

ROY COOPER • Governor

KODY H. KINSLEY • Secretary

MARK PAYNE • Director, Division of Health Service Regulation

## VIA EMAIL ONLY

May 1, 2024

Maureen Demarest Murray MMurray@foxrothschild.com

**Exempt from Review - Acquisition of Facility** 

**Record #:** 4426

Date of Request: April 8, 2024

Facility Name: Carolina Caring, Inc.

Type of Facility: Hospice FID #: 923865

Acquisition by: Carolina Caring Serious Illness, LLC

Business #: 3808 County: Catawba

Dear Ms. Murray:

The Healthcare Planning and Certificate of Need Section, Division of Health Service Regulation (Agency) determined that the project described above is exempt from certificate of need (CON) review in accordance with G.S. 131E-184(a)(8). Therefore, the above referenced business may proceed to acquire the health service facility identified above and become the operator of the facility without first obtaining a CON. The Agency's determination is limited to the question of whether the above referenced business would have to obtain a CON if the current owners of the health service facility do in fact sell it to the business listed above. Note that pursuant to G.S. 131E-181(b): "A recipient of a certificate of need, or any person who may subsequently acquire, in any manner whatsoever permitted by law, the service for which that certificate of need was issued, is required to materially comply with the representations made in its application for that certificate of need."

If the business listed above does acquire the facility, you should contact the Agency's Acute and Home Care Licensure and Certification Section to obtain instructions for changing ownership of the existing facility.

It should be noted that this Agency's position is based solely on the facts represented by you and that any change in facts as represented would require further consideration by this Agency and a separate determination regarding whether a certificate of need would be required. If you have any questions concerning this matter, please feel free to contact this office.

Sincerely,

Ena Lightbourne, Project Analyst

Micheala Mitroell

Micheala Mitchell, Chief

cc: Acute and Home Care Licensure and Certification Section, DHSR

NC DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES • DIVISION OF HEALTH SERVICE REGULATION
HEALTHCARE PLANNING AND CERTIFICATE OF NEED SECTION

LOCATION: 809 Ruggles Drive, Edgerton Building, Raleigh, NC 27603

MAILING ADDRESS: 809 Ruggles Drive, 2704 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, NC 27699-2704

https://info.ncdhhs.gov/dhsr/ • TeL: 919-855-3873



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MAUREEN DEMAREST MURRAY Direct No: 336.378.5258 Email: MMurray@Foxrothschild.com

April 8, 2024

North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services Division of Health Service Regulation Health Planning and Certificate of Need Section 2704 Mail Service Center Raleigh, NC 27699-2704

Attention: Ena Lightbourne ena.lightbourne@dhhs.nc.gov

Gloria Hale Gloria. Hale @dhhs.nc.gov

Re: Notice of Exempt Acquisition of Carolina Caring, Inc.

License # HOS0367 Facility FID # 923865

Dear Ms. Lightbourne and Ms. Hale:

We are writing on behalf of Carolina Caring Serious Illness, LLC. Pursuant to N.C.G.S. § 131E-184 (a)(8), Carolina Caring Serious Illness, LLC hereby gives prior written notice of its plan to acquire the existing licensed hospice home service agency, which is currently owned and operated Carolina Caring, Inc. and known as Carolina Caring ("Carolina Caring Hospice Agency"), including any equipment owned by Carolina Caring Hospice Agency at the time of acquisition. Carolina Caring Hospice Agency is an existing licensed health service facility that is located at 3975 Robinson Road, Newton, NC, 28658.

Carolina Caring Hospice Agency is a hospice home care agency as defined in N.C.G.S. § 131E-176 (13a). Hospice home care agencies are included within the definition of health service facility in N.C.G.S. § 131E-176 (9b). Pursuant to N.C.G.S. § 131E-184 (a)(8), the Agency shall exempt from certificate of need review acquisition of an existing health service facility if it receives prior written notice from the entity proposing to acquire the existing health service facility.

Carolina Caring Serious Illness, LLC anticipates completing the acquisition sometime in 2024. Carolina Caring Serious Illness, LLC will become the licensed owner and operator of the existing hospice home care agency and will apply for a newly issued license at the appropriate time when the transfer will become effective. Carolina Caring Serious Illness, LLC wishes to acquire Carolina Caring Hospice Agency as part of an effort to include several hospice entities under a

new umbrella organization to enhance its services and seek to accomplish efficiencies of operation.

We look forward to receiving from you written acknowledgment of the exemption. Please let us know if you have any questions.

With kind regards,

Maureen Demarest Murray

Encls. MDM:/trh

From: <u>Lightbourne, Ena</u>
To: <u>Stancil, Tiffany C</u>

Subject: FW: [External] Notices of Exempt Hospice Acquisition by Carolina Caring Serious Illness, LLC.

**Date:** Tuesday, April 9, 2024 9:20:03 AM

Attachments: Catawba Valley Hospice House Notice of Exempt Acquisition Letter to CON Section.2.24(155519609.3)-C.pdf

Sherrill"s Ford Hospice House Notice of Exempt Acquisition Letter to CON Section.2.24(155519362.3)-C.pdf

Carolina Caring Notice of Exempt Acquisition Letter to CON Section.2.24(155519477.4)-C.pdf

Tiffany, can you log? Thanks.

Ena Lightbourne
Project Analyst, CON
Healthcare Planning and Certificate of Need Section
Division of Health Service Regulation
NC Department of Health and Human Services

(I am in the office Thursdays and Fridays. I am working remotely on the other days, therefore email is typically the best way to reach me.)

Main: 919-855-3873

Ena.lightbourne@dhhs.nc.gov

809 Ruggles Drive, Edgerton Building 2704 Mail Service Center Raleigh, NC 27699-2704

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From: Murray, Maureen Demarest < MMurray@foxrothschild.com>

**Sent:** Monday, April 8, 2024 5:17 PM

**To:** Lightbourne, Ena <ena.lightbourne@dhhs.nc.gov>; Hale, Gloria <gloria.hale@dhhs.nc.gov> **Subject:** [External] Notices of Exempt Hospice Acquisition by Carolina Caring Serious Illness, LLC.

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Hi Ena and Gloria,

Hope that your week is off to a good start.

Please see the attached notices of exempt acquisition of existing licensed hospice entities by Carolina Caring Serious Illness, LLC.

Please let us know if you have any questions or need any other information to acknowledge that these anticipated acquisitions are exempt from CON review.

We appreciate your help and prompt consideration.

Kind regards, Maureen

## Maureen Demarest Murray

Partner Health Care Practice Co-Leader



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