

To: Hospital Name  
Re: Prayer with Family  
Date: August 28<sup>th</sup>, 2021

Patient Name has specifically requested to pray with his family. His sincerely held belief is that prayer together with family heals the sick. James 5 says to anoint with oil and pray a prayer of faith and they shall recover. Matthew 18:18-19 says that if two of you agree on earth as touching anything they shall ask, it shall be done for them of my Father who is in heaven.

Hospital Name must accommodate Patient Name's request to have his family present for prayer. There is no undue hardship on Hospital Name for Patient Name to pray with his family, as Patient Name's attending physician said Patient Name no longer has evidence of a viral load. In addition, hospital policies state healthcare workers can return to work caring for patients 10-14 days after first covid symptoms. Patient Name's symptoms began August 10<sup>th</sup>, as evidenced by text messages with his family. Per policy, the Hospital itself no longer views it as a public health concern. Yet, Patient Name is suffering by the deprivation of prayer with his family. He is not given the right to pray he is accustomed to under the circumstances.

Patient Name's prayer visits (1) would not disrupt patient care; (2) his visitors will follow hospital safety policies; (3) his visitors will follow proper infection prevention practices, including hand washing and sanitizing along with physical distancing; (4) visitors will wear face masks and the same PPE as required of healthcare workers; (5) his visitors either already have, or will be happy to complete infection control training; and (6) his visitors are willing to sign an acknowledgment of the risks associated with visiting a COVID-positive patient.

Title II of the Civil Rights act, codified at 42 U.S.C. § 2000a prohibits religious discrimination in places of public accommodation, such as a hospital. "any and all efforts to deny one of the full and equal enjoyment of the goods, services, facilities, privileges, advantages, and accommodation of that place because of discrimination." *United States v. DeRosier*, 473 F.2d 749, 752 (5th Cir. 1973)

Hospital Name would be violating Federal Law and State law if they don't comply.

Sincerely,