

STATE OF CONNECTICUT

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH Office of Health Care Access

March 20, 2013

VIA FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION ONLY

Thomas A. Rago, MD Member The Surgical Center of Connecticut, LLC 3101 Main Street Bridgeport, CT 06606

RE:

Certificate of Need Determination; Report Number: 13-31820-DTR

Surgical Center of Connecticut

Change of Ownership of Outpatient Surgical Facility

Dear Dr. Rago:

On January 28, 2013, the Office of Health Care Access ("OHCA") received your Certificate of Need ("CON") determination request on behalf of The Surgical Center of Connecticut ("SCC" or "the Applicant") with respect to whether a CON is required to transfer at least 60% ownership of SCC to a group of physicians and a minority share to Merritt Healthcare, all at a cost of \$3.3 million. Merritt Healthcare will act as the third party management firm for SCC while a Board of Managers will have the overall responsibility for governance.

In a Febraury 26, 2013 response to follow-up questions from OHCA, you indicated the Board of Managers would be made up of four physicians with ownership interest in the company and one representative from Merritt Healthcare. The proposed change in ownership conforms to Conn. Gen. Stat. §19a-493b(c).

Secondly, after relocating the facility from 3101 Main Street, Bridgeport to 4920 Main Street, Bridgeport, its primary service area (Bridgeport, Fairfield, Westport, Southport, Stratford and Shelton) and its patient payer mix (25 percent Medicare/Medicaid and 75 percent commercial insurance) will be unchanged. In accordance with Conn. Gen. Stat. § 19a-639c, SCC has demonstrated to the satisfaction of OHCA that upon relocating the facility, the population to be served and its payer mix will not change substantially.

Based upon the foregoing, OHCA concludes a CON is *not required* for SCC to relocate and change ownership as submitted.

If you have any questions regarding this letter, please contact Olga Armah, Associate Research Analyst, at (860) 418-7070.

Sincerely,

Kimberly R. Martone

Director of Operations, OHCA

Cc: Rose McLellan, License and Applications Supervisor, DPH, DHSR

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(If you require aid/accommodation to participate fully and fairly, contact us either by phone, fax or email)

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