

**PENNSYLVANIA  
PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION  
Harrisburg, PA 17105-3265**

Emergency Temporary Authority Application of Commonwealth Transport, LLC, for the right to begin to transport, as a common carrier, by motor vehicle, persons in Paratransit service to individuals seeking medical treatment in a hospital, care facility or doctor's office as well as behavioral health treatment in a hospital, care facility or doctor's office from points in the counties of Berks, Dauphin, Lancaster, Lebanon, and York, to points in Pennsylvania, and return.

A-2025-3053237

**EMERGENCY TEMPORARY AUTHORITY**

Pending before the Commission is an Application filed by Commonwealth Transport LLC (Company or Applicant) on February 5, 2025, whereby the Company seeks emergency temporary authorization (ETA) to provide paratransit services to individuals seeking medical treatment in a hospital, care facility or doctor's office as well as behavioral health treatment in a hospital, care facility or doctor's office from points in the counties of Berks, Dauphin, Lancaster, Lebanon, and York, to points in Pennsylvania, and return in South Central Pennsylvania. The application for permanent paratransit authority has been filed at Docket No. A-2025-3053301.

On February 6, 2025, the Applicant submitted additional information to supplement its ETA Application. In this supplement, the Applicant stated that it is seeking emergency temporary authority to provide paratransit transportation services to individuals who require behavioral health, emotional health and mental health services who are wheelchair bound and non-ambulatory and also persons who are 17 years old and younger and who are engaged in the juvenile justice system that are seeking medical or behavioral health treatment in a hospital, care facility, or doctor's office, from points in

the counties of Berks, Dauphin, Lancaster, Lebanon, and York, to points in Pennsylvania, and return.

Applicant does not currently hold PUC operating rights to provide paratransit services. We note that the Applicant characterizes its potential customer base as being traditionally underserved overlooked population of Pennsylvanians. Specifically, Applicant seeks ETA to provide paratransit services to the following: (1) individuals who need behavioral health, mental health and emotional health services or who are wheelchair bound and non-ambulatory, (2) individuals who are dependent on Medicaid or Medicare coverage to receive health care and access to health care services, specifically transportation to receive services, and (3) juveniles who are entering the justice system and who are in dire need of medical, behavioral health, medical, mental health and emotional health services in other parts of the Commonwealth but who are otherwise unable to access those services due to the limited financial means of their families in being able to transport these juveniles to the proper facilities to receive treatment and pursue rehabilitation which would shift them out of the justice system.

The Applicant asserts that these individuals are unlikely to receive access to necessary behavioral health, emotional health and mental health services, absent the services which are to be provided by the Applicant. Of particular concern to the Applicant is service for persons aged 17 years or younger who are engaged in the juvenile justice system. The Application further asserts that without this service, detained juveniles would not be able to obtain the necessary services and would either go untreated or would be shifted to alternative pathways of treatment that are not optimal or medically necessary based on the clinical criteria presented by the individual needing treatment.

Review of Commission service providers verifies a shortage of carriers who are willing to render service for minors how are engaged in the criminal justice system that

require behavioral health, emotional health, and mental health services. As such, the Commission determines that there is a pressing need for the Company to commence paratransit operations without having to wait for approval of its permanent authority application. However, this emergency temporary authority is limited only to providing paratransit services to juveniles entering the justice system that require behavioral health, emotional health and mental health services from Lancaster County, Pennsylvania and the surrounding counties of Berks, Dauphin, Lebanon, and York. Said services to detained juveniles will be provided by both sedan and wheelchair accessible vans.

Due to immediate need for the Company paratransit so that the detained juvenile population may obtain medical, mental health and other related health service from points in the counties of Berks, Dauphin, Lancaster, Lebanon, and York, to points in Pennsylvania, and return and the Company's willingness to provide paratransit services to this population, the Commission believes it is necessary to act promptly and finds it is in the public interest to grant the ETA immediately; **THEREFORE,**

**IT IS ORDERED:**

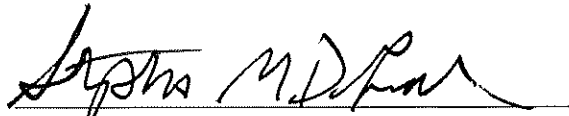
1. That, pursuant to 52 Pa. Code §§ 3.383 and 3.384, the application for emergency temporary authority at the above-captioned docket is granted in part and denied in part.

2. That effective immediately, Commonwealth Transport LLC is granted emergency temporary authority for the following right:

Application of Commonwealth Transport, LLC, for the right to begin to transport, as a common carrier, by motor vehicle, persons in Paratransit service, limited to persons who are 17 years old and younger, and who are engaged in the justice system, and are seeking medical or behavioral health treatment in a hospital, care facility, or doctor's office, from points in the counties of Berks, Dauphin, Lancaster, Lebanon, and York, to points in Pennsylvania, and return.

3. That the limited ETA shall remain in effect pending disposition of the permanent application at Docket A-2025-3053301.

4. That the decision in this application will have no bearing on our decision in the application for permanent authority.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Stephen M. DeFrank", written over a horizontal line.

Stephen M. DeFrank  
Chairman

DATE: February 7, 2025