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OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA

Memorandum

MIAMI-DADE COUNTY

Date: July 19, 2011

Agenda Item No. 8(C)(1)(D)

To: Honorable Chairman Joe A. Martinez
and Members, Board of County Commissioners

From: Alina T. Hudak
County Manager

Resolution No. R-594-11

Subject: Randle-Eastern Ambulance Service, Inc. Application for a Transfer of Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity No. M-15

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Board of County Commissioners (Board) approve the transfer of Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity (COPCN) No. M-15 from Medics Ambulance Service, Inc. to Randle-Eastern Ambulance Service, Inc.

SCOPE

The COPCN provides for countywide operation.

FISCAL IMPACT/FUNDING SOURCE

There is minimal fiscal impact to the County. Medics Ambulance Service, Inc. is an existing provider of ambulance service. The transfer application fee, as established by Implementing Order 4-107, was $1,500.

TRACK RECORD/MONITOR

Randle-Eastern Ambulance Service, Inc. has operated in Miami-Dade County for over 55 years. They currently hold eight (8) COPCNs to provide nonemergency medical transportation service and one (1) COPCN to provide ground ambulance service with forty-five (45) active ambulance units. There is no enforcement history. The Consumer Services Department (CSD) will be responsible for monitoring this company.

BACKGROUND

Chapter 4, Article I of the Code of Miami-Dade County, which governs ambulances, requires Certificates of Public Convenience and Necessity to be approved by the Board. Section 4-4 (g) of the Code provides that any change in the ownership structure of a Certificate Holder that results in a change or the possibility of change in control must also be approved by the Board. The transfer of a certificate requires that a public hearing be held. In reaching its determination, the Board shall consider the application, the County Manager's report and recommendation, all matters presented at the public hearing and the following criteria:

- The financial ability of the applicant to provide the proposed services;
- The adequacy of the management plan;
- Any recommendations from municipalities;
- The benefits that will accrue to the public interest;
- The community's need for the proposed service, including a response time analysis of existing private providers for the previous three (3) years as compared to benchmark response times stated in each provider's most recent application and the quality of existing services as determined by the results of the comprehensive market survey conducted during the year preceding the term for certificate renewal and acceptance of new applications.

Medics Ambulance Service, Inc. has been providing ambulance service in Miami-Dade County since 2001. The company is currently authorized to operate twenty-nine (29) active units and five (5) spare units. In May 2011, the company informed the County that it had entered into a Purchase Agreement with Randle-Eastern Ambulance Service, Inc., which included the sale of its COPCN for ground ambulance service.

Randle-Eastern Ambulance Service, Inc., located at 7255 NW 19 Street, Suite C, Miami, Florida 33126, is a wholly subsidiary of American Medical Response (AMR), the largest provider of ambulance services in the United States based on net revenue and number of transports. The company appears to have the necessary financial strength to sustain its operations. In accordance with the Code, staff will monitor quarterly and annual fiscal and other statistical data on an ongoing basis.

The management plan submitted by the applicant details the business functions that will be conducted and managed, including employee/crew training, a mechanism to handle complaints, accidents, maintenance, communications and dispatch, maintenance of business records and a quality assurance program. The proposed service standards meet all requirements of the Code and adequately meet transportation and comfort needs.

The benchmark response times provided by the applicant are within the parameters of being reasonably responsive to the expectations of customers and are in line with the other providers' self-imposed schedule of benchmark response times.

After approval of transfer, Randle-Eastern Ambulance Service, Inc. will be utilizing the same number of active and reserve units authorized by the COPCN under the same trade name (Medics Ambulance Service) and utilizing the same vehicle colors, design and markings as currently operated by Medics.

A notice of the application filing was transmitted to all County municipalities and certificate holders as required. No objections were received.

The Triennial Private Ambulance Service Market Survey that was submitted to the Board in May 2011 shows that a high quality of ambulance service is being provided throughout the County and that there is no need for significant expansion of providers. This application does not constitute an expansion of the service since it only deals with the transfer of an existing ambulance certificate.

The public will benefit from the continued availability of a highly specialized, equipped and staffed ambulance service operating in compliance with Federal, State and County regulations.

Assistant County Manager

MEMORANDUM

(Revised)

TO: Honorable Chairman Joe A. Martinez and Members, Board of County Commissioners

DATE: July 19, 2011

FROM: R. A. Cuevas, Jr. County Attorney

SUBJECT: Agenda Item No. 8(C)(1)(D)

Please note any items checked.

_____ **"3-Day Rule" for committees applicable if raised**

_____ **6 weeks required between first reading and public hearing**

_____ **4 weeks notification to municipal officials required prior to public hearing**

_____ **Decreases revenues or increases expenditures without balancing budget**

_____ **Budget required**

_____ **Statement of fiscal impact required**

_____ **Ordinance creating a new board requires detailed County Manager's report for public hearing**

_____ **No committee review**

_____ **Applicable legislation requires more than a majority vote (i.e., 2/3's ____, 3/5's ____, unanimous _____) to approve**

_____ **Current information regarding funding source, index code and available balance, and available capacity (if debt is contemplated) required**

Approved _____ Mayor
Veto _____
Override _____

Agenda Item No. 8(C)(1)(D)
7-19-11

RESOLUTION NO. R-594-11

RESOLUTION APPROVING TRANSFER OF CERTIFICATE OF PUBLIC CONVENIENCE AND NECESSITY NO. M-15 FROM MEDICS AMBULANCE SERVICE, INC. TO RANDLE-EASTERN AMBULANCE SERVICE, INC. TO PROVIDE GROUND AMBULANCE SERVICE

WHEREAS, this Board desires to accomplish the purposes outlined in the accompanying memorandum, a copy of which is incorporated herein by reference,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA, that in accordance with Chapter 4 of the Code, the transfer of Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity No. M-15 to Randle-Eastern Ambulance Service, Inc to provide ground ambulance service is approved.

The foregoing resolution was offered by Commissioner **Jose "Pepe" Diaz** , who moved its adoption. The motion was seconded by Commissioner **Rebeca Sosa** and upon being put to a vote, the vote was as follows:

Joe A. Martinez, Chairman			aye
Audrey M. Edmonson, Vice Chairwoman			absent
Bruno A. Barreiro	absent	Lynda Bell	absent
Esteban L. Bovo, Jr.	absent	Jose "Pepe" Diaz	aye
Sally A. Heyman	absent	Barbara J. Jordan	aye
Jean Monestime	aye	Dennis C. Moss	absent
Rebeca Sosa	aye	Sen. Javier D. Souto	aye
Xavier L. Suarez	aye		

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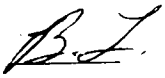
The Chairperson thereupon declared the resolution duly passed and adopted this 19th day of July, 2011. This resolution shall become effective ten (10) days after the date of its adoption unless vetoed by the Mayor, and if vetoed, shall become effective only upon an override by this Board.

MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA
BY ITS BOARD OF
COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

HARVEY RUVIN, CLERK

By: Christopher Agrippa
Deputy Clerk

Approved by County Attorney as
to form and legal sufficiency.



Gerald K. Sanchez