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A member of the Blessing Health System

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JAN 31 2019

**HEALTH FACILITIES &
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD**

Ms. Courtney R. Avery
Administrator
Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board
525 West Jefferson, 2nd Floor
Springfield, IL 62761

Re: Opposition to CON 18-042, Quincy Medical Group Surgery Center in Quincy, Illinois

Dear Ms. Avery:

The purpose of this letter is to express my opposition to the proposed QMG Surgery Center in Quincy Illinois. I have worked for Blessing Hospital for almost 22 years. Blessing Hospital is an integral part of the Quincy community providing many jobs as well as supporting many community activities. In addition, they are committed to assisting individuals with charity care. As a member of the BHS United Way Committee for many years, I have seen first-hand BHS's commitment to helping those in need in our community.

I am extremely bothered that although BHS has partnered with QMG in the operation of the current Surgery Center since 2006, QMG did not ask Blessing to work with them in their quest to improve surgical services in the Quincy community. Not only did they not ask BHS to work with them, they misrepresented this fact on their CON application and stated that Blessing rejected discussing improvement options with them (paraphrasing). I am convinced that the best outcome for serving the Quincy community's medical needs will be achieved by Blessing Health System and Quincy Medical Group working together.

I respectfully ask that the Health Facilities and Services Review Board deny CON application 18-042 for the Quincy Medical Group Surgery Center. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Melonie R. Fleer
Volunteer Educator
Blessing Hospital
Quincy, IL 62301