

ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE REGULATING  
EMERGENCY MEDICAL, FIRST RESPONDER, AND RESCUE  
SERVICES AND GRANTING OF FRANCHISES AND CONTRACTS  
FOR OPERATIONS IN THE COUNTY OF CHATHAM

**WHEREAS**, on or about the 26<sup>th</sup> day of June, 1997, the Chatham County Board of Commissioners adopted an Ordinance Regulating Emergency Medical, First Responder, and Rescue Services and Granting Franchises and Contracts for Operations in the County of Chatham (the “**Franchise Ordinance**”); and

**WHEREAS**, the Franchise Ordinance required person or entities providing rescue services, first responder services, or emergency convalescent transportation services (the “**Franchised Services**”) within Chatham County (the “**County**”) to have a franchise granted by the County; and

**WHEREAS**, the Franchise Ordinance required that persons or entities providing one or more of the Franchised Services make an application to the County and meet certain requirement contained in the Franchise Ordinance; and

**WHEREAS**, the County has or will enter into contracts or agreements (the “**Fire Contracts**”) with volunteer fire departments and local governments to provide fire protection services within the fire districts therein defined, which contracts or agreements also grant to the contracting parties the right, at their option, to provide rescue and emergency medical responder services; and

**WHEREAS**, the County has also entered into a contract with the First Health of the Carolinas, Inc. (the “**First Health Contract**”) to provide emergency medical services as therein defined in a coverage area that encompasses most of Chatham County; and

**WHEREAS**, the Fire Contracts and the First Health Contract require that the persons and entities providing any rescue and emergency medical responder services thereunder meet essentially the same requirements as the Franchise Ordinance, and therefore it would be redundant and create additional work for emergency service providers and the County to require such providers to secure a franchise; and

**WHEREAS**, the Board of Commissioners of Chatham County has determined since the essential requirements of the Franchise Ordinance are contained in the Fire Contracts and the First Health Contract, that Section 2.4 of the Franchise Ordinance should be amended to add a new Subsection 2.4(c) to provide that no franchise shall be required for any person or entity under contract with the County to provide the services covered by the Franchise Ordinance;

**NOW, THEREFORE**, be it ordained by the Board of Commissioners of Chatham County:

**Section 1.** Section 2.4 of the Ordinance Regulating Emergency Medical, First Responder, and Rescue Service and Granting of Franchises and Contracts for Operations in the County of Chatham is re-written to add a new Subsection 2.4(c) to provide that no franchise shall be required for any entity providing emergency medical, first responder, and rescue services in Chatham County pursuant to a contract or agreement with the County.

Section 2.4, as amended, shall read as follows:

2.4 No franchise shall be required for:

(a) Any entity operated from a location or headquarters outside of the County of Chatham in order to transport patients who are picked up beyond the limits of the County of Chatham, to facilities located within the County of Chatham, or to pick up patients within the County of Chatham for transporting to locations out-side the County of Chatham; but no such entity shall be used to pick patients within the County of Chatham for transporting to locations within the County of Chatham or other locations unless it is rendering assistance to a franchised ambulance service in the case of a major catastrophe or mutual aid.

(b) Ambulances owned and operated by an agency of the County, the State of North Carolina, of the United States.

(c) Any entity providing emergency medical, first responder, rescue services, or ambulance services pursuant to a contract or other agreement with the County of Chatham.

**Section 2.** All ordinances, or clauses of ordinances, in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

**Section 3.** This Ordinance shall be effective from and after its adoption.

INTRODUCED: \_\_\_\_\_

ADOPTED: \_\_\_\_\_