

**RESTRICTED DELIVERY CERTIFIED MAIL  
RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED**

Before the Iowa Department of Public Health

<p>IN THE MATTER OF:</p> <p>Ringgold County Ambulance 504 North Cleveland Street Mount Ayr, Iowa 50854-1233</p> <p>Service #: 2800300</p>	<p>Case Number: 16-04-13</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>NOTICE OF PROPOSED ACTION</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>CITATION AND WARNING</b></p>
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Pursuant to the provisions of Iowa Code Sections 17A.18, 147A.5 and Iowa Administrative Code (I.A.C.) 641—132.10(3), the Iowa Department of Public Health is proposing to issue a **Citation and Warning** to the service program identified above.

The Department may issue a citation and warning when a service program has committed any of the following acts or offenses:

*Failure or repeated failure of the applicant or alleged violator to meet the requirements or standards established pursuant to Iowa Code chapter 147A or the rules adopted pursuant to that chapter.*  
*IAC 641—132.10(3)f*

*Failure to correct a deficiency within the time frame required by the department.*  
*IAC 641-132.10(3)i*

Specifically:

*An ambulance or nontransport service in this state that desires to provide emergency medical care, in the out-of-hospital setting, shall apply to the department for authorization to establish a program utilizing certified emergency medical care providers for delivery of care at the scene of an emergency or nonemergency, during transportation to a hospital, during transfer from one medical care facility to another or to a private home, or while in the hospital emergency department and until care is directly assumed by a physician or by authorized hospital personnel. Application for authorization shall be made on forms provided by the department. Applicants shall complete and submit the forms to the department at least 30 days prior to the anticipated date of authorization.*  
*IAC 641—132.7(1)a*

*A service program seeking ambulance authorization shall:*  
*IAC 641—132.8(1)*

*Provide as a minimum, on each ambulance call, the following staff:*

- (2) One currently licensed driver. The service shall document each driver's training in CPR (AED training not required), in emergency driving techniques and in the use of the services communications equipment. Training in emergency driving techniques shall include:*

1. A review of Iowa laws regarding emergency vehicle operations.
2. A review of the service program's driving policy for first response vehicles, ambulances, rescue vehicles or personal vehicles of an emergency medical care provider responding as a member of the service. The policy shall include, at a minimum:
  - Frequency and content of driver's training requirements.
  - Criteria for response with lights or sirens or both.
  - Speed limits when responding with lights or sirens or both.
  - Procedure of approaching intersections with lights or sirens or both.
  - Notification process in the event of a motor vehicle collision involving a first response vehicle, ambulance, rescue vehicle or personal vehicle of an emergency medical care provider responding as a member of the service.
3. Behind-the-wheel driving of the service's first response vehicles, ambulances and rescue vehicles.

IAC 641—132.8(1)c

*Service program operational requirements. Ambulance and nontransport service programs shall:*

IAC 641—132.8(3)

*Utilize department protocols as the standard of care. The service program medical director may make changes to the department protocols provided the changes are within the EMS provider's scope of practice and within acceptable medical practice. A copy of the changes shall be filed with the department.*

IAC 641—132.8(3)b

*Maintain current personnel rosters and personnel files. The files shall include the names and addresses of all personnel and documentation that verifies EMS provider credentials including, but not limited to:*

- (3) PA and RN exception forms for appropriate personnel and verification that PA and RN personnel have completed the appropriate EMS level continuing education.

IAC 641—132.8(3)d

*Have a medical director and 24-hour-per-day, 7-day-per-week on-line medical direction available.*

IAC 641—132.8(3)f

*Implement a continuous quality improvement program that provides a policy to include as a minimum:*

- (1) Medical audits
- (2) Skills competency
- (3) Follow-up (loop closure/resolution)

IAC 641—132.8(3)m

*Equipment and vehicle standards. The following standards shall apply:*

IAC 641—132.8(4)

*All drugs shall be maintained in accordance with the rules of the state board of pharmacy examiners.*

IAC 641—132.8(4)d

*Accountability for drug exchanges, distribution, storage, ownership, and security shall be subject to applicable state and federal requirements. The method of accountability shall*

*be described in the written pharmacy agreement. A copy of the written pharmacy agreement shall be submitted to the department.*  
IAC 641—132.8(4)e

*Medical director's duties include, but need not be limited to:*  
IAC 641—132.9(2)

*Monitoring and evaluating the activities of the service program and individual personnel performance, including establishment of measurable outcomes that reflect the goals and standards of the EMS system.*  
IAC 641—132.9(2)c

*Developing and approving an applicable continuous quality improvement policy demonstrating type and frequency of review, including an action plan and follow-up.*  
IAC 641—132.9(2)g

*Supervising physicians, physician designees, or other appointees [are not] defined in the continuous quality improvement policy referenced in 132.9(2)"g."*  
IAC 641—132.9(3)

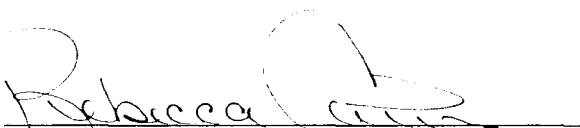
The following events have led to this action:

The Department performed an on-site inspection with the Ringgold county Ambulance on March 8, 2016. At the time of the inspection, deficiencies were identified and the service was given 30 days to resolve the deficiencies. The service failed to correct the deficiencies identified above within 30 days.

The service is hereby **CITED** for failing to correct service program deficiencies within 30 days. The service is hereby **WARNED** that failing to correct deficiencies or violating the Department's rules in the future may result in further disciplinary action, including suspension or revocation of Respondent's service program authorization.

**You have the right to request a hearing concerning this notice of disciplinary action.** A request for a hearing must be submitted in writing to the Department by certified mail, return receipt requested, within twenty (20) days of receipt of this Notice of Proposed Action. The written request must be submitted to the Iowa Department of Public Health, Bureau of Emergency and Trauma Services, Lucas State Office Building, 321 E 12<sup>th</sup> St, Des Moines, Iowa 50319. If the request is made within the twenty (20) day time limit, the proposed action is suspended pending the outcome of the hearing. Prior to or at the hearing, the Department may rescind the notice upon satisfaction that the reason for the action has been or will be removed.

**If no request for a hearing is received within the twenty (20) day time period, the disciplinary action proposed herein shall become effective and shall be final agency action.**

  
Rebecca Curtiss, Bureau Chief  
Iowa Department of Public Health  
Bureau of Emergency and Trauma Services

4/29/16  
Date

