

October 4, 2011 - *Letter received Virgil Lovitt, Mayor, City of Sharonville, Ohio and President Sharonville Board of Health (courtesy of Right to Life of Greater Cincinnati)*

Governor Kasich's Director of Health, Dr. Ted Wymyslo, has expanded late term abortions in Southwest Ohio. Yes, it is true. I am stunned at what I have just written, but it really is true.

In 2010, the Strickland Administration granted a variance [exception] allowing late term abortionist, Martin Haskell, to open a new clinic in Sharonville, Ohio, the Women's Med Center at 11250 Lebanon Rd.

Dr. Haskell could not comply with a regulation requiring an Ambulatory Surgical Facility (ASF) to have a transfer agreement with an area hospital to handle complications from his procedures. Therefore, the state gave him this variance on the condition that he maintains privileges at an area hospital, a lesser standard than a transfer agreement.

Now, Dr. Haskell's variance has been modified. He is no longer required to have privileges at an area hospital or a transfer agreement. He is allowed to operate by having his partner, Roslyn Kade, and two other Cincinnati doctors, David Schwartz and Walter J. Bowers\*, handle his emergency complications.

Now, Martin Haskell can continue to perform abortions without meeting these requirements, and he can replace his skills with other doctors that, also, do not need to meet the written state regulations.

Any abortionists working at the Women's Med Center are now covered by the credentials of Dr. Haskell's partner, Roslyn Kade, and two doctors off-site. This has expanded the variance to beyond the career of this 71-year old abortionist. Martin Haskell can finally retire and his late term abortion center will legally be able to operate indefinitely.

These are not just technicalities. There are real patient safety issues. This clinic has been open less than one year and has already had multiple problems.

Haskell's two-day process for late term abortions has already produced one stillborn baby in a hotel toilet and another in a car on the way to an ER. These complications are difficult to track, and there are probably more than we know. There are pro-life sidewalk educators outside the abortion facility, and it is estimated that this location is performing about 200 abortions each month.

In August 2011, I along with Mike Gonidakis (Executive Director, Ohio Right to Life), Paula Westwood (Executive Director, Cincinnati Right to Life), and Colleen Gerke (Director, Archdiocese of Cincinnati Family & Respect Life Office) met face to face with the new director of the Ohio Department of Health, Dr Ted Wymyslo. In that meeting I begged the new director not to liberalize the variance if Martin Haskell's privileges at an area hospital changed.

Recent [public records](#) show the variance has been modified. The state lost a similar case to Martin Haskell in Dayton several years ago and the federal courts often lean against the pro-life community. However, this situation has as many differences as it has similarities to the Dayton case, and we were ready to argue the merits of those points.

We've had our two steps backward. Now, it's time for a big step forward. As I write this, 40 Days for Life is praying outside the door of this abortionist.

*Virgil Lovitt*

Mayor, City of Sharonville, Ohio  
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