



March 13, 2025

Debra Savage
Chairwoman
Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board
525 W. Jefferson Street, 2nd Floor
Springfield, Illinois 62761

RE: Advocate Trinity Hospital's Proposed Replacement Hospital Project

Dear Ms. Savage,

I am writing on behalf of the National Association of Minority Contractors Chicago Chapter to express our enthusiastic support for Advocate Trinity Hospital's proposed construction of a modern, state-of-art new replacement community hospital.

Our community has long recognized the critical need for enhanced healthcare services in our area. The proposed replacement hospital by Advocate Trinity represents a much-needed investment in the health and well-being of our community. This new facility will bring state-of-the-art medical technology and advanced treatments to our community, ensuring that all individuals have access to the highest quality of care.

Founded in Oakland, California in 1969 by Ray Dones and Joseph Debro, NAMC is the oldest minority construction trade association in the United States. Members include more than 50 Hall of Fame members and Legacy Contractor Builders and a combined annual project capacity of over a billion dollars nationally. The association represents the interests of millions of skilled minority workers across the country. Through a network of local chapters and in collaboration with strategic and corporate partnerships, NAMC assists members with building capacity by providing access to opportunity, advocacy, and contractor development training.

NAMC is proud to be a leading voice for millions of minority trade workers and an advocate for undocumented veterans in the construction industry. Of the 160 million people employed in the United States, more than 31% (50 million) earn a living in the construction industry. Hispanics and Latinos make up 30%, or 15 million, of these workers, and African Americans represent 17% or 8.5 million workers nationally. Other minorities, totaling about 2 million, make up approximately 2% of the workforce. Together, the construction industry workforce includes 25 million minority workers.

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The National Association of Minority Contractors (NAMC) has a strong foundational history that has established a great legacy for the organization. NAMC's presence and voice in this industry is of even greater need today than ever before to continue the mission of providing Access (contract & resource opportunities), Advocacy (legislative impact), and Contractor Readiness (training, capacity building, and growth) for our members. The association strives to accomplish its goals in collaboration with major corporate partners, strategic alliances, and public agencies. The presence of NAMC today is a testament to its continuing legacy. The construction market is a relationship-driven industry. Business relationships must be developed; the strategies and approaches for pursuing, winning, and executing business is paramount. The future of NAMC lies in the enhancement of its Student Chapter Program as well as expanding our relationships with corporate partners to deliver the stated benefits of access, advocacy, and contractor readiness to our membership.

The National Association of Minority Contractors is a regional chapter located on the South Side of Chicago. Advocate Trinity Hospital has been a strong and loyal partner, providing comprehensive healthcare services to our community for over 100 years. The replacement hospital will be designed to better serve all members of our community, including those who are most vulnerable.

We support the construction and maintenance of the new hospital commitment to utilizing minority contractors and our diverse local workforce.

We welcome the opportunity to support Advocate Trinity in improving the health outcomes of our community.

Thank you for your consideration of this exciting and important project. Please do not hesitate to contact me regarding this matter.

Sincerely,

Curtis L. Thompson

Curtis L. Thompson

President

National Association of Minority Contractors Chicago

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