



Pinellas County

Staff Report

File #: 23-0651A, Version: 1

Subject:

Issuance and renewal of Certificates of Public Convenience and Necessity for non-medical wheelchair transport and stretcher van providers.

Recommended Action:

Sitting as the Emergency Medical Services Authority, issue a renewal Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity (COPCN) for each wheelchair/stretcher van transport provider on the attached listing.

- The current certificates expire on June 30, 2023.
- The nine firms on the attached list have completed a renewal application and meet the Authority's requirement to operate as a non-medical wheelchair/stretcher van transport business.
- Four of the nine firms have applied to render both wheelchair and stretcher van services.
- If approved, the new COPCN will expire on June 30, 2024.
- This item has no fiscal impact. Staff administration of the process is included in the annual operating budget for the EMS Fund.

Authorize the Chairman to sign the certificates.

Strategic Plan:

Ensure Public Health, Safety, and Welfare

2.1 Provide planning, coordination, prevention, and protective services to ensure a safe and secure community.

Deliver First Class Services to the Public and Our Customers

5.1 Maximize partner relationships and public outreach.

5.3 Ensure effective and efficient delivery of county services and support.

Summary:

The firms on the attached provider list have completed a renewal application and have met the Authority's requirement to operate as a non-medical wheelchair/stretcher van transport business in Pinellas County. The current Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity (COPCN) will expire on June 30, 2023. There are a total of nine (9) providers of which four (4) have applied to render both wheelchair and stretcher van services.

If approved, the new COPCN will expire on June 30, 2024.

Background Information:

Pursuant to Pinellas County Code, Chapter 54, firms providing Wheelchair/Stretcher Van

Transportation Services are required to obtain a COPCN in order to operate in Pinellas County. For each service provider, SES -EMS & Fire Administration provides various administrative duties such as keeping records, verifying forms, updating vehicle and driver rosters, reviewing Certificates of Incorporation, Certification of Fictitious Names, insurance verification forms, and retail rate forms. EMS also performs vehicle inspections on thirteen (13) criteria for each transport vehicle. Provider agencies are required to update any expired licenses, training certifications, and certificates of insurance with County staff.

Fiscal Impact:

There is no fee for certification. Staff administration of the process is included in the annual operating budget for the EMS Fund.

Staff Member Responsible:

James G. Fogarty, Director, Safety and Emergency Services

Partners:

A Trinity Wheelchair Transportation
Americhair Transport Service, Inc.
Secure Transportation Company of Florida, L.L.C.
MedFleet, L.L.C.
KERT, L.L.C.
Transdev (Formerly First Transit, Inc.)
Wheelchair Transport Service, Inc. (WTS)
Rydepoint Medical Transport
Frang Zeal

Attachments:

Provider Agency List
COPCN Certificates
COPCN Applications