



Pinellas County

Staff Report

File #: 24-0297A, Version: 1

Subject:

Issuance of a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity to Med-Trans Corp. d/b/a AirStar 1 for provision of helicopter ambulance service in Pinellas County.

Recommended Action:

Approve and issue a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity (COPCN) to Med-Trans Corp. d/b/a AirStar 1 for provision of helicopter ambulance service in Pinellas County.

- COPCNs are issued by the Boards of County Commissioners in all counties in Florida. The certificate allows Emergency Medical Services (EMS) provider agencies to be licensed by the Florida Department of Health.
- The certificate process ensures there are coordinated and regulated EMS Systems at a County level. Certificates are issued on an annual basis to ensure continuous compliance to the various standards and requirements.
- There are currently four firms that provide helicopter services in Pinellas County per the attached provider agency listing. Med-Trans Corp. d/b/a AirStar 1 would be the fifth.
- If approved, the expiration date of this COPCN will be December 31, 2024.
- There is no fee associated with the issuance of this certificate. Staff administration of the certification process is included in the current operating budget for Safety and Emergency Services within the EMS Fund.

Authorize the Chairman to sign the Certificate.

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 relationship and public outreach.

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

Summary:

A Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity (COPCN) is issued to ALS Helicopter Ambulances pursuant to Pinellas County Code, Chapter 54, and in accordance with Florida Statutes, Section 401.25.

Background Information:

COPCNs are issued by the Boards of County Commissioners in all counties in Florida. The certificate allows Emergency Medical Services (EMS) provider agencies to be licensed by the Florida

Department of Health. The certificate process ensures there are coordinated and regulated EMS Systems at a County level. Certificates are issued on an annual basis to ensure continuous compliance to the various standards and requirements.

Fiscal Impact:

There is no fiscal impact for provider certifications. Funding for the administrative expense associated with certifications is included in the current-year budget of Safety and Emergency Services in the Emergency Medical Services Fund.

Staff Member Responsible:

James G. Fogarty, Director, Safety and Emergency Services

Partners:

Med-Trans Corporation d/b/a AirStar 1

Attachments:

COPCN Certificate

COPCN Application

COPCN Provider Agency Listing