



For Immediate Release

News Release

## **STAT EMS Announces Significant Victory in Federal Court Lawsuit**

### ***Court Ruling Opens Door for STAT EMS to Provide Services in Saginaw and Tuscola Counties***

**Flint, Mich.** (July 26, 2016) – STAT EMS (STAT), a Michigan licensed ambulance operation based in Genesee County, today announced a significant victory in a federal court lawsuit against the Saginaw Valley Medical Control Authority (SVMCA). The ruling paves the way for STAT to now operate in Saginaw and Tuscola Counties.

Founded in 2000, STAT provides prehospital care, including emergency response and ambulance transport to patients, from its base in Genesee County. In 2011, STAT notified the SVMCA, the local EMS medical oversight body, of its intention to provide services in Saginaw and Tuscola Counties. The SVMCA's medical director found that STAT met all operational criteria to provide services in both counties. Despite meeting all requirements, the SVMCA's Board of Directors denied STAT's application to operate in Saginaw and Tuscola Counties.

STAT challenged the Board's decision to the State of Michigan's Department of Community Health EMS Division, which concluded that the SVMCA had unlawfully refused to provide medical oversight to STAT. The Department concluded that STAT had met all State criteria for the operation of an ambulance company and ordered the SVMCA to provide medical oversight to STAT. The SVMCA refused and STAT was forced to file a lawsuit in federal court.

After nearly three years of litigation, a federal district judge for the Eastern District of Michigan ordered the SVMCA to reconsider its denial of medical control oversight. After examining all of

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the evidence presented, the Court determined that the SVMCA had denied STAT's application to operate to protect one of STAT's competitors in the region. As a result of the judge's ruling, the SVMCA Board of Directors voted on July 22, 2016 to provide medical oversight to STAT in Saginaw and Tuscola Counties.

The judge also denied the SVMCA's motion to dismiss STAT's claims. As a result, the parties will proceed to trial on October 17, 2016 on STAT's claims for violation of its due process rights, violation of its equal protection rights, its claim for anti-trust violations pursuant to the Sherman Anti-Trust Act, its Fifth Amendment takings claim, and its claims for intentional infliction of emotional distress.

"We are very pleased with the Federal Court's ruling as well as the recent decision by the SVMCA Board of Directors," said Joseph R. Karlichek, chief operating officer, STAT EMS. "This ruling is the beginning of our entry into Saginaw and Tuscola Counties. Ultimately, this benefits patients by expanding the number of accredited EMS providers in the region who can provide timely response to medical emergencies at an advanced level of care."

### **About STAT EMS**

Headquartered in Flint, Michigan, STAT has been licensed by the Department to provide emergency response and ambulance transports. STAT provides outstanding EMS services to more than 50,000 patients in Genesee County and soon in Saginaw and Tuscola Counties. STAT has been in business since 2000 and has been nationally accredited by the Commission on Accreditation of Ambulance Services (CAAS), the gold standard in ambulance accreditation, since 2009, a distinction awarded to only approximately 175 ambulance companies in the United States.

For more information, visit [www.statems.net](http://www.statems.net).

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