

CHARLES H. **FOLEY & ASSOCIATES** INC.

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**RECEIVED**

MAY 16 2011

HEALTH FACILITIES &  
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD

May 16, 2011

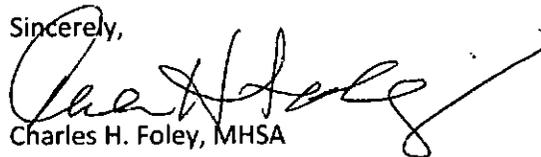
Mr. Michael Constantino  
Illinois Health Facilities & Services Review Board  
525 West Jefferson Street, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
Springfield, Illinois 62761

Re: Project No. E-001-11  
Surgery Center of Southern Illinois

Dear Mike:

Attached are eight (8) additional letters of opposition for the above referenced project providing both the original and a letter size copy.

Sincerely,



Charles H. Foley, MHSA  
Health Care Consultant

C: Mark Silberman, Attorney at Law



Health Care Consulting

To Whom It May Concern (Marion Eye Centers  
& Optical - Marion Surgery Center)

I am a frequent patient at the Marion Eye Center in Marion. I would like to oppose the 'Certificate of Need' that a non-physician non-health care entity is trying apply for from the Illinois Health Planning Board. I would like the Marion Surgery Center to be able to be purchased by Dr. Ahmad.

Since I can't drive myself to my appointments and surgery, it would be a great inconvenience to have to travel outside the area. The lack of retina services in Marion in my case would be bad because sometimes I need the services daily or weekly. I appreciate very much the care I have received at the Marion Surgery Center and Marion Eye Centers. Please let the Marion Surgery Center be purchased by the LOCAL Dr. that we know and think highly of his experience and integrity. Save our Marion jobs and revenue for our community.

Thank You,  
Sincerely

Bonnie Arnold

*all of these*

- Inconvenience to the patient
- Patients having to travel outside the area
- Patients will travel to the facility the doctors operates in because of his experience and integrity
- Lack of retina services vitally needed in the area on a daily basis
- Ownership and decision making by a non-healthcare entity
- Unknown future of the surgery center
- Loss of jobs in our community
- Loss of revenue for the community

*[Handwritten signature]*

  
Gene Ebersohl  
221 E. ... Rd.  
Murph... 66

Marion City Council  
1102 Tower Square,  
Marion, IL 62959

March 14, 2011

Council Members:

I find it very difficult to address an issue/circumstance when I have such minimal information relating to the conflict:

It is my understanding that Dr. Ahmad, Marion Eye Center & Optical, signed a "letter of intent to purchase" a building, namely the present Marion Surgery Center. I am further advised that in spite of this document, a non-physician, non-healthcare facility has petitioned the Illinois Health Planning Board for a "certificate of need" and is being considered, despite the previously submitted document by Dr. Ahmad.

Assuming all this is correct, having worked 28 years (of which 14 was medical in Murphysboro), I can only call to mind the old saying:

"A bird in the hand is worth two in the bush."

In other words, wouldn't the sale of this building be far more a financial incentive to MARION were it passed to a known, established business, employing many personnel, bringing patients into the city of Marion not only for surgery and/or eye care, but in addition, for shopping, meals and even possible motel residency relating to their eye care?

Does one need mention the humongous building standing alongside Rt. 13, so dramatically welcomed as a shipping center for Circuit City? Error once, learn twice.

Why not re-think this entire situation with MARION'S best interest at the forefront?

Respectfully submitted,



Mrs. Carole Ebersohl (& husband, Harold "Gene")  
Each, Patients of: Dr. George Ortiz

To whom it may Concerns 3-11-11

I am writing in reference to the closing of the Marion Surgery Center. We need the center in this area due to the limited resources in this area.

Most people in this area are seniors & have to have check ups & surgeries due to our age - myself I just had Cataract surgery in May 2010. I take a friend for appointments to Marion, Ill. for check ups as she has Muscular Regenerative & not able to drive (which is 60 miles round trip & with the price of gasoline it gets expensive).

My sister & I have eye problems due to diabetes & have to doctor frequently in Marion.

This area needs the employment & are lucky to have the center in this area.

Please reconsider as this  
area needs the center for  
seniors, employment & services  
in this area - we need more  
resources in this area not less.

Sincerely

Patricia Ashby  
605 Dewey Street  
Eldorado, Il. 62930  
618-273-2166

P.S.  
We lived in Alton, Il. area  
30 years & had better access to  
facilities being close to St. Louis.  
As I had my first Cataract  
surgery in St. Louis - now that  
we retired & living in Southern Il.  
It takes more effort, time &  
expense to get our affairs  
taken care of. Please reconsider

March 12, 2011

I am writing a letter of opposition to the people that are trying to keep Dr Ahmad from buying the Marion Surgery Center.

1. It will be an inconvenience to the patients in the area to have to travel outside the area.

2. I have been going to the Marion Eye Center for years as did my mother and husband before they died.

3. Patients should not have to travel for doctors with experience and integrity when Dr Ahmad and the doctors in his office have these qualities.

Sincerely,  
Elizabeth Chaundy  
1215 Chestnut St.

Apr. 20 3  
Muncy, Pa., Pa.  
62966

March 12, 2011

To whom it may concern:

This letter is being written to oppose the non-physician non-~~healthcare~~ entity presently trying to undermine Dr. Ahmed's signed letter of intent to purchase the Mason Surgery Center.

Dr. Ahmed and his expert staff of physicians have used this facility for more than 25 years. It is undeniably that he should be denied continuing his medical practice there.

Dr. Ahmed & his physicians are renowned for their expertise & draw their patients from a large area. I dread that the city of Mason would insist upon keeping the Mason Surgery Center within their city limits, right where it is. The city of Mason will lose jobs & revenue should the sale of the building go to other hands.

I hope the right decision will be made for the sake of the physician, the patients & all who believe in integrity & honesty & doing what is right.

Marianne Webb  
1027 S. Briarwood Drive  
Carbondale, IL 62901-2425

Sincerely,  
Marianne Webb  
Distinguished Univ. Against  
Southern Illinois Univ. Carbondale

Illinois Health Planing Board

My wife and I have been patients of Marion eye center for over 14 years We are both in our 80-s and find it difficult to travel to Mount Vernan for eye care. We both like our doctor at Marion eye center, it would be hard for us to change. Please denigh the certificate of need, and allow Dr Ahmad (Marion eye center) to purchse the local surgery center. DrAhmad has been a valuable assit to this area for many years, and should be allowed to purchase a crresponding buisnes.

sincerly

*Willie H Kohler*  
*Evelyn L. Kohler*



Mr. Willie H. Kohler  
2205 Darren Dr.  
Marion, IL 62959

March 12, 2011

A personal note ...

Concerning Marion Eye Center  
Surgical move -

It would be an inconvenience  
to me. I would not be able to  
travel outside the area. We need  
this badly for this area. Economy  
wise we need these jobs and  
revenue for the area.

We need these doctors and  
Surgical service very much.

Thelma Iva Eugene Harris

P.O. Box 271

Herrin, Il. 62948