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HEALTH FACILITIES &
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD

January 10, 2024

Mr. John Kniery
Administrator
Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board
525 West Jefferson Street, 2nd Floor
Springfield, IL 62731

RE: Pain & Spine Institute Surgery Center (Project No. 23-033)

Dear Mr. Kniery,

The Pain & Spine Institute Surgery Center is committed to their mission of providing innovative pain management services to help patients based on their individual needs. Their services help patients to relieve pain, restore function and regain their quality of life. I am writing in support of the Pain & Spine Surgery Center and its plans to establish a freestanding, lower cost surgery center in Joliet, IL.

I am the Executive Director of the Will Grundy Medical Clinic (WGMC). Our HHH – Housing, Healthcare and Hope program has enabled us to successfully serve the most vulnerable in our community, especially those who have become housing insecure and/or who experience substance abuse disorders. Our mission is to promote a healthy community by providing free healthcare services, including recovery services to people in our community who are unable to receive care from other sources. We focus on the social determinants of health. Our care is comprehensive and encompasses all the components necessary for a healthy community. Health is housing, nutrition, counseling, medication, medical visits, transportation, and more.

Chronic pain is a national epidemic, affecting the lives of one in three adults in the United States and cost our nation an estimated \$500 - \$635 billion annually. Also, our nation is currently facing an opioid crisis which has resulted in a huge number of overdose deaths that are associated with prescription and non-prescribed opioid usage. The Pain & Spine Institute Center plans to work with patients to develop a specific treatment plan that will promote pain reduction and reduce exposure to potentially habit-forming medications.

We welcome the Pain & Spine Clinic to our community and strongly believe they will offer exceptional services to our community.

Sincerely,

Shawn Marconi, MBA
Executive Director



United Way of Will County
& Grundy County