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**To:** [comments.applications@rich.frb.org](mailto:comments.applications@rich.frb.org); [BankMergerApplication](#)  
**Cc:** [Bell.Chris](#)  
**Subject:** public comments on community involvement  
**Date:** Friday, April 05, 2019 4:30:59 PM

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To whom it may concern:

I am writing in support of SunTrust and their longstanding involvement in the Durham, NC community. The organizations I represent, the Lincoln Community Health Center, and the Lincoln Community Health Center Foundation, have benefited from grants over several years from the SunTrust Foundation.

Lincoln Community Health Center has proudly provided primary and preventive health care to a low income, under and uninsured population in Durham County since 1971. Lincoln traces its history to the original Lincoln Hospital founded in 1901. As of 2018, our community health center served almost 40,000 unique individuals. 55% are uninsured, 89% are racial or ethnic minorities and 49% prefer to communicate in a language other than English. We offer a vast array of services including adult, family, and pediatric medicine, behavioral health, dental services, laboratory, radiology, and a full service pharmacy with greatly reduced cost prescription drugs made available to our patients. In addition, we operate satellite clinics that serve special populations such as persons who are homeless, who have HIV/AIDS, and a clinic in an urban high school. We also provide no-cost transportation to and from appointments.

Since 2015 the SunTrust Foundation has provided grants to Lincoln totaling \$37,000. These funds have supported diverse projects that include technology upgrades, diabetes programs, and dental services. Although Lincoln receives some federal funding, community support is essential when federal and other restricted funds cannot be used or may be reduced. We also fundraise from donors, the local community, and other corporate partners to support operating expenses, and new and innovative programming.

It is our desire that the merger of SunTrust and BB&T will continue to support nonprofit organizations, such as Lincoln Community Health Center, and the many other outstanding organizations that provide services in Durham County, to vulnerable populations. We have appreciated the relationship with SunTrust, and hope that we can forge a new relationship under the merger. I would invite a representative to tour our health center at your convenience.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments.

Respectfully,

Lawrence Trachtman  
Development Director

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