



NC DEPARTMENT OF  
**HEALTH AND  
HUMAN SERVICES**

**JOSH STEIN** • Governor

**DEVPUTTA SANGVAI** • Secretary

**MARK PAYNE** • Director, Division of Health Service Regulation

**VIA EMAIL ONLY**

August 29, 2025

Tina Hinshaw  
Tina.Hinshaw@akumin.com

**Exempt from Review – Replacement Equipment**

**Record #:** 4894  
**Date of Request:** August 15, 2025  
**Business Name:** Alliance Healthcare Services, Inc.  
**Business #:** 60  
**Project Description:** Replace mobile MRI scanner  
**County:** Wake

Dear Tina Hinshaw:

The Healthcare Planning and Certificate of Need Section, Division of Health Service Regulation (Agency), determined that the above referenced project is exempt from certificate of need review in accordance with G.S. 131E-184(f). Therefore, you may proceed to acquire without a certificate of need the Aera 43 mobile MRI scanner to permanently replace the Signa 420 mobile MRI scanner. This determination is based on your representations that the existing unit will be sold or otherwise disposed of and will not be used again in the State without first obtaining a certificate of need if one is required.

It should be noted that the 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 office and a separate determination. If you have any questions concerning this matter, please feel free to contact this office.

Sincerely,

Crystal Kearney  
Project Analyst

Micheala Mitchell  
Chief

**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

AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY / AFFIRMATIVE ACTION EMPLOYER



August 15, 2025

Mr. Mike McKillip, CON Analyst  
Mr. Greg Yakaboski, CON Analyst  
Ms. Micheala Mitchell, Chief  
Health Planning and Certificate of Need Section  
2704 Mail Service Center  
Raleigh, NC 27699-2704

Business Name: Alliance Healthcare Services

Business Number: 60

CON#: Legacy

Sym 43                      Serial # 1M9A3A8216H022412 Siemens Symphony

Signa 420                Serial # 2420        Siemens Signa HDxT

Aera 43                   Serial # 400-884281   Siemens Aera Magnetom

RE: Alliance Healthcare Services - Written Notice for Exemption from CON Review for the **Permanent Replacement of MRI Scanner Signa 420 (Legacy) by Aera 43.**

Dear Mr. McKillip and Ms. Mitchell:

I am writing regarding the permanent replacement of MRI scanners Sym 43 by Signa 420 and finally Aera 43. As noted in letter dated 7/30/2024, Sym 43 (Legacy CON) was permanently replaced by Signa 420 due to a catastrophic maintenance issue. Following that replacement, Alliance Healthcare services was able to replace Signa 420 with a newer Siemens asset, Aera 43, which is now the permanent and final asset serving under this legacy CON. Please accept this notice of exemption to permanently replace Signa 420 (legacy) with Aera 43 which is a mobile MRI scanner owned by Alliance and will be utilized as the permanent replacement MRI for Signa 420. Signa 420 has been removed from use in NC will not be used again in the State without first obtaining a certificate of need if one is required.

This Legacy CON is now fulfilled by Alliance MRI Aera 43 which is a scanner that will be properly reported in the 2025 NC MRI Equipment Inventory. Aera 43 is and will be serving the following host site:

Duke Raleigh Health - Cary  
3700 NW Cary Parkway  
Cary, NC 27513

This letter provides justification and written notice regarding the replacement equipment in accordance with NCGS 131 E-184. Alliance Healthcare Services also provides documentation that the equipment conforms to the Certificate of Need Laws and Administrative rules: GS 131E-184(a) (7) Exemptions from review to provide replacement equipment 10A NCAC 14C.0303 Replacement Equipment Administrative Rules.

#### Compliance Documentation

Compliance with G.S. 131E-176 (22a) Replacement Equipment Definition is evident because the replacement scanner has a fair market value of \$600,000 which is far less than the \$2,000,000 threshold. The replacement MRI equipment will be used for the same diagnostic purposes as the existing equipment. In addition, Alliance is providing written notice to the Department in accordance with G.S. 131E-184 (a) (7) Exemption from Review to provide replacement equipment.



8300 W. Sunrise Blvd  
Plantation, FL 33322

The existing equipment, Signa 420, will be permanently replaced by Aera 43. Signa 420 has been removed from use in NC. Thank you for your review and consideration of this information. Please call me at 805.325.3078 if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Tina Hair Hinshaw, MBA  
RVP, Mobile Operations Southeast Region  
805.325.3078    [tina.hinshaw@akumin.com](mailto:tina.hinshaw@akumin.com)

CC: Rodney Skelding and Lisa Barrera, Managers of Operations Akumin

**From:** [Mckillip, Mike](#)  
**To:** [Stancil, Tiffany C](#)  
**Subject:** FW: [External] Legacy CON - Replacement of Asset Signa 420 by Aera 43  
**Date:** Friday, August 15, 2025 1:35:47 PM  
**Attachments:** [AR\\_NCCON\\_Aera43\\_Permanent Replacement of Signa 420\\_08152025.pdf](#)

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Hi Tiffany,

Please assign this replacement equipment exemption letter request to Crystal. Thanks.

**Michael McKillip**

Team Leader, Certificate of Need  
Division of Health Service Regulation, Healthcare Planning and Certificate of Need  
[NC Department of Health and Human Services](#)

Office: 919-855-3877 (I am in the office on Wednesday and Friday, and can best be reached by email on Monday, Tuesday and Thursday.)  
[mike.mckillip@dhhs.nc.gov](mailto:mike.mckillip@dhhs.nc.gov)

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

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**From:** Tina Hinshaw <tina.hinshaw@akumin.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, August 15, 2025 12:48 PM  
**To:** Mckillip, Mike <mike.mckillip@dhhs.nc.gov>; Yakaboski, Greg <greg.yakaboski@dhhs.nc.gov>; Mitchell, Micheala L <Micheala.Mitchell@dhhs.nc.gov>  
**Cc:** Rodney Skelding <rodney.skelding@akumin.com>; Lisa Barrera <lisa.barrera@akumin.com>; Tina Hinshaw <Tina.Hinshaw@akumin.com>  
**Subject:** [External] Legacy CON - Replacement of Asset Signa 420 by Aera 43

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I hope this email finds you well.

Please see the attached notice regarding an exception for the permanent replacement of an MRI Scanner utilizing a Legacy CON.

Thank you,  
Tina

Tina Hair Hinshaw  
RVP Mobile Operations, Southeast  
805.325.3078 (cell)  
Tina.Hinshaw@Akumin.com

**Tina Hinshaw**  
**Vice President, Regional**

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