



Legislation Text

File #: 25-1016, **Version:** 1

Interoffice Memorandum

DATE: July 9, 2025

TO: Mayor Jerry L. Demings and County Commissioners

THROUGH: Raul Pino, M.D., MPH, Department Director

FROM: Christian Zuver, M.D., Medical Director

CONTACT: Sandra D. Roe

PHONE: 407-836-7611

DIVISION: EMS, Office of the Medical Director

ACTION REQUESTED:

Approval and execution of Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity for Riteway BLS Services, Inc. to provide Interfacility BLS Transport Services in Orange County, Florida for a term of two years beginning August 5, 2025, and expiring August 4, 2027. There is no cost to the County. (**EMS Office of the Medical Director**)

PROJECT: N/A

PURPOSE: In 2024, Riteway BLS Services, Inc. applied for a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity (COPCN) to provide interfacility basic life support transport services in Orange County. On June 26, 2024, Orange County's Emergency Medical Services Advisory Council (EMSAC) evaluated the countywide emergency medical services system and recommended a denial of Riteway's application. On September 24, 2024, the Board denied Riteway's application.

Riteway has re-applied for a COPCN. Riteway submitted an application dated February 25, 2025, to Orange County EMS for a COPCN to provide interfacility basic life support transport services in Orange County ("Application"). In accordance with Section 20-95 of the Code, the EMSAC met on May 28, 2025, to evaluate the countywide emergency medical services system and review Riteway's application. At the conclusion of the meeting, EMSAC found that the issuance of an additional COPCN is in the interest of the public convenience and necessity and voted to recommend that the Board grant Riteway's Application. On July 8, 2025, Orange County EMS submitted a memorandum to the Board also recommending the approval of Riteway's Application. A copy of EMS's recommendation is attached hereto with a copy of EMSAC's Report and Recommendation.

BUDGET: N/A

BCC Mtg. Date: August 5, 2025

ORANGE COUNTY, FLORIDA
CERTIFICATE OF PUBLIC CONVENIENCE AND NECESSITY
for
RITWAY BLS SERVICES, INC.

WHEREAS, Section 401.25, Florida Statutes, governs the licensure of entities providing prehospital or interfacility advanced life support (“ALS”) services or basic life support (“BLS”) transportation services and requires applicants for licensure to obtain a certificate of public convenience and necessity from each county in which the applicant will operate; and

WHEREAS, Section 401.25, Florida Statutes, authorizes the governing body of each county to adopt ordinances that provide reasonable standards for certificates of public convenience and necessity; and

WHEREAS, Chapter 20, Article III, Orange County Code, provides reasonable standards for applying for a certificate of public convenience and necessity in Orange County, Florida; and

WHEREAS, Riteway BLS Services, Inc. (“Riteway” or “Applicant”) submitted an application dated February 25, 2025, to Orange County EMS for a COPCN to provide interfacility BLS transport services in Orange County, Florida (“Application”); and

WHEREAS, on May 28, 2025, the Orange County Emergency Medical Services Advisory Council (“EMSAC”) held a regularly scheduled public meeting to evaluate the countywide emergency medical services system and review the Application, and, following the meeting, EMSAC voted to recommend the Application for approval in accordance with Section 20-95 of the Code; and

WHEREAS, the Board has considered the Application, the recommendations from Orange County EMS, EMSAC, local municipalities (as applicable), and any and all other timely written recommendations and objections; and

WHEREAS, the Board has determined that Riteway is financially and otherwise able to provide adequate and uninterrupted service and that Riteway’s proposed service, to the extent authorized by this Certificate, is in the interest of the public convenience and necessity.

NOW THEREFORE, THE ORANGE COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS CERTIFIES:

Section 1. Recitals. The above recitals are hereby incorporated into this Certificate.

Section 2. Application, Levels of Service, and Certificate. The Board hereby grants Riteway BLS Services, Inc.’s Application for a COPCN and authorizes Riteway provide to **Interfacility BLS Transport Services in Orange County, Florida** in accordance with the terms, conditions, and limitations of this Certificate. The Board hereby issues this Certificate to **Riteway BLS Services, Inc.** The Board certifies that Riteway’s proposed services are in the interest of the public convenience and necessity.

Section 3. Term. The “Term” of this Certificate is the period of time during which this Certificate is valid and effective. This Certificate’s Term shall be for a two-year period beginning

on **August 5, 2025**, and expiring on **August 4, 2027**. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the Term may expire earlier if this Certificate is suspended or revoked pursuant to Orange County Code.

Section 4. Indemnification. In consideration of this Certificate, which permits Riteway to provide interfacility BLS transport services in Orange County, pursuant to Section 20-96, Orange County Code, and to the fullest extent permitted by law, Riteway agrees to defend, indemnify, and hold harmless the County, its officials, agents, and employees from and against any and all claims, suits, judgments, demands, liabilities, damages, costs and expenses (including attorney's fees) of any kind or nature whatsoever arising directly or indirectly out of or caused in whole or in part by any act or omission of Riteway or its subcontractors (if any), anyone directly or indirectly employed by them, or anyone for whose acts any of them may be liable; excepting those acts or omissions arising out of the sole negligence of the County.

Section 5. Compliance with Laws. By accepting this Certificate or providing transport services in Orange County pursuant to this Certificate, Riteway agrees to comply with all applicable state and local laws and regulations.

ADOPTED THIS 5 DAY OF August, 2025.

ORANGE COUNTY, FLORIDA
By: Board of County Commissioners

By: Jerry L. Demings
for Jerry L. Demings
Orange County Mayor

ATTEST: Phil Diamond, CPA, County Comptroller
As Clerk of the Board of County Commissioners

By: Phil Diamond
Deputy Clerk

