



Bristol Surgical Associates, P.C.

GENERAL AND VASCULAR SURGERY

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October 8, 2019

Logan Grant
Executive Director
Tennessee Health Services and Development Agency
Andrew Jackson Building, Ninth Floor
502 Deaderick Street
Nashville, TN 37243

Re: Sapling Grove Endoscopy Center
CN1907-026

Mr. Grant:

We are a group of independent physicians located in Bristol, Tennessee. We are submitting this letter of support with regard to the Certificate of Need application of Sapling Grove Endoscopy Center, LLC, for an outpatient endoscopy center to be located in Bristol, Tennessee.

As general surgeons, we perform a variety of procedures. Previously we performed elective colonoscopies and esophagogastroduodenoscopy ("EGD") procedures at Sapling Grove Ambulatory Surgery Center, LLC, however, this surgery center closed in 2018. As a result, we have been forced to move all colonoscopies and EGD procedures to Bristol Regional Medical Center owned by Ballad Health.

Bristol Surgical Associates, P.C., desires to have an independent, physician-owned center where it can continue to provide these services to our patients. Bristol Surgical also believes that the demand for these procedures fully supports additional endoscopy suites.

Bristol Surgical appreciates the opportunity to comment on the Sapling Grove Endoscopy Center, LLC Certificate of Need application and urges the Agency to approve its application.

Sincerely,

Benjamin S. Scharfstein, JR, MD