



*Office of*      *Emergency Services District 02/15/2022*  
**INDIAN RIVER COUNTY**  
**ATTORNEY**

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Dylan Reingold., County Attorney  
William K. DeBaal, Deputy County Attorney  
Susan J. Prado, Assistant County Attorney

**MEMORANDUM**

**TO:**                    The Board of Commissioners of the Emergency Services District

**THROUGH:**        Tad Stone, Emergency Services Director

**FROM:**              William K. DeBaal, Deputy County Attorney

**DATE:**              February 7, 2022

**SUBJECT:**         Approval of Affiliation Agreements with Certified EMT/Paramedic  
Training Programs

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For the past several years, the Emergency Services District (District) has entered into Affiliation Agreements with training programs that offer Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) and Paramedic training for their students to ride along with District EMTs and Paramedics to receive valuable “on the job” training and real-life experience. In order for a training program to qualify for the Affiliation Agreement, the program must be certified by the State Fire Marshal and the program must provide insurance covering its students. The only cost to the County is to provide the students with personal protective equipment such as masks, gloves or gowns, depending on the situation. During any given school term or semester, the District will have anywhere from 1-14 ride-along volunteers that must put in approximately 264 hours of training over three semesters. The students are unpaid volunteers. There is no requirement for the District to accept the students but the ride along experience provides a good opportunity to become familiar with potential applicants to EMT and Paramedic positions with the District.

Most ride along participants come from local community colleges but some also are attending private training programs. Each Affiliation Agreement calls for the training program to:

- provide a list of qualified participants that have the prerequisite training
- name a liaison at the training facility to coordinate the ride along program
- provide insurance for the participant

Under the terms of each Agreement, the District can request the entity to withdraw the participant from the ride along program or send them home during the shift if the

participant exhibits dangerous behavior or poor training.

Previous Agreements were entered into for a one-year period and renewed on an annual basis, which was acceptable when there were few participating programs. However, over time, the number of training programs in the area have increased due to the State's growing population and EMTs and paramedics are finding work in emergency rooms and other medical facilities. In order to meet the increased demand, staff seeks to have the training programs enter into five-year Agreements that automatically renew for two five-year terms. Staff will continue to have the necessary insurance certificate on file with Risk Management without the frequent need to renew expiring Agreements.

A template of the Affiliation Agreement is attached to this agenda items and will be used for the following training programs:

Indian River State College  
East Florida State College  
Palm Beach State College  
City of Coral Springs  
Treasure Coast Medical Institute  
Health Career Institute  
First Response Training  
Medical Career Academy  
Orlando Medical Institute

**Funding:** There is minimal impact to County funding for this matter.

**Recommendation:** The County Attorney's Office recommends the Board, in its capacity as the Indian River County Emergency Services District, approve the Affiliation Agreement template and authorize the Chairman to execute the individual Agreements with the above listed training programs on behalf of the District.

Copy to: Steve Greer, Battalion Chief, Indian River County Fire Rescue