

Dear Atrium Board of Directors:

I am an anesthesiologist with 32 years of service to one hospital system and want to convey my reservations about your system switching from the high quality Southeast Anesthesiology Consultants (SAC) at a time when the most critically ill patients are being seen within large hospital systems. The current trend appears that healthy patients are treated at ambulatory surgery centers and hospitals are becoming more like intensive care units. This trend will continue with the development of population health modalities and will require an incredibly well trained anesthesiology group with remarkable clinical and administrative skills to provide excellent patient care so as to preserve the high quality of preoperative care at your facility. It will require a well coordinated team. One that has a history of collaboration.

Anesthesiology is not a commodity and the institutional knowledge that SAC possesses should not be marginalized. They understand the operational challenges at your facility and surgeon nuances that most people don't appreciate until significant recurring problems occur . Whether it is scheduling inefficiencies or several quality gaps , there will be palpable issues without a well managed functional anesthesiology group.

Engaged physicians are difficult to find let alone to replace. Patients in your community have grown to trust their care and compassion. I hope that this letter gives you pause to reflect on your decision. You may assume that a replacement group is more than capable, but it is similar to a recent historic event in that everything is OK until you have to land on the Hudson.

Wyndham Mortimer, M.D.  
Georgia Perioperative Consultants

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Wyndham Mortimer". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned below the typed name and title.