



Attention:

Mountain Lakes Regional EMS Council 120 Washington St, Watertown NY 13601

FOR:

Fort Ann CON

SUBJECT:

Additional Evident and Statements for public hearing

DATE:

8/27/2025





### Good morning,

I would like to start with, if I'm not present for this public hearing I apologize as I'm at the Glens Falls Hospital with my wife for the long-awaited birth of our daughter. President Ladd and Board of Director McPherson are present to speak on my behalf.

First, I would like to thank all the panel members and the hearing officer for taking time out of your morning to be here for this very important meeting. I would like to thank Fort Drum Regional Health Partners, NYS Department of Health, and our Attorney for helping and guiding our agency through this challenging process for an expansion of territory.

The Fort Ann Rescue Squad would like to express its stance. We the Fort Ann Rescue Squad are filing for a Certificate of Need not to damage other resources or stop any other agency, but rather to make sure that the Fort Ann Rescue Squad is legally operating per NYS DOH Article 30; as we feel there is a significant need at the Glens Falls Hospital and we feel we have demonstrated that need. If any other agency wanted to file for a Certificate of Need, we would support it as there is a need for multiple Certificate of needs for this type of operations. Per Medicare/Medicaid in 2010 distribution of a letter to EMS agencies, a Certificate of Need is legally required to bill for services, this is to include emergency/non-emergent transfers for Medicaid/Medicare patients.

At any moment the NYS DOH could stop our Inter-facility operations because of lack of CON, this would devastate the organization as Inter-facilities have made the agency sustainable long term. Our Inter-Facility division brings enough revenue each month allowing us to be able to staff several paramedics and several ambulances daily, replace aging equipment, and makes our 911 division sustainable without a burden to our taxpayers. By making our 911 services stronger through transfers we have also been able to provide mutual aid to struggling portions of Washington County who either cannot staff an ambulance or do not have sustainable Advanced Life Support. Currently we have 27 EMT's, 4 AEMT's, 11 Paramedics, we staff 4 ambulances during the day time, two ambulances at night, and three on the weekends. We are able to staff and sustain because of transfers if we were to stop, we would have to cut ambulances and personnel which would significantly compromise the 911 services that we provide. One of the day time ambulances is a paramedic ambulance, that ambulance is dedicated to just 911 calls within our district. Due to the increase in ambulance and staffing the Fort Ann Rescue Squad has not dropped a first call in over three years, we only dropped four calls total in 4 years.





In 2023 with the Fort Ann Rescue Squad facing financial difficulties just like other agencies here in Washinton County, we had to think out of the box and come up with a solution to replace aging equipment; as well as pay for increasing payroll to staff a Paramedic Ambulance every day. Coming up with a solution seemed nearly impossible until we had heard that Empire Ambulance service had shuttered their doors, which created some challenges for Glens Falls Hospital to move patients in need. We saw the opportunity and started to staff an additional ambulance to assist Glens Falls Hospital with transfers. This becomes a regular occurrence though out the last three years as the primary CON holders are unable to keep up with the demand. Mohawk Ambulance service has had a CON of Glens Falls Hospital for the last two years, and they are nearly non-existent when patients need to be moved. They have been very aware that we are doing inter-facilities and have made no effort to provide additional resources to fill the gap. Ambulanz Ambulance service (Docgo) has also known for three years that we have been conducting inter-facilities; they attempted in 2023 to fill the gap with new resources but were unable to do so and by end of 2023 began to disappear as the number of inter-facilities that we conducted doubled in 2024 and tripled per week in 2025. In the three years that we have been conducting inter-facilities for the Glens Falls Hospital we have done roughly 2700 total. We are also aware that other local agencies such as Warrensburg EMS, West Glens Falls EMS, Cambridge EMS, Fort Edward EMS, and Johnsburg EMS are conducting inter-facilities, this means that even with the significant amount that we are doing there are a lot of other patients that still need to be moved proving there is a need for additional CON's.

The Fort Ann Rescue Squad has met with Hospital Staff several times (Donna Kirker, Michell Kilmer, Andy Graybil, MD Girling, MD Williams) and each time we have asked what their needs are. We have been able to provide a large portion of what the Glens Falls Hospital is asking for, but what we notice is a common theme. The Current CON holders are not able to keep up with the demand thus far creating a gap that the Fort Ann Rescue Squad has significantly filled proving that there is a need and we are meeting that need.

Respectfully Submitted

Thomas Noble

Chief of EMS

Fort Ann Rescue Squad Inc

NYS Paramedic



# Fort Ann Rescue Squad 2025 Interfacility Breakdown (GLENS FALLS HOSPITAL)



2025	Totals	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Total GFH Transfers	1185	180	148	145	151	140	124	149	148				
Drop Off Location													
AMC	376	48	25	49	51	46	46	99	55				
Wash Co	262	49	33	33	31	33	28	24	31				
Warren Co	305	47	51	29	43	38	30	33	34				
Saratoga County	96	15	6	4	6	6	Σ	4	41				
ALB Area	70	10	13	10	13	9	4	12	2				
Essex Co	10	က	4	_	0	0	-	<u>\sqrt{1}</u>	0				
Long Distance Transport	29	80	13	6	4	80	4	6	12				
8													
Level of Care Taken													

Updated 8/27/2025

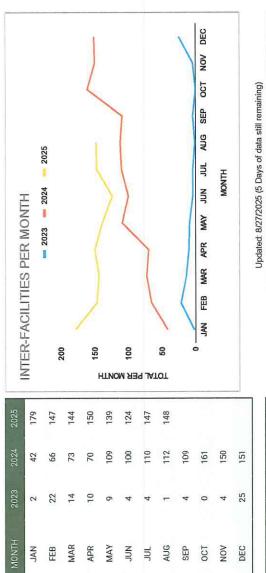
ALS BLS

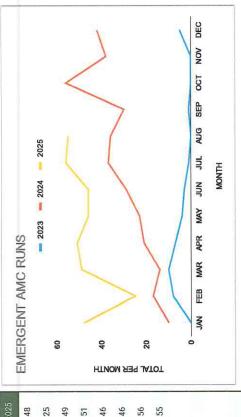


## 2025 FORT ANN RESCUE SQUAD REPORT. 911 District & Mutual Aid)



2025	Totals	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
					District	ict							
Total Dispatches	1548	235	195	185	184	180	167	201	201				
District	363	55	47	40	33	40	43	52	53				
Interfacility	1185	180	148	145	151	140	124	149	148				
Dropped	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0				
Total Patients Moved	1418	225	178	169	169	163	154	176	184				
					Mutual Aid	Aid							
Mutual Aid Dispatches	746	91	103	91	98	9/	115	106	78				
Mutual Aid Responses	311	32	33	37	33	36	53	49	38				
Transported Mutual Aid	189	22	24	24	21	22	28	25	23				
					Response Times	e Times							
Response Time	1.7	2.3	2.1	2.0	1.7	4.	1.7	1.3	1.5				
Response Under 5 Min	88.66	%86	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%				
					Overalls	alls							
Overall Dispatches	2294	326	298	276	270	256	282	307	279				
Overal Responses	1859	267	228	222	217	216	220	250	239				
Overall Billage Patients	1607	247	202	193	190	185	182	201	207				





10

JAN

17 21 21 22 23 33 30 36 42

10

MAR

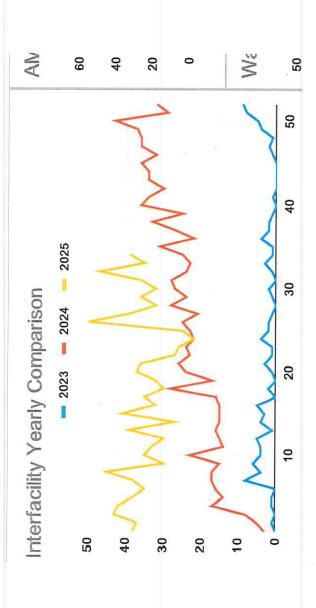
APR MAY JUN 0 0 0

AUG

Ш

SEP OCT NOV DEC IN JAN- FEB OF 2023 AMBULANZ WENT ON A HIRING FRENZIE AND STAFFED TWO AMBULANCES AT GFH ECC, WHICH PUSHED FORT ANN RESCUE SQUAD OUT AS THERE WAS NOT A NEED. BY DEC OF 2023 AMBULANZ DISAPPEARED AS EMPLOYEES QUIT AND AMBULANZ RE-ALOCATED AMBULANCES TO COHOES. DEC 23 TILL APRIL 2024 FORT ANN RESCUE SQUAD RE-ESTABLISHES FOOR INTERFACILITIES AND BY MAX OF 2024 NOW PROVIDING A CONSISTANT SERVICE TO GFH. MAY OF 2025 AMBULANZ ONCE AGAIN BROUGHT TWO AMBULANZ OFFH WHICH LOWERED THE TOTAL TRANSFERS PER MONTH BUT FARS STILL PROVIDING A CONSISTANT SERVICE AND BY JULY OF 2025 AMBULANZ ONCH AND DISAPPEARING AGAIN.

EVEN WITH AMBULANZ PROVIDING AMBULANCES FOR PATIENT TRANSFERS, THERE IS STILL A NEED. FARS IS ABLE TO PROVIDE TWO AMBULANCES DAILY FOR PATIENT TRANSFERS AND CONTINUES TO BE THE LEADING AGENCY TO PROVIDE EMERGENT TRANSFER OF PATIENTS FROM GFH ECC TO AMC.







\*\*\*Public Example of Support from Glens Falls Employee\*\*\*

Recently the Fort Ann Rescue Squad had publicly posted our intension to our Town and Village residents of our Expansion of territory so there would be full transparency to our district residents. In doing so it was shared publicly and the outpour of support was amazing. Please see attached example (Public Facebook Comment) from an employee of the Glens Falls Hospital (Cristy Rock) who is a unit secretary that frequently has to calls Fort Ann Rescue Squad for transfers.

Respectfully submitted,

Thomas Noble Chief of EMS Fort Ann Rescue Squad



## **Christy Rock**

I want to say I work at the GFH as a unit secretary and I have to get transports a lot. I want to say a HUGE thank you to Fort Ann Rescue squad as they are always there for us when we call to help patients get back to where they live or transport to another medical facility. They definitely do not disappoint when we need them. I hope this stays this way.

2h Like Reply





Write a comment...







My name is Kelsey Reppert, and I am a Critical Care Tech & Paid Staff Supervisor with the Fort Ann Rescue Squad. One of my responsibilities lies within Fort Ann's transport division, answering the transport phone for the Glens Falls Hospital. While on duty I average approximately 10-20 phone calls per day from various floors, from the ICU to the Emergency Department to Labor & Delivery. In the just over a year that I have been with the Fort Ann Rescue Squad, it has often come up in conversation with unit secretaries that Ambulanz is not available for many hours, or does not have an ambulance on at all for the day.

To illustrate this point, most recently on 8/27/2025 I was contacted by the unit secretary of the Emergency Department, requesting emergent transport for a Glens Falls Emergency Department patient to Albany Medical Center at roughly 04:00 AM. The secretary told me that Ambulanz was completely unavailable to transport the patient. Fort Ann Rescue was able to transport the patient successfully, after which I received an additional call from the Emergency Department for another patient transport, this time to a private residence in Washington County. The secretary stated that the patient had been waiting to return home since 01:00 AM, and Ambulanz had stated their earliest transport available was 10:00 AM.

As a Transport Supervisor, this is unfortunately a common occurrence. Patients waiting for transport by Ambulanz routinely wait several hours, and we are often contacted by a unit secretary looking for faster transport for the patient. I feel that an additional CON to allow Fort Ann Rescue to continue transports out of Glens Falls Hospital would be beneficial to both patients, and hospital operations, and am firmly in support of Fort Ann Rescue Squad receiving an expansion of territory.

Kelsey Reppert

Paid Staff Supervisor

Fort Ann Rescue Squad

TO: Fort Ann Rescue Squad FROM: EMT Simmons, Sean

DATE: AUG/10/25

SUBJECT: Letter of Support

I, Sean Simmons am an employee of Mohawk Ambulance Service as well as an EMT in Washington County. I have worked for Mohawk Ambulance Service as a Full Time employee for the last three years, and in that time very rarely would see them assist Glens Falls Hospital with inter-facilities. Since Mohawk Ambulance service obtained their CON of Glens Falls Hospital, they only do inter-facilities out of Glens Falls Hospital when Ambulanz or Fort Ann Rescue Squad is not available. In my opinion Fort Ann Rescue Squad gaining a CON of Glens Falls Hospital would be extremely beneficial for patients in need of transport as Mohawk Ambulance Service does not have the capability to regularly service Glens Falls Hospital. As well I do not believe Ambulanz can either as they do not dedicate the resources that Fort Ann Rescue Squad does to Glens Falls Hospital.

Sean Simmons

Mohawk Ambulance Service

Fort Ann Rescue Squad

**EMT** 

I am writing a letter to formally show support for the Fort Ann Rescue Squad in their goal of an Expansion of Territory for the Glens Falls Hospital. I currently am an EMT with the Fort Ann rescue Squad, Stony Creak Fire Company and formally of Warrensburg EMS. I have been doing interfacility with Fort Ann Rescue Squad since the start of my employment, I also used to help Warrensburg keep their yearly statistics. With all of my time being a part of these agencies I believe that Ambulanz cannot supply the required ambulances to keep up with the need of Glens Falls Hospital, I also believe that Warrensburg EMS who also does inter-facilities does not have the resources to steadily supply a crew to Glens Falls Hospital. Fort Ann Rescue Squad supplies Glens Falls Hospital with two ambulances every single day and has the ability to do multiple transfer at the same time. No other EMS agency in the area can supply the number of resources, and Fort Ann Rescue Squad has proven the Need for there expansion.

Respectfully Submitted

Preston Russell

FMT