

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND SENIOR SERVICES

OFFICE OF EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES

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www.state.nj.us/health

JAMES E. McGREEVEY Governor CLIFTON R. LACY, M.D. Acting Commissioner

December 27, 2002

Mr. Jeffrey Woronowicz Rural America Emergency Services 84 Karrville Road Port Murray, NJ 07865

## Re: ORDER TO CEASE AND DESIST OPERATION OF MOBILE INTENSIVE CARE SERVICES Control # 02-B-006

Dear Mr. Woronowicz:

On February 21, 2002 staff of this Department's Office of Emergency Medical Services (OEMS) conducted an investigation of Rural America Emergency Services (RAES) concerning the provision of advanced life support (ALS) services. At the time of this survey, you admitted to investigators that you are performing prehospital ALS services to patients using a registered nurse in long-term care facilities that are contracted with RAES to provide emergency transportation.

*New Jersey Statutes Annotated* (<u>N.J.S.A.</u>) 26:2K-12 provides the authority for the provision of advanced life support services by mobile intensive care units. It specifically states that "only a hospital authorized by the Commissioner with an accredited emergency service may develop and maintain a mobile intensive care unit and provide advanced life support services utilizing licensed physicians, registered professional nurses trained in advanced life support nursing, and mobile intensive care paramedics." Although RAES holds a provider license for Mobility Assistance and Basic Life Support services, RAES is not licensed to operate as an mobile intensive care unit or to deliver prehospital ALS service as defined in N.J.S.A. 26:2K-7.

A review of your licensing file confirms that on March 30, 1989 OEMS informed you that you could not provide advanced life support services as RAES. In addition, your ambulance license contains a condition specifically prohibiting activity of mobile intensive care services. In light of the recent activity of RAES and above information, Rural America Emergency Services is hereby **ORDERED to immediately CEASE AND DESIST providing prehospital advanced life support services within the State of New Jersey**.



Mr. Jeffrey Woronowicz Rural America Emergency Services December 27, 2002

Please be advised that if RAES is observed providing prehospital ALS services in the State of New Jersey, this office will seek additional penalty action against RAES. This penalty action could be in the form of monetary penalties and/or revocation of your provider license. In addition, this could adversely impact any future application to provide Specialty Care Transport Services in New Jersey.

As required by current regulation, whenever RAES is requested to provide emergency medical transportation to a patient with an acuity level beyond the scope of practice for an Emergency Medical Technician-Basic, a mobile intensive care unit (MICU) shall be requested through the proper 9-1-1 agency. This MICU will provide the advanced life support services while RAES will provide the basic life support services and transportation of the patient.

Your full cooperation in this matter is appreciated. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact Mr. Charles McSweeney or myself at (609) 633-7777.

Sincerely,

Susan Way Director Office of Emergency Medical Services

c: Ms. Halupke, OEMS Mr. McSweeney, OEMS Mr. Carter, OEMS

REGULAR U.S. MAIL AND CERTIFIED MAIL **# 70993400001811148134** RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED