



PresenceSM

Saint Joseph Medical Center

November 15, 2017

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**HEALTH FACILITIES &
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD**

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

Re: Deerpath Orthopedic Surgical Center
Project #17-059

Dear Ms. Avery:

Presence Saint Joseph Medical Center supports the Expansion of Services project at the Deerpath Orthopedic Surgical Center in Morris. This project will allow the Center to become a full service ambulatory surgery center and coordinate a valuable continuum of care with Morris Hospital's network of healthcare services. It will enhance the operations of both facilities, as they are the only Hospital and ASTC in Grundy County. Among the benefits of this project:

- Improvement to the patient experience by providing more convenience, shorter visit times, and lower costs while maintaining the coordination of patient care;
- Establish Deerpath ASTC as a primary site for Morris Hospital and Healthcare Centers' ambulatory surgery service; and
- Avoid duplicative services by coordination and consolidation of outpatient surgical facilities among the Hospital and the ASTC.

Although we have no formal relationship with Morris Hospital, we work together to coordinate tertiary services for their patients that need transferred to a hospital our size. We find that they always put the needs of the patients first and feel this project is in line with that mission.

Thank you for your consideration in this matter, and we urge approval of this application.

Sincerely,

Robert J. Erickson
President