

**Larry N. Schultz
1003 N. Mesa Ave.
Willcox, Az. 85643**

January 28, 2010

Re: Northern Cochise Community Hospital

To Whom It May Concern:

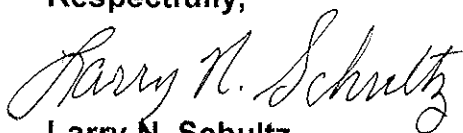
Willcox's hospital has been in its present location since the early 1950's. It is a 24 bed hospital with an attached 24 bed nursing home. Until recently it was a minimum care hospital and the former CEO wanted to close the nursing home portion. The whole facility employed approximately 74 personnel.

A little over a year and a half ago the hospital board hired a new CEO, Mr. Harley Smith. In the short time he has been here the hospital has become a Trauma 4 facility, the nursing home is now rated among the top five in the country, they now have a full time mammogram facility, a more advanced CT scan system and one of the most advanced X-Ray systems in the country. Two years ago most of the rooms in the hospital had little use; since most of the patients coming in to the ER were being transferred to Tucson or Sierra Vista, now all but the extreme cases stay in this hospital. In addition to all this the total facility now has over 170 employees and is on sound financial ground.

In the short time Mr. Smith has been here the hospital has added so much to our community. However, due to the age of the present facility we feel there is a desperate need for a new, larger hospital and larger 59 bed nursing home. A new hospital and nursing home would be a great asset to our city and in the process would create even more employment here in Willcox.

It is my hope that you will give due consideration to Northern Cochise County Hospital's request for assistance with the new facility.

Respectfully,



Larry N. Schultz

Vice Mayor Willcox, Az