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HEALTH FACILITIES &  
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD

March 2, 2016

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

RE: Franciscan St. James Health-Chicago Heights  
COE E-08-16  
Franciscan St. James Health-Olympia Fields  
CON 16-005

Dear Ms. Avery,

Please accept this missive as a retraction of an early communication from me concerning the "Restructuring" initiative of the Franciscan St. James Health and Hospital group. Initially it was my understanding that the aforementioned restructuring would eliminate jobs, decrease overall access to hospital care and leave an empty building in the middle of the community.

This retraction comes in response to my clearer understanding of the restructuring initiative and the overarching aims of the Franciscan St. James Health system. It is now my understanding that this initiative will not eliminate jobs, but sustain them. Further, I understand that this initiative will allow for the Franciscan St. James Hospital to restructure and reorganize their current healthcare delivery system in order to provide efficacious care and concurrently practice fiscal prudence.

As a member of the executive board of the Evangelical Covenant Church of America, I am well aware of the importance of the praxis of "counting the cost" when doing business. Nevertheless, I understand that it is not always about counting dollars, but also improving people's lives. I now see that this corporate initiative of Franciscan St. James Health is an aggressive attempt to do both; save lives and save money. This is good business as well as responsible care. Therefore, I submit this letter in support of the Franciscan St. James Health and Hospital restructuring proposal.

If you should require any additional information or clarification, please don't hesitate to call me at (708)849-6904.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Lance Davis".

Bishop Lance Davis, Senior Pastor

New Zion Covenant Church



ROBERT N. HEYBURN, M.D.

2933 BOB-O-LINK ROAD  
FLOSSMOOR, IL 60422-1417  
TEL: 708-799-8759  
EMAIL: cfalls1951@att.net  
CELL: (708) 601-8759  
FAX: (708) 365-6484

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

RE: Franciscan St James Health – Chicago Heights, COE E-08-16  
Franciscan St James Health – Olympia Fields, CON 16-005

Dear Ms. Avery,

I have been on the medical staff at St James Hospital for 49 years. I have seen some of the difficulties that the organization has suffered, including being up for sale a few years ago.

I think that the plan that has been proposed is a sound one and will provide the quality healthcare that the hospital has always provided.

Healthcare is in a precarious situation now and I am not unhappy that I am no longer clinically involved. Government intervention has definitely interfered with doctor/patient involvement.

The resistance being presented by various city governments makes no sense to me. Nobody likes change but change has to happen. Their presentations and concerns were somewhat sophomoric.

I was an Obstetrician/Gynecologist and I am certainly sad that the unit in Chicago Heights needs to move to Olympia Fields but I understand the numbers and changes that must be made due to decreased volume.

The resistance that is being presented by the First Responders is emotional rather than practical. They, like me, have a certain comfort level in the Chicago Heights facility but change has to happen. It is just not practical to have the duplication of services that we currently have.

The inpatient volume numbers and costs presented by Mr. Kimmel have been well thought out and are based on the facilities and resources available.

The fact that the Sisters have remained in the South Suburban Chicago area demonstrates their mission of providing optimum health care in our community, that they have provided for more than 100 years and care which I participated for almost half of that time.



**ROBERT N. HEYBURN, M.D.**

2933 BOB-O-LINK ROAD  
FLOSSMOOR, IL 60422-1417

TEL: 708-799-8759

EMAIL: [cfalls1951@att.net](mailto:cfalls1951@att.net)

CELL: (708) 601-8759

FAX: (708) 365-6484

Please do the correct thing and approve the plans presented by Franciscan Alliance administration.

Sincerely,

Robert Heyburn MD  
Epic Physician Champion  
Franciscan Alliance  
(708) 601-8759  
[Robert.heyburn@franciscanalliance.org](mailto:Robert.heyburn@franciscanalliance.org)