

**BEFORE THE
PENNSYLVANIA PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION**

Application of Liberty Ambulance Response, Inc. :
For the right to begin to transport, as a common carrier, :
by motor vehicle, persons in paratransit service, : Docket No.
between points in the counties of Delaware, :
Montgomery and Philadelphia, limited to the : A-00117214
transportation of persons who require assistance for :
personal mobility to or from the vehicle. :

PREHEARING ORDER NO. 1

This application of Liberty Ambulance Response, Inc. (Applicant or Liberty)
was filed on August 14, 2000, and published in the Pennsylvania Bulletin on September 27,
2000. Protests had to be filed by October 23, 2000.

On or about October 17, 2000, Suburban Transit Network, Inc., t/d/b/a
TransNet, (Protestant) filed its protest to the Application.

On or about October 18, 2000, Walsh Cab Co., Inc. filed a protest against the
Application.

On or about November 30, 2000, the Office of Administrative Law Judge
(OALJ) sent a letter to the parties inquiring about their consent to participate in the
mediation process. Apparently, no reply was made to this letter.

By hearing notice dated December 15, 2000, the Commission scheduled the
application for a hearing to be held on Thursday, February 1, 2001, at 10:00 a.m. in the
Philadelphia State Office Building. The case has been assigned to Administrative Law
Judge Allison K. Turner (ALJ) for hearing and decision.

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The purpose of this Order is to establish basic procedures to be followed before and during the hearing. Therefore, the parties are hereby directed to comply with the following Order.

ORDER

1. As the Applicant, **Liberty has the burden of proof to establish that it is qualified to receive a certificate of public convenience and necessity from the Commission.**

2. Pursuant to 52 Pa. Code §§1.21 and 1.22, Liberty Ambulance Response, Inc. must be represented by counsel because it is a corporation. Any attorney not qualified to practice in Pennsylvania must be sponsored to appear via a Motion Pro Hac Vice. Any party that is a partnership, corporation, trust, association or governmental agency or subdivision must have an attorney to represent it in this proceeding. Unless you are an attorney, you may not represent someone else, including a corporation, which is considered to be a person. Officers/owners of corporations may give testimony as witnesses, but may not act as an attorney for the corporation.

3. If any party wishes to offer material into evidence at the hearing in the form of documents (letters, bills, receipts, cancelled checks and the like), the offering party should bring the required number of copies (an original and two copies for the Commission, one copy for every other party in the case, and a copy for the offering party). 52 Pa. Code §5.409. Documents should be properly pre-marked for identification.

4. Be aware that there often is a delay in my receiving documents filed in Harrisburg. Therefore, serve me directly with any documents that you file in this proceeding at: PA PUC/OALJ, Room 1302 Philadelphia State Office Building, 1400 W. Spring Garden Street, Philadelphia, PA 19130.

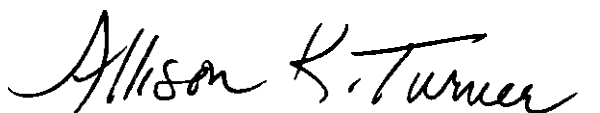
5. If any party needs to subpoena witnesses for the hearing, that party should review 52 Pa. Code §5.421. The requesting party should submit any written application for subpoenas sufficiently in advance of the hearing so that the other parties will have the requisite ten days' notice to answer the application, and so that the requesting party will have enough time to receive the subpoenas and serve them.

6. We will begin the proceeding by taking testimony from the Applicant regarding facts that support his qualifications to obtain a certificate of public convenience from the Commission according to the standards set forth in 52 Pa. Code §41.14. At the conclusion of Liberty's case, the Protestants will proceed to put on evidence as is required and relevant under the same regulation.

7. Commission policy is to encourage settlements. 52 Pa. Code §5.231(a). Therefore, no later than one week before the hearing, Liberty and the Protestants are hereby directed to negotiate on the issues with the aim of settling some or all of the disputed issues raised by Liberty in its application. If agreement on all disputed issues is achieved, a restrictive amendment may be filed, removing the need for a hearing. Further review of the Application will be conducted by the Bureau of Transportation and Safety. If the parties are unable to settle this case, they may still resolve as many questions or issues as possible during their negotiations.

8. If for any reason any party cannot appear at this initial hearing as scheduled, that party should request a continuance. Continuances are only granted if good cause is presented. Any request for a change of the scheduled date for the initial hearing **must** be sent to the Office of Administrative Law Judge Scheduling Staff, to the office of the presiding officer, and to the opposing party or parties. The mailing address for the Scheduling Staff is: PA PUC, P.O. Box 3265, Harrisburg, PA 17105-3265, and the phone number is (717) 787-1399. The scheduling officer for your case is Steven Springer. The mailing address for the Philadelphia Administrative Law Judge is: PA

PUC, Room 1302 Philadelphia State Office Building, 1400 W. Spring Garden Street, Philadelphia, PA 19130. The phone number for this office is (215) 560-2105. The presiding officer on your case is Judge Allison K. Turner. After the initial hearing or prehearing conference has been held, requests for changes of subsequent hearing or prehearing conference dates should be directed to the Judge.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Allison K. Turner". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above a horizontal line.

Allison K. Turner,
Administrative Law Judge

Dated: December 28, 2000