

1 Introduced by the Council President at the request of the Mayor:
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4 ORDINANCE 2019-766

5 AN ORDINANCE CONCERNING EMERGENCY MEDICAL
6 TRANSPORTATION SERVICES; MAKING FINDINGS;
7 DECLARING THAT PUBLIC CONVENIENCE AND
8 NECESSITY REQUIRE THE TRANSFER OR ASSIGNMENT
9 OF A CERTIFICATE FOR EMERGENCY MEDICAL
10 TRANSPORTATION SERVICES FROM AMBULANCE
11 SERVICE, INC. TO AMERIPRO EMS OF FLORIDA, LLC;
12 AUTHORIZING THE DIRECTOR OF THE FIRE AND
13 RESCUE DEPARTMENT, OR DESIGNEE, TO TRANSFER OR
14 ASSIGN SAID CERTIFICATE; PROVIDING CONDITIONS
15 FOR RECERTIFICATION; PROVIDING FOR CONTINUED
16 OPERATION; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.
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19 BE IT ORDAINED by the Council of the City of Jacksonville:

20 **Section 1. Findings.** The Council finds that:

21 (a) Ambulance Service, Inc. ("ASI") has been a private
22 ambulance provider in Jacksonville (Duval County) for over fifty
23 years and currently provides emergency medical transportation
24 services through a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity
25 (COPCN) issued by the City of Jacksonville, Certificate Number 99-
26 316-A.

27 (b) Certificate 99-316-A is one of the six current COPCNs in
28 Duval County for emergency medical transportation services.

29 (c) Certificate 99-316-A will expire on June 22, 2020.

30 (d) The original owner of ASI has decided to retire, and as a
31 result ASI is in the process of being purchased by another private

1 ambulance service provider, AmeriPro EMS of Florida, LLC
2 ("AmeriPro").

3 (e) ASI wishes to transfer Certificate Number 99-316-A to
4 AmeriPro to allow the continuation of emergency medical
5 transportation services to the residents of Jacksonville.

6 (d) Section 158.214, *Ordinance Code*, provides that no COPCN
7 "shall be assignable or transferable by the holder of the
8 certificate except on approval by the [City] Council."

9 (d) The recertification application for the Certificate of
10 Public Convenience and Necessity Number 99-316-A in the name of
11 AmeriPro EMS of Florida, LLC will be filed with the City by
12 AmeriPro.

13 (e) The City of Jacksonville will make a full and thorough
14 review of the filing of Certificate Number 99-316-A following the
15 recertification application pursuant to Chapter 158, *Ordinance*
16 *Code*.

17 (f) Continued operation of the emergency medical
18 transportation services after the expiration of the current
19 Certificate is in the best interests of the residents of the City
20 of Jacksonville.

21 (g) The continuation of services and continuity of operations
22 is facilitated by transfer of the Certificate to a private
23 ambulance service provider with whom the regulatory agencies of the
24 City of Jacksonville are familiar.

25 (h) The City will review all information necessary to confirm
26 or deny the qualifications of AmeriPro to operate the emergency
27 medical transportation services in the form of a complete and total
28 application, pursuant to Chapter 158, *Ordinance Code*, prior to the
29 expiration of Certificate Number 99-316-A on June 22, 2020.

30 (i) The immediate transfer of Certificate Number 99-316-A to
31 AmeriPro is necessary to allow the transition of the ASI emergency

1 medical transportation services to AmeriPro and to provide
2 uninterrupted service to the community.

3 (j) Continued operation of the emergency medical
4 transportation services by ASI from the date of transfer of
5 Certificate Number 99-316-A until the service is fully transitioned
6 to AmeriPro is in the best interests of the residents of the City.

7 **Section 2. Transfer of Certificate.** The public
8 convenience and necessity require the transfer or assignment of
9 ASI's Certificate Number 99-316-A to AmeriPro to operate the
10 vehicle(s) listed in its application for emergency medical
11 transportation services. The Director of the Jacksonville Fire and
12 Rescue Department (JFRD), or his designee, is hereby authorized to
13 transfer or assign Certificate 99-316-A from ASI to AmeriPro.

14 **Section 4. Continued Operation.** In order to effect a
15 transition of the ASI emergency medical transportation services to
16 AmeriPro without interruption to the community, ASI is authorized
17 by the Council to continue providing the emergency medical
18 transportation services under its previous Certificate Number 99-
19 316-A until the transition to AmeriPro is complete.

20 **Section 5. Memorandum of Understanding.** As a condition
21 of the transfer of the COPCN, AmeriPro will sign a Memorandum of
22 Understanding, as authorized by Section 158.307, *Ordinance Code*,
23 with the City under which AmeriPro agrees to divert its resources,
24 as requested by JFRD, in the event of an official declaration of
25 emergency by the Mayor during natural and other disasters to assist
26 in meeting the imminent needs of citizens of and visitors to the
27 City. In addition, AmeriPro agrees to participate in major sporting
28 events as requested by JFRD. The Mayor, or his designee, and the
29 Corporation Secretary are hereby authorized to execute the
30 Memorandum of Understanding between the City of Jacksonville and
31 AmeriPro EMS of Florida, LLC for Assistance for Special Events and

1 Declared Emergencies, attached hereto as **Exhibit 1** and incorporated
2 herein by this reference.

3 **Section 6. Effective Date.** This ordinance shall become
4 effective upon signature by the Mayor or upon becoming effective
5 without the Mayor's signature.

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7 Form Approved:

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9 /s/ James R. McCain, Sr.

10 Office of General Counsel

11 Legislation Prepared By: James R. McCain, Jr.

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