

December 2, 2025

Polk County Fire Rescue
Office of the Medical Director
ATTN: Dr. Paul Banerjee
1295 Brice Boulevard
Bartow, Florida 33830

Dear Dr. Banerjee:

This letter is in response to your letter dated November 6, 2025, regarding an application for a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity (COPCN) from an outside ambulance company, inviting MedFleet to object or not to the issuance of this COPCN.

MedFleet is opposed to Polk County issuing a COPCN to this Company, Panther Mountain Enterprises, LLC dba Express Medical Transport.

MedFleet's rationale for the objection:

- Panther Mountain Enterprises, LLC. was established as a Florida LLC 109 days ago (as of the date of the letter).
 - The applicant has no background as a Company and there is no way to understand if they are financially sustainable.
 - More importantly, there is not a recognized dba with the name of "Express Medical Transport" that is either active or associated with Panther Mountain Enterprises, LLC. in Florida.
- According to the Florida Department of Health, Bureau of EMS's "EMS Data Unit Weekly Providers Report", neither Panther Mountain Enterprises, LLC, nor Express Medical Transport are currently licensed in the State of Florida as an ambulance provider.
- As of December 1, 2025, there are currently 18 ground and 3 air ambulance providers that hold COPCN's in Polk County. By allowing additional ambulance COPCN's it will only further dilute the market and current COPCN holders will need to start moving resources outside of Polk County.

- Currently, MedFleet and its dba ATI Ambulance have over 65 ambulances that can be deployed in Polk County for normal transportation needs, and disaster responses.
- On the COPCN Application, question # 9 “State the facts showing the demand or the need for the level of service in the geographical area being applied for:”
 - The applicant “statements of facts” is an anecdotal response. There is no factual data that demonstrates that any of the emergency departments are experiencing “2-hour delays”.
 - Applicant response from COPCN Application: “Polk County's population is projected to increase from approximately 783,000 in 2025 to emergency departments are currently experiencing transfer delays of 2 to 6 hours, creating bottlenecks in patient flow and bed availability. Additional BLS, ALS, and Critical Care transport capacity is needed to meet the county’s growing demand and maintain timely service”
- In question # 12 on the COPCN Application, the Applicant has failed to meet the State requirement. Specifically, State of Florida Statute 401.265 (1) Medical Directors:
 - Each basic life support transportation service or advanced life support service must employ or contract with a medical director. The medical director must be a licensed physician; a corporation, association, or partnership composed of physicians; or physicians employed by any hospital that delivers in-hospital emergency medical services and employs or contracts with physicians specifically for that purpose. Such a hospital, physician, corporation, association, or partnership must designate one physician from that organization to be medical director at any given time. The medical director must supervise and assume direct responsibility for the medical performance of the emergency medical technicians and paramedics operating for that emergency medical services system. The medical director must perform duties including advising, consulting, training, counseling, and overseeing of services, including appropriate quality assurance but not including administrative and managerial functions
 - There is no Medical Director identified; however, they have identified a Physician’s Assistant on their roster.
- In question # 13 of the COPCN Application, the applicant states that they will provide “24/7 ALS coverage”. However, the question should be asked about how that will be managed with only two (2) Paramedics. It would seem that will be extraordinary weekly hours worked per paramedic.
 - Is that safe for the crews, the citizens, and the patients?

- In question # 14 of the COPCN Application, the applicant states that “Standby units and on call staff will be dispatched when census increases or if a unit breaks down.”
 - If they only have two (2) ambulances available, does that mean that they only plan on putting one (1) unit in service?
 - If so, how will one (1) unit reduce the “2 – 6-hour delays” that the applicant refers to?

- In question # 16 on the COPCN Application, the applicant states that they will pick up outside of Polk and return to Polk. That seems to be inaccurate as they do not hold any COPCN’s in any County.

Today, MedFleet continues the decades old relationship and is currently assisting in meeting the needs of the County by the provision of Basic and Advanced Life Support, Critical Care Transport, non-medical services, and disaster response support. If at any point in time there is an increased demand on the system, MedFleet is positioned to add resources as needed thereby continuing to meet the system needs.

In closing, MedFleet is **opposed** to the issuance of this COPCN.

MedFleet is proud to serve in support of the Polk County EMS System, and we are looking forward to continuing that relationship for years to come.

Please feel free to contact me should you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Jeff Taylor, C.O.O.

Jeff Taylor
Chief Operating Officer – MedFleet, LLC.