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From: Jacob D. Sams, MD <jsams@decaturorthopediccenter.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 21, 2025 12:42 PM
To: Shelly Doyle; Kristin Sams
Subject: Fwd: Surgery Center Public Hearing Info

Please print and bring to meeting.

Jacob D. Sams, MD
Decatur Orthopedic Center
Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: Gene Mueller <gene.mueller51@gmail.com>
Date: May 20, 2025 at 6:22:54 PM CDT
To: "Jacob Sams, MD" <jsams@decaturorthopediccenter.com>
Subject: Re: Surgery Center Public Hearing Info

Dr. Sams, the following is my letter in support of your request to proceed with the ASC:

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing in complete support of the Mt. Zion Center of Surgery, Ambulatory Surgery Center (ASC) in the greater Decatur Area. As a patient of Dr. Donald Sullivan and the Decatur Orthopedic Center, I am very familiar with the protocols of care in place benefiting their patients. I have had my left hip and right knee replaced, both completely successful. I was able to return to my volunteer ministry of building homes with Moultrie County Habitat shortly after each surgery.

I credit the care and attention to top-level surgical procedures for my full recovery.

As explained to me by Dr. Sams, the need for an Ambulatory Surgery Center (ASC) in the Decatur area is very real. The ability to better prevent post-surgical infection in a stand-alone facility is significantly higher than in a hospital setting. Having had several friends who developed post-surgical infections, in one case resulting in limb loss, I am very concerned with the possibility of infection.

Speaking to the anticipated financial savings, and as a Medicare recipient, lower cost is greatly appreciated. The very real savings, seen not only in significantly lower out-of-pocket expenses for patients, but also in far lower insurance payments. In this climate of spiraling Healthcare costs, this would be a welcome breath of fresh air.

I strongly support the outstanding surgeons of DOC, and pray you will favorably consider the advancement of this project.

Gene Mueller
Bethany, IL