



## Medical Transportation

Wheelchair • Ambulance • Stretcher

Family Owned and Operated Since 1973

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Dear Mr. Hare,

MedFleet strongly supports the proposed changes to the EMS Ordinance and EMS Rules and Regulations. We applaud your efforts and believe it will bring about beneficial results to the residents of Pinellas County in the form of continued high quality medical transportation.

Based on our discussions at the recent provider meeting and reviewing the content of the proposed changes to the ordinance and EMS Rules, I have included several items for consideration.

Since there are approximately fifteen provider agencies currently licensed in Pinellas County for wheelchair transport services, it would be prudent at this time to place a moratorium on the issuance of further COPCN's until such time as a feasibility study can be performed to determine the need for additional providers, and an updated process for determination of need and necessity. Saturation of a market with provider agencies does nothing for quality or cost containment and only creates instability and hardship for providers.

Limiting the useful life of wheelchair vehicles to ten years would provide positive value to the system in ensuring safe, high quality service vehicles to the elderly and disabled population. Beyond this time, it is extremely difficult to keep a commercial vehicle in a condition worthy of this type of service. I am sure exceptions could be made when inspections show a particular vehicle is in excellent condition despite its age.

Based on our many years of experience in this business, the minimum insurance limits should be \$500,000 CSL, especially for providers of stretcher van service. Lower limits may not provide appropriate remedy to individuals suffering injury from valid accidents.

Medfleet strongly supports the requirement of two personnel on stretcher transports and the staffing level of EMR as opposed to EMT.

I hope this input is helpful to your agency in its goal of updating the local rules governing this valuable and necessary service to our community.

Andrew Williams  
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*"Quality Without Compromise"*

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