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Sep 07 2017

STATE HEALTH PLANNING AND  
DEVELOPMENT AGENCY

September 7, 2017

**FILED THIS DATE VIA EMAIL TO: [shpda.online@shpda.alabama.gov](mailto:shpda.online@shpda.alabama.gov);  
and SENT VIA EMAIL TO: [Alva.Lambert@shpda.alabama.gov](mailto:Alva.Lambert@shpda.alabama.gov) and  
[Deborah.Compton@shpda.alabama.gov](mailto:Deborah.Compton@shpda.alabama.gov)**

Alva M. Lambert, Esq.  
Executive Director  
Alabama State Health Planning  
and Development Agency  
100 North Union Street, Suite 870  
Montgomery, Alabama 36104

*Re:* Geneva County Health Care Authority, Inc.,  
d/b/a Wiregrass Medical Center  
Project/CON No.: AL 2016-022/CON 2766-PSYCH  
Our File No. 4630.1032

Dear Alva:

This law firm represents the Geneva County Health Care Authority, Inc., d/b/a Wiregrass Medical Center, (hereinafter, "Wiregrass"). This letter is written to request approval of a Project Modification for the above-referenced Certificate of Need (CON 2766-PSYCH), pursuant to Rule 410-1-10-.03 of your Agency Regulations. The CON was issued on September 5, 2016, and an extension was granted on September 6, 2017. The CON application proposed to use space in an existing hospital wing, where there is a geriatric psychiatric unit already in operation.

The Project, as originally approved by the Certificate of Need Review Board, involved the renovation of existing space at the end of the existing geriatric psychiatric unit, to add patient space for five (5) geriatric psychiatric beds. The total estimated hard cost for the project was \$75,500, and \$20,000 was the estimated cost of construction/renovation.

Unfortunately, the hospital has encountered many obstacles in its efforts to complete the renovation and get the beds into operation. There have been changes in upper management since the Certificate of Need was granted. The architect who was initially hired to draft plans and work with the Alabama Department of Public Health failed to provide promised architectural services. When new management was brought to the hospital in August 2017, it was discovered that, because of the delay or failure on the part of the architect, it was necessary to engage a new architectural firm to draft

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architectural plans and to work with the Alabama Department of Public Health for approval of the plans for the renovation.

The costs of renovation are now projected to be \$141,851.13. Wiregrass requests approval of a project modification to increase its overall project hard costs from \$75,500 to \$215,082.52.

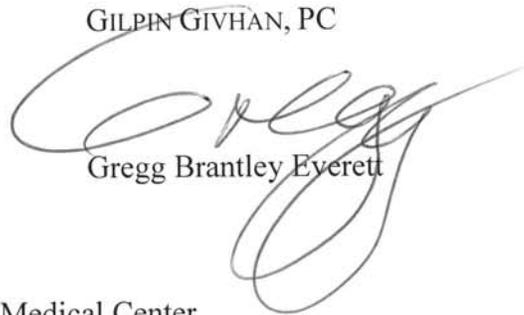
A check to pay the filing fee of \$1,225 (35% of the original filing fee of \$3,500) will be hand delivered to your offices today.

I certify that a copy of this request has been served on all parties of record in the underlying administrative proceeding (Carey B. McRae, Esq., Bradley Arant Boult Cummings, LLP, One Federal Place, 1819 Fifth Avenue North, Birmingham, AL 35203). Please see copy of Certificate of Service attached to this letter.

Thank you for your assistance in this matter. Please let me know if you have any questions or need any additional information.

Sincerely,

GILPIN GIVHAN, PC

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Gregg", is written over the typed name "Gregg Brantley Everett". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Gregg Brantley Everett

GBE/sd

cc: Mr. Jeff Brannon, CEO of Wiregrass Medical Center  
Carey B. McRae, Esq. (Attorney for Laurel Oaks Behavioral Health Center)

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**CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I HEREBY CERTIFY that I have served a copy of the foregoing CON modification request upon the following listed party(ies) of record by placing same in the United States Mail, postage prepaid and properly addressed, on this the 7th day of September, 2017:

**Carey B. McRae, Esq.**  
BRADLEY ARANT BOULT CUMMINGS, LLP  
One Federal Place  
1819 Fifth Avenue North  
Birmingham, AL 35203

  
**Jeffrey Brannon, CEO**  
Geneva County Health Care Authority, Inc.,  
d/b/a Wiregrass Medical Center