

LUANN BEARDEMPHL

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October 6, 2015

Mr. Randy Marshall
Executive Director
New Mexico Medical Society
316 Osuna NE, Suite 501
Albuquerque, NM 87107

Re: Montañó vs. Frezza

Dear Mr. Marshall,

As a lifetime resident of Eddy County, New Mexico, I am distressed about the pending legal action in the Montano vs. Frezza case that would significantly jeopardize, if not eliminate, the ability of people in New Mexico to have covered care in Lubbock, if the ruling is affirmed. Mr. Marshall, I cannot tell you the hardship this would place on our families, employees, and community members as a whole if we were denied the option to receive quality, insured medical care in Lubbock. Our insurance NEEDS to be accepted. While we in Artesia have a great hospital with very competent healthcare providers, we do not have the specialized health care that is sometimes needed to positively resolve a health concern or even save a life. In most cases, Lubbock is the closest major medical hub. Some citizens have established long-term relationships with Lubbock doctors, and their continued care is critical to their survival. It is in their best interest to keep this continuity intact. We now have a Care Flight helicopter stationed in Artesia, and it is utilized multiple times a day to transport critical patients, mostly to Lubbock, who need much more specialized care, whether because of serious health issues or emergency situations. Personally, my son is alive because of the care he received at a Lubbock hospital after a serious accident, and I am very grateful that my New Mexico insurance was accepted.

Additionally, denial of covered healthcare expenses from Lubbock providers would put an undue burden on specialists in the larger New Mexico cities, who already have extremely tight schedules. The patients would also suffer from longer wait times for needed services. Please help us keep this Lubbock option available to New Mexico citizens, especially those who live in rural southeastern New Mexico.

Sincerely,


LuAnn Beardemphl