HOUSTON ORTHOPEDIC SURGERY CENTER, LLC 3051 Watson Blvd. Suite 800 Warner Robins, Georgia 31093

Dear Patient:

Our facility has always protected the confidentiality of health information and refused to reveal your information without your written consent. Today, state and federal laws also attempt to ensure the confidentiality of this sensitive information.

The federal government recently published regulations designed to protect the privacy of your health information. This "privacy rule" protects health information that is maintained by physicians, hospitals, other health care providers, including ambulatory surgery centers and health plans.

This new regulation protects virtually all patients regardless of where they live or where they receive their health care. Every time you see a physician, are admitted to the hospital or Ambulatory Surgery Center, fill a prescription, or send a claim to a health plan, your physician, the hospital or other health care provider will need to consider the privacy rule.

The privacy rule also provides you certain rights, such as the right to have access to your medical records. There are exceptions; these rights are not absolute. We also take precautions in our facility to safeguard your health information, such as training our employees and employing computer security measures. Please feel free to ask our Business Office Manager, Director/Privacy Officer about exercising your rights or how your health information is protected in our facility.

The Notice of Privacy Practices attached to this letter explains our privacy practices. It contains very important information about how your confidential health information is handled by our facility. It also describes how you may exercise your rights with regard to your protected health information. This copy is being provided to you to take home. As part of your admission paperwork you will be asked to sign an Acknowledgement of Receipt of Privacy Notice upon your arrival at Houston Orthopedic Surgery Center.

Please let us know if you have any questions about our Notice of Privacy Practices. You may contact our Director/Privacy Officer at 478-971-2252 or discuss any questions you may have with the Business Office Manager.

Governing Body and Management of Houston Orthopedic Surgery Center, LLC