



Fire Department

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July 10, 2006

Common Council
City of Milwaukee
200 East Wells Street, Room 205
Milwaukee, WI 53202

Subject: *Introduction of a resolution directing the City Attorney to draft, negotiate and implement a Basic Life Support service contract between the City of Milwaukee and private ambulance providers commencing January 1, 2007.*

Dear Honorable Members:

Please accept for introduction at the meeting of July 12, 2006, the attached resolution directing the City Attorney to draft, negotiate and implement a Basic Life Support service contract between the City of Milwaukee and private ambulance providers commencing January 1, 2007.

Basic Life Support transport services are a critical aspect of the Emergency Medical Services (EMS) system and impact thousands of citizens and visitors to the City of Milwaukee each year. In 2005, the City of Milwaukee dispatched 46,151 calls received through the 9-1-1 system to private ambulance providers for care and possible transport. Under the current, "service plan" relationship, the City has no data in which to determine if the 46,000+ patients who received care by private providers were treated according to medical protocols and more importantly, with dignity and respect.

This resolution will enable the City to implement the primary recommendation of the Common Council's Basic Life Support (BLS) Transport Policy Review Task Force; that a service contract is executed between the City and private ambulance providers for transport services. It is important to remember that when dispatched, these companies are acting as an agent of the City. Therefore, it is of critical public safety importance that the services provided are of the highest quality. Establishing a service contract with private ambulance providers will be an important first step to improving the City's EMS system as a whole.

Please feel free to contact me directly at 286-8947 if you have any questions or concerns related to this matter.

Respectfully submitted,

WILLIAM WENTLANDT
Chief

Cc: Budget Office
LRB-Fiscal Staff

Attachments