

ORDINANCE FOR THE REGULATION OF AMBULANCE SERVICES

A CANDLER COUNTY ORDINANCE TO PROVIDE FOR THE REGISTRATION AND PERMITTING OF AMBULANCE SERVICES; AND TO PROVIDE FOR COMMUNITY SAFETY AND OTHER PURPOSES; AND TO PROVIDE FOR THE PENALTIES FOR THE FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH THIS ORDINANCE.

The Board of Commissioners of Candler County, Georgia, hereby find that it is necessary for the County to adopt, establish and promulgate standards, regulations and licensing requirements for ambulance services within Candler County; to provide for penalties for non-compliance with the provisions of this ordinance; and that these standards and regulations are in compliance with the Laws of the State of Georgia.

ARTICLE I: AMBULANCE DEPARTMENT

Section I The Emergency Services Director shall develop Policies and Procedures

The Emergency Services Director under the supervision of the Board of Commissioners of Candler County shall develop policies and procedures, which shall govern duty time, call time, and daily operating procedures of the ambulance department. Such policies and procedures will supersede all policies heretofore applicable to ambulance service employees.

A privately owned ambulance service providing service to any resident of Candler County shall apply for a Permit to operate in Candler County by the provisions of the ordinance, which includes adherence to these policies and procedures. The penalty for failure to follow the Ordinance and these Policies and Procedures shall result in revocation of the permit. The Commissioners may set the non-refundable fee for the issuance of a permit. The permit shall be issued for a term of one year and must be renewed each year.

Section II Advanced Life Support Certification

(a) The purpose of this section is to ensure that the citizens of the county will be afforded the best available emergency medical transportation in all circumstances.

- (b) All ambulances and emergency medical vehicles, which operate in the county, shall be certified for advanced life support by the State Department of Community Health.
- (c) Any person or entity convicted of a violation of this section may be punished by a fine not exceeding \$1,000.00 or 60 days imprisonment, or both. Each day any violation continues shall be a separate offense.

Section III Affected Services

(a) Application. This section and sections IV, V, and VI of this Ordinance shall apply to any ambulance service, except those listed below, which is proposed by any person to be located within the county or whose services are offered to county residents.

(b) Exempt services. Exempt Emergency Medical Services are:

1. An ambulance service operated by an agency of the United States Government, State of Georgia Government, or
2. A vehicle operated by an individual who is not licensed to furnish emergency medical services and who is rendering assistance temporarily, such as in the case of a major catastrophe or emergency, or
3. An ambulance service which is based in another county, and which is returning county residents to Candler County from any other county.

Section IV General Operations Regulations

(a) General compliance. All ambulance services and their vehicles and personnel shall at all times be operated in compliance with all laws, rules, regulations, orders and decrees of the State of Georgia and Candler County.

(b) Base station. All ambulance services offering services to residents of the county must have a permanent base of operations located within the county.

(c) Hours of operation. Every ambulance service offering services to residents of Candler County must provide said services 24 hours per day, 7 days per week, and 365 days per year.

(d) Staffing. All ambulance services offering services to residents of Candler County shall have at least two qualified and certified personnel on duty and

available to answer calls for assistance, at all times. At least one of these individuals must be certified as a Paramedic in the State of Georgia.

- (e) Vehicles. All vehicles operated by any ambulance service offering services to residents of Candler County shall be equipped to provide advanced life support at all times.
- (f) Any emergency shall be referred to 911 for dispatch of the local 911 Emergency Provider. Any non-emergency ambulance service shall not engage in emergency ambulance responses. Such actions will result in the revocation of any license to operate in Candler County and shall result in the imposition of a fee equal to 10% of the annual cost of the operation of the E-911 system for Candler County.
- (g) Public access. All ambulance services offering services to residents of Candler County must not advertise or encourage the use of any other telephone number other than 9-1-1 for emergency calls. Said services must establish a local or toll-free telephone number for residents to arrange for non-emergency transportation and/or business calls.
- (h) E911 readiness cost. Any ambulance service providing emergency 911 services to residents of Candler County shall remit 10% of the cost of operation of the E911 system each month. Such amounts shall be determined by the county and billed to each such ambulance service. Said ambulance services shall remit payment to the county within ten days of receipt of such statement. Failure to remit such monies to the county within the time specified shall be considered a violation of this section.

Section V Indemnification

Any ambulance service that operates from a base located within the county shall maintain the insurance listed below:

General and professional (e.g. malpractice) liability insurance on the private ambulance service of not less than \$1,000,000.00 (one million) per occurrence/\$3,000,000.00 (three million) aggregate, and the manager/owner of the private ambulance service shall be named as an additional insured's on the policy.

Any person, firm or corporation owning or operating a private business providing ambulance service within the county shall indemnify and hold harmless the county

and any resident of the county for loss or damage resulting from the operations of the ambulance service.

Section VI Supervision and Administration

The Board of Commissioners of Candler County shall specify from time to time the division or agency of Candler County which shall have supervisory and enforcement authority with respect to the provisions of the Ordinance, whenever there are any requirements for Candler County to take any action or receive any action, the designated division or agency shall act on the behalf of Candler County.

Section VII Enforcement

Each day any violation of this ordinance continues shall be considered a separate offense. Persons or entities who violate this ordinance shall be subject to a fine not to exceed \$1,000.00 or 60 days imprisonment or both for each violation. Furthermore, violations of this ordinance may result in an operation's permit being revoked.

Adopted this 13th day of January, 2011.

Board of Commissioners of Candler County



H. V. Lanier, Chairman

Attest:



Doris A. Strickland, Clerk

