

**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: John King, Director
Department of Emergency Services

FROM: Brian Burkeen, Assistant Chief

DATE: February 2, 2017

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

It is respectfully requested that the information contained herein be given formal consideration by the Board of 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 November 16, 2016, ETS Experience Transportation Services 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 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 currently four (4) other providers who hold a Class E1 certificate in the County as follows:

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

At an informational meeting, which was held on December 16, 2016, 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 no concerns over the impacts generated by ETS Experience Transportation Services Inc.

The required Public Hearing Notice was published in the Vero Beach Press Journal on February 6, 2017.

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 approve and grant a Class "E1" COPCN to ETS Experience Transportation Services Inc. for a period of two (2) years.

Attachments:

1. Application for Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity for ETS Experience Transportation Services Inc.
2. Copy of Public Notice Publication