

FEAGLE & FEAGLE, ATTORNEYS, P.A.  
ATTORNEYS AT LAW  
153 NE MADISON STREET  
POST OFFICE BOX 1653  
LAKE CITY, FLORIDA 32056-1653  
(386) 752-7191  
Fax: (386) 758-0950

Marlin M. Feagle  
e-mail: leagle@bellsouth.net

February 16, 2011

Mark E. Feagle  
e-mail: mefeagle@bellsouth.net

The Honorable Stephen M. Witt  
Mayor  
City of Lake City  
205 North Marion Avenue  
Lake City, Florida 32055

Re: Ambulance and Advance Life Support Services

Dear Mayor Witt:

The Board of County Commissioners at their regular meeting on February 3, 2011, unanimously approved the solicitation of requests for qualification ("RFQ") from interested private vendors to provide emergency medical services for the unincorporated area of Columbia County and the Town of Fort White. The Board requested that this notification be given to the City of Lake City in order that the City may have adequate time to prepare for the delivery of emergency medical services within the City. The Board has indicated it will surrender its COPCN as to the City of Lake City, and upon the recommendation of the city, will grant a COPCN to a qualified entity in accordance with Section 401.25, Florida Statutes. Upon surrender of its COPCN, Columbia County will no longer be licensed to provide these services within the City of Lake City. A copy of the County's "RFQ" may be picked up at the County offices.

Columbia County, similar to other local, state and federal governmental entities, is experiencing severe budget reductions and is fiscally constrained. The County has been required to subsidize its EMS services budget from other funding sources and is unable to continue to do so. The County has been advised and believes that privatization of the ambulance and advance life support services (EMS) will invoke a higher level of service to the residents of Columbia County and a more cost effective method of providing the service. Although an exact date for privatizing the EMS services has not been set, the "RFQ" is scheduled to be received and opened by the County on February 23, 2011, and the County expects to then move expeditiously to enter into a contract with the selected provider.

The Honorable Stephen M. Witt

Page 2

February 16, 2011

---

Please do not hesitate to contact the County if it may be of further assistance in this matter.

Very truly yours,



Marlin M. Feagle

MMF:dse

cc: Herbert F. Darby, Esquire, City Attorney  
Mr. Wendell Johnson, City Manager  
Mr. Dale Williams, County Manager  
Mr. Jody Dupree, Chairman BOCC  
Michael K. Grogan, Esquire  
Mr. Tres Atkinson, Fire Chief