



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

M. Norman Oliver, MD, MA
State Health Commissioner

Department of Health
P O BOX 2448
RICHMOND, VA 23218

TTY 7-1-1 OR
1-800-828-1120

April 27, 2020

Ms. Terrie Edwards
Corporate Vice President & System Incident
Command Center Operations Leader
Sentara Healthcare
6015 Poplar Hall Drive, Suite 102
Norfolk, Virginia 23502

RE: Sentara Obici Hospital

Suffolk, Virginia

Temporarily add 80 Beds at Sentara Obici Hospital in response to the COVID-19 crisis

Dear Ms. Edwards:

In accordance with Executive Order 52, I reviewed the request and all supporting documents submitted by Sentara Healthcare to temporarily add 80 beds at Sentara Obici Hospital. I have considered the factors listed in my March 24, 2020, letter; and I have concluded that **approval** of the request is warranted based on the following findings:

1. Sentara Obici Hospital has demonstrated that, due to the reasonable expectation of a sudden and overwhelming increase in acute care patients resulting from COVID-19 infection, Sentara Obici Hospital has an immediate need to temporarily add 80 licensed inpatient beds.
2. Sentara Obici Hospital's plan for training and shifting ambulatory staff is a reasonable solution for staffing the additional beds.
3. Sentara Obici Hospital's plan and ability to obtain equipment and supplies is reasonable within the confines of the current crisis.
4. Sentara Obici Hospital's plan to expand bed capacity in existing hospital space throughout the campus assures patient safety is maintained from a fire and life safety code perspective.

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In accordance with Executive Order 52, the 80 added beds are deemed to be licensed from the date an emailed notice is received by Robert Payne, Director of the Office of Licensure and Certification, that they are open. This authorization is valid for the period April 27, 2020, through 30 days after the expiration of or rescission of Executive Order 52, as it may be amended.

If you have any questions, please contact Robert Payne at (804) 367-2109, or Robert.Payne@VDH.Virginia.gov. Thank you for your response to the community in this public health emergency.

Sincerely,

DocuSigned by:

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M. Norman Oliver, MD, MA
State Health Commissioner

cc: Allyson Tysinger, Senior Assistant Attorney General, Commonwealth of Virginia
Robert A. K. Payne, JD, Director, Office of Licensure and Certification
Deborah K. Waite, Operations Manager, Virginia Health Information
Nancy Welch, MD, MPH, MBA, Acting District Director, Western Tidewater Health District