

December 3, 2020

Ms. Courtney Avery Administrator Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board 525 West Jefferson Springfield, IL 62761

Re: Certificate of Exemption E-009-20 Touchette Regional Hospital, Centreville, Illinois

Dear Ms. Avery:

Please be advised that effective as of the date of this letter, Touchette Regional Hospital is withdrawing our Certificate of Exemption (COE) that was previously filed on February 18, 2020 for the closure of our obstetrics category of service. This action is being taken due to alterations in the healthcare delivery system in the local region that has resulted in the closure of obstetrics services at Belleville Memorial Hospital, the pending contract termination of the largest Medicaid MCO plan by a local hospital system, and the need to seek solutions to improve upon the racial disparities in regional birth outcomes. These critical situations have produced the potential of diminished access and subsequent disparities and outcomes that must be assessed for key health transformations in the region.

Touchette Regional Hospital has initiated early steps to determine the necessary actions to resume obstetrical services at our hospital so we can assure regional and culturally necessary care that helps us address disparities in health outcomes.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have questions pertaining to this withdrawal request.

Sincerely,

Larry McCulley

CEO

Cc: Jack Axel

**Mike Constantino** 

Jay Willsher