

Federal Trade Commission 600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW Washington, DC 20580

April 22, 2015

Michael J. Gerardi, MD, FACEP American College of Emergency Physicians 2121 K Street NW, Suite 325 Washington, DC 20037



United States Department of Justice Antitrust Division 950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW Washington, DC 20530

Dear Dr. Gerardi,

Thank you for your March 24, 2015 letter concerning the February 2015 Examining Health Care Competition workshop, conducted jointly by the Federal Trade Commission and the U.S. Department of Justice Antitrust Division.

Achieving balance and diversity of viewpoints was and remains a high priority for the workshop planning team, comprising staff from both the FTC and the Antitrust Division. As the workshop agenda demonstrates, panelists represented a broad range of perspectives, including providers.

The February workshop was but one step in engaging stakeholders in an ongoing discussion of competition in the health care industry. The FTC and the Antitrust Division remain committed to receiving substantive input from the full range of stakeholders. We have solicited public comments on the issues covered in the workshop, and the comment period remains open until April 30.

We appreciate the substantive points raised in your letter. If you would like us to treat your letter as a public comment, we will include your correspondence in the record of proceedings. Please contact FTC attorney Patricia Schultheiss at <u>pschultheiss@ftc.gov</u> to confirm. Additionally, if you, the American College of Emergency Physicians, or other ACEP members wish to supplement the record or respond to statements made during the workshop, we encourage the submission of public comments on any of the workshop topics.

Sincerely,

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Marina Lao Director, Office of Policy Planning Federal Trade Commission

Robert Better

Robert Potter Chief, Legal Policy Section U.S. Department of Justice Antitrust Division