

RESOLUTION CSO#5368-01-2024

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BURLESON, TEXAS, ADOPTING AN AMENDED EMERGENCY MEDICAL AND AMBULANCE SERVICES BILLING POLICY.

WHEREAS, the City of Burleson, Texas (“City”), is a home rule city acting under its charter adopted by the electorate pursuant to Article XI, Section 5 of the Texas Constitution and Chapter 9 of the Local Government Code; and

WHEREAS, on December 12, 2022, the City entered into an agreement for specialized professional ambulance billing services with Emergicon, LLC (“Emergicon”) for Emergicon to provide billing and claims management services for the City’s emergency medical and ambulance services (the “Agreement”); and

WHEREAS, on April 17, 2023, the City Council adopted a billing policy to provide direction to Emergicon in providing billing and claims management services under the Agreement; and

WHEREAS, on August 21, 2023, the City Council amended the adopted a billing policy to provide direction to Emergicon to provide that any balance billing shall comply with federal and state law; and

WHEREAS, the City Council desires to amend the billing policy to provide direction to Emergicon in providing billing and claims management services under the Agreement; and

WHEREAS, the City Council finds that adopting the amended emergency medical and ambulance services billing policy attached hereto as Exhibit “A” (the “Emergency Medical and Ambulance Services Billing Policy”) is in the best interest of the citizens of the City; and

WHEREAS, the City Council desires to direct City staff to bring the amended fee schedule listed in the amended Emergency Medical and Ambulance Services Billing Policy back before Council as part of the fee schedule ordinance.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BURLESON, TEXAS, THAT:


Section 1.

The Emergency Medical and Ambulance Services Billing Policy is hereby approved and adopted. The City Manager is hereby directed to deliver a copy of the Emergency Medical and Ambulance Services Billing Policy to Emergicon. The City Council hereby directs City staff to bring the amended fee schedule listed in the amended Emergency Medical and Ambulance Services Billing Policy back before Council as part of the fee schedule ordinance.

Section 2.

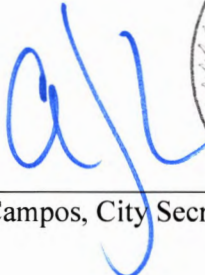
This resolution shall take effect immediately from and after its passage.

PASSED, APPROVED, AND SO RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Burleson, Texas, on the 8th day of January, 2024.



Chris Fletcher, Mayor
City of Burleson, Texas

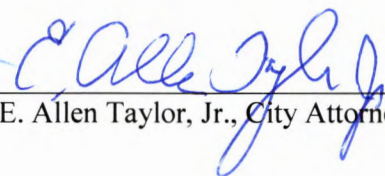
ATTEST:



Amanda Campos, City Secretary



APPROVED AS TO LEGAL FORM:



E. Allen Taylor, Jr., City Attorney

EXHIBIT “A”

Emergency Medical and Ambulance Services Billing Policy

CITY OF BURLESON
EMERGENCY MEDICAL AND AMBULANCE SERVICES BILLING POLICY

Approved April 17, 2023

Amended August 21, 2023; January 8, 2024

PURPOSE

- 1.01. General. On December 12, 2022, the City of Burleson ("City") entered into an agreement for specialized professional ambulance billing services with Emergicon, LLC ("Emergicon") for Emergicon to provide billing and claims management services for the City's emergency medical and ambulance services (the "Agreement"). The purpose of this Policy is to provide direction to Emergicon in performing its duties under the Agreement by approving an initial fee schedule for emergency medical and ambulance services, approving specific billing practices, and authorizing Emergicon to make certain discounts and write offs.
- 1.02. Effective Date of Policy. The terms of this Policy shall take effect on October 1, 2023.

FEE SCHEDULE

- 2.01. Fee Schedule. The initial fee schedule for emergency medical and ambulance services in the City is as follows:

Description	Fee	Description
ALS-E - A0427	\$1,600.00	A patient is in more critical condition, and a paramedic is required to assist in the treatment of the patient.
ALS – Non-Emergent - A0426	\$1,600.00	Transportation by ground ambulance vehicle and the provision of medically necessary supplies and services including the provision of at least one ALS intervention by ALS personnel trained to the level of the EMT-Intermediate or paramedic.
ALS 2 - A0433	\$1,750.00	ALS-E combined with specific medication or interventions delivered.
BLS – Non-Emergent - A0428	\$1,400.00	Transportation by ground ambulance vehicle as defined by the state. The ambulance must be staffed by an individual who is qualified as an EMT-Basic per state guidelines
BLS - E - A0429	\$1,400.00	An emergency transport provided by certified Emergency Medical Technicians (EMTs)

SCT - A0434	\$2,200.00	Interfacility transport of a critically ill patient, which requires specially trained paramedics
ALS Disp - A0398	\$400.00	A bundled fee designed to cover supplies used during ALS-E or ALS 2 transports
BLS Disp - A0382	\$350.00	A bundled fee designed to cover supplies used during BLS-E transports
O2 - A0422	\$150.00	A fee for oxygen
Mileage - A0425	\$24.00	A fee per mile of transport
TNT - A0998	\$175.00	A fee that can be assessed when specific interventions are performed, but the patient is not transported

2.02. Definitions. The terms and acronyms used in the initial fee schedule above shall have the following meanings in this Policy:

Advanced Life Support – Emergent (ALS-E) – A patient is in more critical condition, and a paramedic is required to assist in the treatment of the patient.

Advanced Life Support – Non-Emergent - Transportation by ground ambulance vehicle and the provision of medically necessary supplies and services including the provision of at least one ALS intervention by ALS personnel trained to the level of the EMT-Intermediate or paramedic.

Advanced Life Support 2 (ALS 2) – ALS-E combined with specific medication or interventions delivered.

Basic Life Support - Non-Emergent - Transportation by ground ambulance vehicle as defined by the state. The ambulance must be staffed by an individual who is qualified as an EMT-Basic per state guidelines

Basic Life Support – Emergent (BLS-E) – An emergency transport provided by certified Emergency Medical Technicians (EMTs).

Specialty Care Transport – Interfacility transport of a critically ill patient, which requires specially trained paramedics.

Advanced Life Support Disposables – A bundled fee designed to cover supplies used during ALS-E or ALS 2 transports.

Basic Life Support Disposables – A bundled fee designed to cover supplies used during BLS-E transports.

Oxygen – A fee for oxygen.

Mileage – A fee per mile of transport.

Treatment No Transport (TNT) – A fee that can be assessed when specific interventions are performed, but the patient is not transported.

- 2.03. Applicability. The initial fee schedule shall apply to both residents and non-residents of the City.
- 2.04. TNT Fee. The TNT fee shall apply only when an ALS intervention is performed.
- 2.04. Ordinance. City staff is hereby directed to bring the fee schedule above back before Council as part of the fee schedule ordinance.

BILLING PRACTICES, DISCOUNTS, AND WRITE OFFS

- 3.01. Balance Billing. To the extent authorized by state and federal law, Emergicon is authorized to utilize balance billing, meaning the patient shall receive a bill for the difference between the amount charged and the amount the patient's insurance covers and approves.
- 3.02. Authorized Write Offs. Emergicon is authorized to write off fees for disposables and oxygen. The specific amounts written off, if any, and other terms of the write off shall be determined by Emergicon.
- 3.03. Hard Collections Prohibition. Emergicon shall not utilize collection methods that report unpaid balances to credit reporting agencies.
- 3.04. Interest-Free Payment Plans. Emergicon is authorized to offer patients with balances interest-free payment plans. The specific terms of such payment plan, if any, shall be determined by Emergicon.
- 3.05. Prompt Payment Discounts. Emergicon is authorized to allow a prompt pay discount of twenty-five percent (25%) to forty-five percent (45%) of the amount owed. The specific discount percentage, if any, and other terms of the discount shall be determined by Emergicon.