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By K Fisk at 3:36 pm, Aug 16, 2012

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August 14, 2012

Nadine Pfeiffer, Chief  
Planning Section  
Division of Facility Services  
801 Ruggles Drive  
2714 Mail Service Center  
Raleigh, North Carolina 27699-2714

RE: Carteret General Hospital Petition for Shared Fixed Cardiac Catheterization Laboratory, Carteret County and Johnston Memorial Hospital Petition for Temporary Rule to Permit Interventional Catheterization in Cardiac Catheterization Laboratories without Open Heart Surgery

Dear Ms. Pfeiffer,

On behalf of myself as a Carteret County community member, I ask that DHSR Planning Staff recommend *and* that the full State Health Coordinating Council approve the request from Carteret General Hospital for an adjusted need determination for a shared fixed cardiac catheterization laboratory in Carteret County for the *2013 State Medical Facilities Plan*.

We invite you to visit the Crystal Coast in any season. We hope you will come during tourist season so you may appreciate the travel hurdles faced by our rural communities. We know that heart disease is a dominant health problem here. We have seen the numbers in the hospital's petition and believe it is time to permit the county to develop a cardiac catheterization program. It would be done with careful thought and good planning.

The track record of Carteret General with regard to quality is well documented in their petition. Cardiac catheterization would have the same level of attention.

Please agree to the petitions from both Carteret General Hospital and Johnston Memorial Hospital to include a special need for a shared fixed cardiac catheterization unit in Carteret County and address the temporary rule to permit cardiac catheterization laboratories that meet the AHA guidelines to offer both therapeutic and diagnostic catheterizations.

Carteret General's access to a cardiac catheterization laboratory would complement, not replace, the cardiology services of CarolinaEast Medical Center.

Thank you for your time and attention. I would be happy to answer any questions you may have regarding this important issue.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "S. Phillip Collins". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "S".

S. Phillip Collins  
President/CEO  
Sound Banking Company