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**HEALTH FACILITIES &
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD**

September 30, 2019

Via Federal Express

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

Ms. Karen Senger
Division Chief
Illinois Department of Public Health
525 West Jefferson Street, 2nd floor
Springfield, Illinois 62761

Re: Suspension of – Obstetrics Services
at AMITA Health Saint Francis Hospital - Evanston

Dear Ms. Avery and Ms. Senger:

Presence Chicago Hospitals Network d/b/a AMITA Health Saint Francis Hospital - Evanston is providing notice that we must suspend admissions to its obstetrics beds as of October 5, 2019 in anticipation of receiving a Certificate of Exemption ("COE") addressing the discontinuation of the category of service.

On August 13, 2019 we filed an application for a COE to discontinue obstetric services (E-040-19). That exemption is scheduled for consideration at the October 22 Review Board meeting. Our application stated that the anticipated closing date was October 31, 2019. Since the filing of the COE application we have unfortunately experienced staff shortages as nurses and other staff have sought to continue their obstetrics careers elsewhere.

We have dedicated staff in our obstetrics unit and understand the desire of staff to continue in delivery services. Because of staff moving to new employment, however, we will be unable to continue this service through October 22. Because the majority of deliveries cannot be scheduled on a specific date, we believe it more responsible to provide a date for closure rather than risk inadequate staffing at the time of delivery. Our plan now would be to formally discontinue obstetrics immediately following Review Board action on the application on October 22.

AMITA Health
Saint Francis Hospital
Evanston
355 Ridge Ave.
Evanston, IL 60202

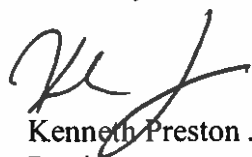
847.316.4000

AMITAhealth.org

Should the requested COE not be granted on October 22, 2019, you will be provided with status updates on a monthly basis, until such time as the service is discontinued.

Should any additional information be needed by either of your offices at this time, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,



Kenneth Preston Jones
President

cc Danielle Ashford, IDPH
J. Axel