

To Whom it May Concern,

Coastal Orthopedics is a physician owned group of orthopedic surgeons that has been serving the Sarasota/Manatee area since 1973. We have 3 offices and one surgery center in Manatee County have around 300 employees. Coastal Orthopedics provides a wide array of services to our patients, including physician consultations, physical therapy, imaging (x-rays and MRI), and outpatient surgery. This requires an employee base that is well educated and prepared for our fast-paced clinics.

We first opened our imaging department in 2018 and were very excited to bring on new employees to provide that service. The imaging department at Coastal Orthopedics takes pride in achieving the best imaging possible for our providers while caring for our patients and we feel that Keiser University follows the same standards. The decision to bring Radiologic Technologist students to our practice from Keiser was an easy one. The radiology program at Keiser University has provided and continues to provide students with the knowledge and experience they need in order to fit in well with our organization. Because of the professional and academic foundation that Keiser University provides to its students, Coastal Orthopedics will continue to hire its graduates for our imaging department.

Coastal Orthopedics has also had the opportunity to host many Medical Assistant students during their externships, some of which joined our team and have turned into long term employees. Keiser University has had a direct impact on the local medical field by training these medical assistants and preparing them to be able to provide the community with quality care.

One of our managers, Jacqueline Dixon, is a member of the Medical Assisting Advisory board, where she attends meetings to provide feedback and recommendations to assist future medical assistants. We appreciate the opportunity to give feedback on the program since its adds so much value to our employee base.

We greatly appreciate the way that Keiser University prepares local students to work for organizations such as Coastal Orthopedics and will continue to partner with them and welcome their graduates as new hires to our organization.

Thank you.

Leah Kelly,

**HR** Generalist