

September 16, 2021

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F. Henry

The state health planning and development agency

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Ms. Emily Marsal
Executive Director
State Health Planning & Development Agency
RSA Union Building
100 North Union Street
Montgomery, AL 36104-3719

Re: Request for Reviewability Determination to Relocate Branch

Dear Ms. Marsal:

Pursuant to the Alabama Certificate of Need Program Rules and Regulations § 410-1-7-.02, I am writing on behalf of Comfort Care Hospice ("Comfort Care") to request that the State Health Planning and Development Agency ("SHPDA") issue a determination that Comfort Care is not required to obtain a new Certificate of Need ("CON") to relocate its administrative office in Cullman County (the "Cullman Office").

Effective as of November 15, 2021, or as soon as appropriate state agency approvals are received, the Cullman Office will relocate to 404 4<sup>th</sup> Street SW, Cullman, Alabama 35055. This relocation will not change the services provided by the Cullman Office and this request does not seek to change the Cullman Office's authorized CON service area. The relocation of the Cullman Office will not involve the addition, reallocation, or conversion of any beds, will not involve the acquisition of any stock, and will not involve the acquisition of any major medical equipment.

The relocation of the Cullman Office will not involve the construction, development, acquisition, or other establishment of a new health care facility and does not involve any capital expenditures in excess of the threshold amounts set forth in CON Rule § 410-1-4-.01 (\$3,079,347 for major medical equipment, \$1,231,738 for annual operating cost, and \$6,158,695 for other capital expenditures).

The relocation of the Cullman Office does not involve the offering of a new health care service, as Comfort Care currently provides in-home hospice services to patients in Cullman County.

Comfort Care hereby submits the following approximate costs for this project.

1. Cost of Equipment: \$0

2. First Year Annual Operating Cost: No additional operating costs.

## 3. Capital Expenditures: \$25,000 or less

Based upon the facts stated above and the applicable rules, Comfort Care respectfully requests that SHPDA issue a determination that Comfort Care's relocation of its Cullman Office is: (1) permissible without further filings or requests to SHPDA; and (2) not subject to CON review. Comfort Care will submit the \$1,000 filing fee through SHPDA's electronic portal.

If you have any questions or would like to discuss this request in further detail, please do not hesitate to reach out to me at the number or e-mail address listed above. I appreciate your help in getting this reviewability determination request processed.

Sincerely

/James F. Henry

JFH:jks

[Affirmation of Requesting Party on Following Page]

## **Affirmation of Requesting Party**

The undersigned, being first duly sworn, hereby make oath or affirm that she is the Chief Operating Officer of Comfort Care Hospice, has knowledge of the facts in this request, and to the best of her information, knowledge, and belief, such facts are true and correct.

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