

County of Milwaukee
Interoffice Communication

DATE: 8/16/2019
TO: Theodore Lipscomb, Sr., Chairman, Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors
FROM: Christine Westrich, Director, Office of Emergency Management
SUBJECT: Requesting approval to designate an authorized emergency vehicle for assignment to the Office of Emergency Management Emergency Medical Services Division (OEM EMS)

Request: The Director of the Office of Emergency Management is requesting County Board approval to authorize an emergency vehicle for use by authorized staff in the Office of Emergency Management Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Division. Wis. Stat. § 340.01(3)(e) requires the County Board of Supervisors designate or authorize emergency vehicles for county departments.

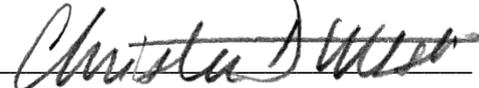
Background: Milwaukee County Office of Emergency Management (OEM) is working with the Department of Transportation (MCDOT) to deploy a 2019 Dodge Durango to be assigned to its EMS Medical Director staff.

OEM's EMS Medical Directors are on call to operate as first responders, providing direct oversight over the County EMS system's providers in the delivery of emergency prehospital medical care on scene. As emergency medicine physicians, they bring an expanded scope of practice to extraordinary conditions, often to accidents where life and limb are at risk.

OEM's EMS Medical Directors have completed a specialized fellowship dedicated to specific EMS operations. They each receive annual training through the basic Emergency Vehicle Operators Course, and OEM has also recently introduced Traffic Incident Management as a continuing education requirement for staff authorized to operate the emergency response vehicle.

I respectfully request your consideration to authorize OEM to operate an emergency response vehicle in order that our EMS Medical Directors can respond quickly and safely to emergencies. Please contact me if you have any questions about the request or any matter related to OEM operations.

Prepared by: Kevin Shermach, OEM Communications Director

Approved by: Christine Westrich, OEM Director 

Cc: Chris Abele, County Executive
Raisa Koltun, Chief of Staff, Office of the County Executive
Kelly Bablitch, Chief of Staff, Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors
Donna Brown-Martin, Director, Department of Transportation
Steve Cady, Research Director, Office of the Comptroller