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**HEALTH FACILITIES &
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD**

January 3rd, 2020

Dr. Shakeel Ahmed
Chief Executive Officer
Metroeast Endoscopic Surgery Center
5023 North Illinois Street
Fairview Heights, Illinois 62208

Dear Dr. Ahmed:

This letter reflects Chestnut Health Systems support of Metroeast Endoscopic Surgery Center, (MESC) application to the Illinois Facilities and Healthcare Review Board to add Orthopedic Surgery to the scope of services and surgeries offered at MESC.

Chestnut Health Systems is a federally qualified health center, (FQHC) providing services in several local communities with serious health disparities. Access to all services, including orthopedic care, is important to all families we serve. Access to affordable services especially specialty care is also important for families and individuals to ensure all of their healthcare needs are met. As an FQHC, Chestnut Health Systems provides primary healthcare, including dental services, behavioral health and OB/GYN care. Many of those we serve also require specialty care referrals. Having surgical services provided at ambulatory surgery centers, like MESC, allows our clients to have quality as well as much more affordable care choices and options.

As a provider that cares for persons with chronic medical and behavioral health conditions Chestnut Health Systems is committed to ensure our families are provided the best choices to access all levels of care including the current services and proposed Orthopedic service at MESC.

Please contact me if I can be of further assistance.

Sincerely,



Orville Mercer
Vice President of Strategy and Innovation
Chestnut Health Systems

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