark E. Freeman, M.D.

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**RECEIVED**

**SEP 09 2013**

**HEALTH FACILITIES &  
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD**

August 28, 2013

Ms. Courtney Avery  
Administrator  
Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board  
525 West Jefferson  
Springfield, IL 62761

**RE: Project #13-034, St. Elizabeth's Hospital**

Dear Ms. Avery,

I would like to ask the Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board to please withdraw the letter I wrote in opposition to this project. The letter is dated Aug. 9, 2013 and I ask that it be removed from the IHFSRB website as I was only aware of the St. Elizabeth certificate of need issue and the effect it might have on the region. I did not realize that Touchette Regional Hospital had planned to expand its behavioral health center in two years to treat patients that might otherwise go to St. Elizabeth's Hospital.

I'm pleased to hear that Touchette will be the home for a Regional Mental Health Center which will provide 30 inpatient beds – necessary to serve the Metro East's inpatient behavioral health needs. Touchette will offer comprehensive inpatient and outpatient care for people with mental illness and addiction, while also providing better access for patients and families in the region.

As I noted in my previous letter, I have cared for patients in St. Clair and Madison Counties and surrounding areas for 20 years and my first priority is sufficient care being available for my patients and their families. I believe the Center of Excellence will provide them with high-quality behavioral health care for many years to come.

Please approve St. Elizabeth's Hospital's certificate of need.

Sincerely,



Mark E. Freeman, MD  
Adult Psychiatry