

August 16, 2015

Dear Alabama Board of Physical Therapy

As a result of having a stroke in 2012 at age 49, I experienced a great deal of frustration learning about and getting additional physical therapy. I was an engineering executive prior to my stroke and have now changed direction to that of an entrepreneur to help improve the patient/consumer rehabilitation experience.

Eighteen months after my stroke, I had surgery and physical therapy for a bone spur on my now dominant right shoulder. My therapist mentioned that she had a colleague that might be able to help me with my left arm limitations. After her evaluation, I requested a referral from my doctor to receive treatment. Little did I know it but that was 'Direct Access' in motion and not the traditional path of receiving care. I firmly believe that if I had known more about how and where to get additional therapy immediately after my stroke, I would have even more functionality than I have currently.

It is clear, based on the current APTA vision statement, that the consumer is a focus for the association. I would like to play a role in Alabama in the implementation of that vision. I recently became aware of a consumer position open on the Board and would be honored to serve in this capacity by using my experience to help be the voice of the consumer.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Tom Kelly". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Tom Kelly

# THOMAS H. KELLY

110 PERDIDO BAY DRIVE, HUNTSVILLE, AL 35811  
256-509-2653 - TKELLY1144@GMAIL.COM

## BACKGROUND SUMMARY

An entrepreneur leveraging personal physical therapy experiences and engineering leadership skills to improve the patient/consumer rehabilitation experience. Taking the frustrations that result from ineffective communication of the options available in a community and at a treatment facility, as they all play a role in the total experience. Coordinating with business owners and administrators to increase revenues through extending patient patronage and recommendations to family and friends.

## KEY SKILLS

Process Improvement	Team Management & Development	System Thinking
Strategic Planning	Streamline Policies & Procedures	Communications

## WORK HISTORY

**Therapy Connection, President** 2013 - present

Help organizations integrate the voice of the customer into their business operations. Utilize the six sigma DMAIC methodology to identify opportunities for improvement, collect and analyze customer feedback, work with the organization to determine root cause, and define an implementation plan. Maintain statistics to identify trends that allow for continuous improvement.

### **DRS Technologies, Inc.**

Vice President of Technical Operations	2010 – 2013
Director of Internal Research and Development	2002 – 2010
Project Engineer	1999 – 2002

**Implemented** a modification to the product development process to require manufacturing engineers to be part of the development team and actively involved in design reviews to ensure compatible part selection, early assembly considerations, and the identification of required manufacturing capital assets. **Result:** Reduction in labor costs due to improved communication between design engineering and manufacturing.

**Led and Mentored** a 100+ engineering organization. Provided a technical, management, and program growth path for career advancement and provided feedback as to where they need to make adjustments to achieve their objectives. **Results:** Several promotions were made in all paths at all levels within engineering.

**Modified and maintained** CMMI design practices. In addition to training engineering personnel, metrics were collected to show evidence of improvement. **Results:** Approximately 20% reduction in design changes later in the product life cycle.

**Reorganized** engineering through some reassignments of the mid-level management and hiring new outside managers. **Results:** Alleviated internal customer performance issues and injected new thought processes and dynamics within the engineering organization.

**Performed** a technical maturity assessment of a company's flagship product at a strategic level. **Results:** Recommended that the company not be acquired thus saving millions of dollars because the company went out of business a short time later.

## OTHER WORK HISTORY

### ERC, Inc.

Lead Systems Engineer 1998 – 1999

### Pentastar Electronics, Inc.

Project Engineer 1995 – 1998

Optical Engineer 1992 – 1995

## EDUCATION

University of Alabama in Huntsville, BS in Electrical Engineering  
Center for Creative Leadership, Creative Leadership Training  
Villanova University, Six Sigma – Green belt certification

## OTHER INFORMATION

Obtained U.S. patent 6,635,892 B2 (compact integrated infrared scene projector)  
Authored various technical papers for SPIE and Autotestcon conferences