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February 18, 2021

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

Re: Letter of Support- OrthoIllinois Surgery Center of Elgin, Project #20-040

Dear Ms. Avery,

My name is Jeffrey Kazaglis and I am the former Chairman of Surgery at Advocate Sherman Elgin Hospital ("Sherman") in Elgin, Illinois, having served in the role from 2018-2020. I am also a physician affiliated with OrthoIllinois and have submitted a referral letter supporting this project. Please accept this additional letter as a display of my continued support for the OrthoIllinois Surgery Center of Elgin ambulatory surgical treatment center ("ASTC") project.

During my time as Chairman of Surgery at Sherman I often dealt with issues related to a lack of block time in the hospital's surgery suites. This led to multiple issues for my patients as my office tried to schedule their procedures. These indiscriminate delays created uncertainty and anxiety for my patients. This has been an ongoing problem at the hospital for years and I had hoped it would be addressed by the creation of the Sherman ASTC project. However, it has been **4 years and 5 months** since I wrote a letter to support that project and there has been **no** substantive progress to date.

Even if the Sherman ASTC is ever built, I strongly believe there is a need for a sub-specialty surgical center like the one we at OrthoIllinois are proposing. Multi-specialty ASTCs like the one proposed by the hospital are designed to alleviate the lack of surgery time for a wide variety of practice groups. What is clear is that this project is different and is designed to shift orthopedic outpatient procedures to an ASTC setting with specialty equipment and specially trained orthopedic nurses. Establishing the OrthoIllinois Surgery Center of Elgin will lead to better patient outcomes, patient satisfaction and will increase access to care. I currently accept a wide variety of insurances because I believe that all patients deserve access to care regardless of who their payor is.



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I am delighted for this application to be considered by the Board as I know our commitment to our patients makes this facility a win-win for the community. I ask the Health Facilities and Services Review Board to support this project and approve it.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jeffrey A. Kazaglis".

Jeffrey Kazaglis