



County of Milwaukee
Office of the Sheriff

David A. Clarke, Jr.
Sheriff

Date: February 10, 2012

To: Supervisor Lee Holloway, Chairman, Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors

From: Richard Schmidt, Inspector, Office of the Sheriff

Subject: **Request to Execute a Professional Service Contract with Wisconsin Physicians Service Government Programs for the processing of inmate claims.**

Pursuant to Milwaukee County Ordinance Chapter 56, the Sheriff is requesting referral to proper board committee for review and disposition, authorization to execute a claims processing services contract for the Milwaukee County Sheriff's Office.

Background

The Office of the Sheriff operates two Correctional Facilities with medical and mental health services provided at each location. At times, the care required by an inmate exceeds that which can be offered on site and the inmate is taken to an outside medical provider for services. Funding of \$1.1 million is included in the 2012 Adopted Budget of the Office of the Sheriff to pay for these outside services.

Prior to 2011, Milwaukee County had utilized Wisconsin Physicians Service Government Program to process the claims for these medical services through an existing agreement between the Department on Aging and WPS. Beginning in 2011, the county position that was responsible for submitting the claims to WPS to determine eligibility was transferred to the Office of the Sheriff from the

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Department on Aging. At that point, the Office of the Sheriff began to pay directly to WPS for the claims processing services.

The Office of the Sheriff has been informed by Central Accounting that it should have its own agreement with WPS now that it is directly paying for claims processing. The Office of the Sheriff intends to enter into a contract with WPS for claims processing services related to Inmate medical services performed by non-County providers at their location.

The agreement will be effective January 1, 2012 and will be complete December 31, 2013. The County shall pay WPS at a rate of \$6.32 per paper claims, or \$2.50 per electronic claim plus a \$500 monthly maintenance fee. Based on prior experience it is anticipated that the County will pay WPS \$15,000 in 2012.

Recommendation

It is requested that the Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors approve the Sheriff's request to execute a professional services contract to provide claims processing services with Wisconsin Physicians Service Government Programs for the Milwaukee County Sheriff's Office.

The contract term is January 1, 2012 – December 31, 2013.

Fiscal Note: The County shall pay WPS at a rate of \$6.32 per paper claims, or \$2.50 per electronic claim plus a \$500 monthly maintenance fee. Based on prior experience it is anticipated that the County will pay WPS \$15,000 in 2012.



Richard Schmidt, Inspector
Office of the Sheriff, Milwaukee County

cc: Chris Abele, County Executive
Supervisor Willie Johnson, Jr., Chair, Judiciary, Safety & General
Services Committee
Pamela Bryant, Interim Fiscal and Budget Administrator, DAS
Janelle Jensen, Committee Clerk
Rick Ceschin, Research Analyst

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