

**INDIAN RIVER COUNTY, FLORIDA**  
**M E M O R A N D U M**

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**TO:** Honorable Board of County Commissioners

**THROUGH:** Jason E. Brown, County Administrator

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

**FROM:** Erin Baskins, Staff Assistant IV  
Department of Emergency Services

**DATE:** August 11, 2020

**SUBJECT:** Request from Skytop Transportation, Inc. for a Class E1 Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity to provide Wheelchair transports originating from Indian River County.

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It is respectfully requested that the information contained herein be given formal consideration by the Indian River County Board of County Commissioners (the "Board") at the next scheduled meeting.

**Background:**

Chapter 304 of the Indian River County Code of Ordinance (the "Code") governs certificates of public convenience and necessity in Indian River County for various uses, including wheelchair vehicle services. Per section 304.07 of the Code, after an application has been received by Indian River County, the EMS director makes an investigation and a determination of the public need for the proposed service in the geographical area requested. As part of this investigation, the EMS director contact the medical director, all other service providers in the county, and any municipality in which the applicant desires to provide service. The EMS director also is required to schedule a public hearing before the Board with notice to all other service providers in the requested service area, any municipality in the requested service area and to the general public by publication in the local newspaper with at least one week's notice.

At the public hearing, the Board shall consider the EMS director's recommendation and any input from other service providers, municipalities, or interested groups or citizens and may grant or deny the requested certificate of public convenience and necessity.

In making his recommendation, the EMS director shall consider the following factors:

- (a) The population density and composition of the likely areas within which the proposed ALS, BLS, or non-emergency medical transport service will operate.
- (b) The need of the people in the area for ALS, BLS, or non-emergency medical transport service.
- (c) A comparison of estimated annual requests for service in the particular certificate category with the current number of vehicles satisfying requests.
- (d) Such other factors as may be considered important by the EMS director.

**Analysis:**

On May 28, 2020, Skytop Transportation, Inc. submitted an application for Class E1 Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity to provide Wheelchair transport service originating within Indian River County. Pursuant to the Code, staff initiated an investigation to be made regarding the application.

There are seven (7) other providers who hold a Class E1 certificate in the County as follows:

All County Ambulance  
American Ambulance  
ETS Experience Transportation Services  
iTransit, LLC  
MCT Express, Inc.  
Stellar Transport  
We Care of the Treasure Coast

Several attempts were made for all current providers, municipalities, interested groups and the Medical Director to attend an informal meeting for the purpose of receiving information about the proposed service and discuss the need for additional service in the County. None of the providers attended the meeting and none of the providers raised any concerns.

**Recommendation:**

Staff recommends that the Board approve and grant a Class “E1” COPCN to Skytop Transportation, Inc. for a period of two (2) years.

**Attachments:**

1. Application for Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity for Skytop Transportation, Inc.