

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

TO: Honorable Board of County Commissioners

THROUGH: Jason E. Brown, County Administrator

THROUGH: Tad Stone, Director
Department of Emergency Services

FROM: Steve Greer, Training Captain
Department of Emergency Services Fire Rescue Division

DATE: September 13, 2019

SUBJECT: Request from MCT Express, Inc. DBA United Medical Transportation for a Class “B” and “E1” Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity to provide Non-Emergency ambulance inter-facility medical transports at the ALS/BLS level and Wheelchair Transports originating in Indian River County

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

Background:

On August 31, 1995, the Transportation Disadvantaged Local Coordinating Board recommended to the County Commission that an ordinance be adopted to require a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity (COPCN) for the regulation of wheelchair services.

On September 19, 1996, the Indian River County Board of County Commissioners approved regulations governing ambulance services as outlined in County Ordinance, Chapter 304, Life Support and Wheelchair services.

Analysis:

On June 30, 2019, MCT Express, Inc. DBA United Medical Transportation submitted an application for Class B Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity to provide Non-Emergency ambulance inter-facility medical transports at the ALS/BLS level and a Class E1 Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity to provide Wheelchair Transports originating in Indian River County. Pursuant to the Indian River County Code referenced above, staff initiated an investigation to be made regarding the application and the need for the additional non-emergency transportation service in the County.

There are three (3) other providers who hold a Class B & E1 certificate in the County as follows:

American/All County Ambulance
Stellar Transport
We Care of the Treasure Coast

At an informational meeting, which was held on August 22, 2019, all current providers, municipalities, and interested groups were invited to attend for the purpose of receiving information about the proposed service and discuss the need for additional service in the County. Only one current provider attended the meeting and they raised a few concerns over the impacts generated by MCT Express, Inc. DBA United Medical Transportation but will address those at the Public Hearing.

The required Public Hearing Notice was published in the Vero Beach Press Journal on September 15, 2019.

Recommendation:

Indian River County Ordinance, Chapter 304, Life Support and Wheelchair Services states that the issuance of a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity shall be regulated by additional needs of the public.

Staff recommends that the Board of County Commissioners, based upon the needs assessment as outlined in Indian River County Ordinance, Chapter 304.07, to approve and grant a Class “B” & “E1” COPCN to MCT Express, Inc. DBA United Medical Transportation.

Attachments:

Due to the size of the application, it is available for review during regular business hours (8:30am to 5:00pm, Monday through Friday) at the Offices of Emergency Services.