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SEP 26 2018

**HEALTH FACILITIES &  
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD**

September 21, 2018

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

RE: Silver Cross Hospital's Certificate of Need Application for Open Heart Surgical License

Dear Ms. Avery:

As a member of the Medical Staff at Silver Cross Hospital, I fully support Project 18-020 in which the Hospital plans to establish a Structural Heart Program, which includes procuring an Open Heart License to improve the quality of life of our patients while enhancing care coordination amongst caregivers.

As advancements in treating cardiovascular disease continue to evolve, so does the need for Silver Cross to advance in their capabilities. By granting the Hospital permission to perform open heart procedures including coronary bypass, aortic valve replacements, and aortic aneurysm repairs, as well emerging minimally invasive techniques for transcatheter aortic valve replacement (TAVR) and mitral valve repair, our high risk patients will have a greater chance of recovery – and even survival as care coordination will undoubtedly improve. And by expanding the Hospital's cardiac services scope, we are confident that not only will our patients receive exceptional care all under one roof, but the overall expertise of our entire staff will also be greatly enhanced.

Sincerely,

Dennis Koblinsky, MD, MS



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Sincerely,

*John W. DiVenere, M.D.*



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Arta M. Arzamas, M.D., FAAP



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Dr. Daniel Co MA



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Sincerely,

*Joseph A. Hendon*  
Joseph A. Hendon M.D., FACP