

February 20, 1987

Paul J. Poppers, M.D.
Professor & Chairman
Department of Anesthesiology
SUNY at Stony Brook
Long Island, New York 11794

Dear Paul,

I am pleased to submit this letter endorsing the promotion of KENNETH FREESE, M.D. to the rank of Clinical Associate Professor of Anesthesiology.

I first met Ken when he delivered anesthesia for the ECT service in 1984. At the time, we were studying the relations between seizure duration and outcome. Ken was particularly responsive to our needs for controlled anesthesia. Later, when I decided to edit the journal Convulsive Therapy, I raised questions with him, which he answered with good documentation. One response led to the report "Can patients safely undergo electroconvulsive therapy while receiving monoamine oxidase inhibitors?", which I published in 1985.

Last year, I invited him to discuss the relations between anesthesiologists and electrotherapists in the American Psychiatric Association training course on ECT in Washington. His presentation was authoritative and stimulating; the students loved it. His success led us to invite him to present again in May this year in Chicago.

Since he took over the chair at the Nassau County Medical Center, we have met occasionally, to discuss our common interests. He has maintained his interest and enthusiasm for this special application of modern anesthesia.

Ken is a most engaging, enthusiastic, responsible, and competent physician. He is an excellent student and teacher. He aroused in his residents (and in mine) an interest in anesthesia, and encouraged their understanding of the physiology of the processes. His administrative skills are excellent, and are reflected in his being selected to take over the arduous position at NCMC. I am pleased to recommend his promotion, and do so with enthusiasm.

Sincerely yours,

Max Fink, M.D.
Professor of Psychiatry