

Morthland College Health Services
309 W. St Louis St, Suite C
West Frankfort, IL 62896
618-937-2127
September 30, 2016

15-061

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OCT 04 2016

HEALTH FACILITIES &
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD

Ms Olson, Chair
Illinois Health Facilities and Service Review Board
525 West Jefferson Street, 2nd floor
Springfield, IL 62761

Dear Ms Olson:

I am writing in support of Dr. Zahoor Makhdoom, MD and the Southern Illinois Endoscopy Center, LLC in their endeavor to establish a licensed endoscopy center in Carbondale, IL.

I have known Dr. Makhdoom as a colleague and friend since 1999 when I started my medical residency at Memorial Hospital of Carbondale. I worked closely with him throughout my residency training and have continued to work closely with him over the past 17 years not only as my number one gastroenterology referral source for my patients but as a gastroenterologist for my family. I would describe Dr. Makhdoom as not only extremely intelligent and a master in his field, but as a humble, caring and dedicated physician and human being. He has always been a phone call away with any question I have had in regards to my patients or my family and is an amazing asset to our medical community.

I strongly support his goal of providing an alternative to hospital based endoscopy in our community with lower costs yet continued excellence of care. Southern Illinois community members deserve this opportunity. Please feel free to contact me with any further questions.

Sincerely,



Deedra McLain, MD.

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HEALTH FACILITIES &
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD

September 29, 2016

Edward Moy, M.D.S.C.
13 Meadow Rue Dr
Edwardsville IL 62025

Ms. Kathryn J. Olson, Chair
Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board
525 West Jefferson Street, 2nd Floor
Springfield, Illinois 62761

Dear Ms. Olson:

I feel honored to write this letter in support of Dr. Zahoor Makhdoom and the Southern Illinois Endoscopy Center, LLC in their diligent effort to establish a licensed endoscopy center in Carbondale, Illinois.

Being an emergency room physician, I worked at both Memorial Hospital of Carbondale and St. Joseph Memorial Hospital in Murphysboro, Illinois, during the years 2000-2007, where I became acquainted with Dr. Makhdoom. I can attest from firsthand experience that he is an excellent gastroenterologist who cares deeply about each and every one of his patients. I can remember on many occasions when he would call me in the emergency room (after midnight!) to see what we found and what we did for his patients when they needed to be attended to after hours.

I can also relate from my own experience as a patient with Dr. Makhdoom. In December 2006, I developed some rectal bleeding. I called him in January 2007, and after he had taken my history and examined me in his office, he scheduled me for a colonoscopy in early February of 2007. It was during this colonoscopy procedure that he discovered the cause of my rectal bleeding, a cancerous lesion in the sigmoid colon. He immediately made an appointment for me to see Dr. James Fleshman, a colorectal surgeon, at Barnes Hospital in two days. After seeing and examining me at Barnes, Dr. Fleshman then scheduled me for surgery the following week for a partial colectomy to remove the cancer. The operation was successful. My cancer was detected early and properly treated. There was no lymph node involvement and no metastatic disease found.

There is no question that I would not be alive today if my cancer was not found in time. Not only did Dr. Makhdoom help save my life, but because I did not have health insurance at that time, he did not charge me his normal fee for the colonoscopy procedure. However, because the colonoscopy was performed at St. Joseph Memorial Hospital, I was still charged almost \$4000.00 by the hospital for their portion of the colonoscopy. After this initial colonoscopy, he has always ever since done my subsequent colonoscopies in his office over the past 10 years. And he has always accepted what the insurance paid and never

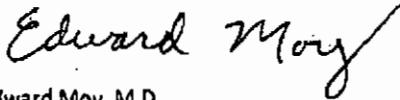
charging me the balance of what the insurance did not paid. He is truly one of the most dedicated and altruistic physicians that I have ever had the experience and pleasure of meeting!

It is now an established fact that colorectal cancer screening saves lives. In an article from the *New England Journal of Medicine* (Zauber AG, Winawer SJ, O'Brien MJ, et al. Colonoscopic Polypectomy and Long-Term Prevention of Colorectal-Cancer Deaths. *N Engl J Med* 2012; 366:687-696), the authors found "an estimated 53 percent reduction in mortality from colorectal cancer" in patients who had precancerous polyps discovered and removed during colonoscopy procedure.

Since the cost of a hospital based colonoscopy is much more expensive than what Dr. Makhdoom would charge for the same procedure done as an outpatient, this prohibitive cost would normally prevent a lot of people from obtaining a screening colonoscopy, especially with the high deductibles on most medical insurances these days. Thus, it is important that he is given permission to construct and operate his endoscopy center to provide an invaluable, lifesaving procedure for many people in Southern Illinois at an affordable cost.

If I can be of any further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me (618)791-7358.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Edward Moy".

Edward Moy, M.D.



FASNACHT MEDICAL
Wellness and Preventative Care Services

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HEALTH FACILITIES &
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Elbert A. Fasnacht II M.D.

Internal Medicine - Cardiology - Palliative Care
Lewis Lane Professional Bldg

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Carbondale, IL 62901

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09/30/2016

Ms. Kathryn J. Olson, Chair
Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board
525 West Jefferson Street, 2nd Floor
Springfield, Illinois 62761

Dear Ms. Olson:

This letter of support is written on behalf of Zohoor Makhdoom, MD and the Southern Illinois Endoscopy Center, LLC in its effort to establish a licensed endoscopy center located in Carbondale Illinois.

Dr Makhdoom has been at the leading edge of offering low cost Endoscopy in our region for the lion's share of my 29 years practicing as an Internal Medicine physician in Carbondale. He is by far the reason that My practice has been so successful in attaining a high compliance in colon cancer screening as measured by Meaningful Use Criteria under the Affordable Care Act.

I am in full support of the development of the Licensed Endoscopy Center as this will ensure that competition with hospital based services will continue to curtail the costs and ensure the availability of prompt, safe and quality endoscopic procedures for my patients and the patients of other well meaning primary care physicians in our region.

As a primary care physician I can assure you that these services are vital and save lives when the environment is one of enabling Quality, Safe and cost effective Endoscopic GI Screening procedures.

Sincerely,

Bert Fasnacht II, M.D.