

# Board of County Commissioners

## Agenda Request

**Date of Meeting:** August 21, 2007

**Date Submitted:** August 21, 2007

**To:** Honorable Chairman and Members of the Board

**From:** Marlon Brown, County Manager  
Brian Beasley, EMS Director

**Subject:** Approval for Vendor Change for Air Medical Transport  
and Execution of the Certificate of Public Convenience and  
Necessity

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### **Statement of Issue:**

Staff is seeking BOCC approval to change Aircraft Vendors for Air Med 2. This is the current helicopter that is based in Gadsden County at the Pat Thomas Law Enforcement Academy.

### **Background:**

In September of 2004 BOCC approved a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity (COPCN) for Corporate Jet Transportation and AirMedic Helicopter Service. Air Methods recently purchased CJ Aviation. Based on the attached letter from AirMedic it seems that Gadsden County may be in danger of having the current Air Medical Transport removed from the county. AirMedic Flight Service does not want to relocate from Gadsden County; they have entered into an agreement with PHI Air Medical to provide the aircraft to continue the Air Medical Transport.

### **Analysis:**

The BOCC approval to issue a new (COPCN) to PHI Air Medical, as Air Medic Flight Service will keep the current Helicopter in Gadsden County. This Helicopter is a great advantage to all the citizens of this County.

**Fiscal Impact:**

There is no fiscal impact to Gadsden County. PHI Air Medical will furnish the aircraft and Doctors Memorial Hospital from Perry Florida provides the Paramedics.

**Options:**

1. Approve the change of vendor and authorize for Chairman to sign a new (COPCN) to PHI Air Medical for Air Medical Flight Service.
2. Provide Staff other direction.

**Recommendation:**

Option 1

**Attachments:**

1. Copy of letter from Doctors Memorial Hospital
2. Copy of (COPCN)



**DOCTORS'  
MEMORIAL  
HOSPITAL**

August 20, 2007


Mr. Marlon Brown  
County Manager  
Gadsden County  
Quincy, FL 32351

Dear Mr. Brown,

This letter is to verify that the current vendor for AirMedic Flight Service has been sold to the competitor Air Methods, which currently operates aircraft in Tallahassee and Marianna. Doctors' Memorial Hospital/ AirMedic Flight Service, believes that this will impair our ability to stay in business unless we change to another vendor. Therefore we have entered into negotiations with PHI Air Medical to continue to provide helicopter service to Gadsden and Taylor Counties. These are the two base sites we currently operate. This letter is to request that you please have the Board of Commissioners update the COPCN for your county to PHI Air Medical operating as AirMedic Flight Service. We intend to continue operations as they presently exist in your county. The only change you will notice is a larger aircraft and a different paint scheme. The personnel and the relationship we enjoy with Gadsden County will not change. A copy of the new COPCN request has been included for your convenience.

Thank you in advance for your assistance.

Sincerely,



Marty Tompkins  
Administrative Director  
AirMedic Flight Service

**EMERGENCY AIR TRANSPORT SERVICES  
CERTIFICATE OF PUBLIC CONVENIENCE AND NECESSITY**

*WHEREAS, PHI Air Medical, operating as AirMedic Flight Service (hereafter referenced as AirMedic Flight Service) a licensed rotor-wing Advanced Life Support provider in the State of Florida, provides air ambulance services to the citizens and visitors of Gadsden County for emergency and critical patients; and*

*Whereas, AirMedic Flight Service indicated that it desires not to conflict with the current level of out-of-hospital emergency care being provided by Gadsden County EMS but to augment Gadsden County EMS; and*

*Whereas, this COPCN in no way implies any other type transport service or services except as stated. Any new or additional types of transport service or services will require a separate COPCN; and*

*Whereas, the above air ambulance provider has indicated that it will comply with all applicable requirements of Chapter 401, Florida Statutes, and 64E-2, Florida Administrative code.*

*Therefore, the Board of County Commissioners, Gadsden County, Florida hereby issues a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity to AirMedic Flight Service, for air transport only.*

Executed this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2007

This certificate is valid until suspended or revoked.

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**Hon. Brenda A. Holt, Chairman  
Gadsden County Commission**