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**Orthopedic Surgery**

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**Urologic Surgery**

Robert W. Garrison, M.D.  
Arthur G. Klose, M.D.

**General and Bariatric Surgery**

Michael A. Bell, M.D.  
John T. Johnson, Jr. M.D.

**Orthopedic Surgery & Sports Medicine**

Robert E. Coles, M.D.

June 10, 2010

Thomas J. Pulliam  
Chair of the Long Term and Behavioral Health Committee  
State Health Coordinating Council  
North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services  
2714 Mail Center Service  
Raleigh, NC 27699-2714

DFS Health Planning  
RECEIVED

AUG 02 2010

Medical Facilities  
PLANNING SECTION

RE: Petition for Adjusted Need Determination for Hospice Inpatient Beds  
in Carteret Country in the 2011 SMFP

Dear Mr. Pulliam:

I am a urologist in Morehead City, North Carolina and have practiced here for 18 years. The scope of my practice is one of general urology including both youth and elderly patients. My practice includes a good number of cancer patients who have been treated for cancers of the kidney, bladder, prostate and testicle. My care has involved countless numbers of Hospice patients over these last 18 years.

I am writing to support the permission recently submitted by the Crystal Coast Hospice House to begin an inpatient Hospice facility in this county. It is my understanding that the nearest inpatient hospital Hospice facility is over 100 miles away in Wilmington and Greenville, North Carolina. The opportunity to have an inpatient facility in this county would benefit many families both in this county as well as surrounding counties.

As you know, the stress on families providing 24 hour a day care for terminally ill loved ones is often overwhelming. While it is preferential for patients to spend their final days in their homes, this is often not possible. I would strongly prefer having my patients cared for in an inpatient Hospice facility than for them to require hospitalization at Carteret General Hospital, our local hospital.

In addition, the requirement that patients currently travel 100 miles to the nearest inpatient facility puts quite a strain on family resources and the ability of friends and other family members to provide support during my patient's final days.

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I believe the ability to provide inpatient Hospice care in this county would be a great benefit to our elderly population and to those of us who care for them. Thank you for allowing me to provide my letter of support to this worthy cause.

Sincerely Yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Arthur G. Klose", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Arthur G. Klose, MD

AGK/rsi