

FOLEY & ASSOCIATES, INC.

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NOV 06 2017

November 6, 2017

**HEALTH FACILITIES &
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD**

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

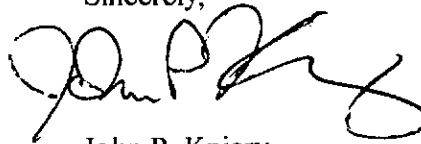
**Re: Project No. 17-048, Lake Behavioral
Hospital**

Dear Ms. Avery:

Please accept the enclosed two (2) support letters from Lake County Chiefs of Police Association and Gurnee Chief of Police & Fire Chief for the above referenced project.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,



John P. Kniery
Health Care Consultant

JPK/kah

Enclosures





PO Box 472
Mundelein, IL 60060

October 25, 2017

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

RE: Certificate of Need Application for Vista Medical Center West

Dear Ms. Avery:

I am writing this letter in support of the certificate of need application by US HealthVest to expand Vista Medical Center West to a 100-bed behavioral hospital.

The expansion of services in Lake County will address the shortage of inpatient beds to care for the residents of Waukegan and Lake County. There is an unmet need for specialized psychiatric services US HealthVest has proven they can provide.

Law Enforcement across the country has experienced vast increases in contacts with those suffering from mental health and addiction issues. The lack of immediately available services to assist these individuals results in a large portion being released within hours from emergency rooms. This leads to an unusually high rate of recidivism, not to mention frustration from patients, families, and law enforcement. Lake County desperately needs access to a professional inpatient psychiatric care facility that understands and is equipped to handle the growing mental health crisis we are all experiencing.

I urge you to support the approval of this certificate of need application for Vista Medical Center West. There is a great need in the area to expand behavioral health services.

Thank you for your assistance in providing access to care in Lake County.

Sincerely,

Eric J. Guenther
President
Lake County Chiefs of Police Association



Kristina M. Kovarik, Mayor

www.gurnee.il.us

October 26, 2017

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

RE: Vista Medical Center West Certificate of Need Application

Dear Ms. Avery,

This letter is in support of the application from US HealthVest to expand psychiatric beds in Lake County and to renovate the property located at Vista Medical Center West, previously Provena Saint Therese Medical Center, for behavioral health services in Waukegan.

Law enforcement officers and firemedics across the country have experienced vast increases in contacts with those suffering from mental health and addiction issues. The lack of immediately available services to assist these individuals results in many being released within hours from emergency rooms and leads to an high rate of recidivism, not to mention frustration from patients, families, and law enforcement. Lake County desperately needs access to a professional inpatient psychiatric care facility that understands and is equipped to handle the growing mental health crisis we are all experiencing. US HealthVest's proposed facility will certainly increase access to these important services.

I urge you to support the approval of the special use permit application for a behavioral hospital in Waukegan by US HealthVest, LLC. As a neighboring community to Waukegan, IL, we thank you for approving this application as soon as possible.

Sincerely,

[Signature of Kevin M. Woodside]
Kevin M. Woodside
Chief of Police

[Signature of John Kavanagh]
John Kavanagh
Fire Chief

KMW/sc

NOTARY PUBLIC:
STATE OF: Illinois

COUNTY OF: Lake



This document was subscribed to and sworn to before me on the 26th day of October 2017.

Suzann Clemens
(Printed Name of Notary Public)

[Signature of Suzann Clemens]
(Signature of Notary Public)

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Building & Engineering 847-599-7550
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