



Fire, Rescue, Medical Services Interlocal and Mutual Aid Agreement with the City of Cleburne

CITY COUNCIL PRESENTATION

MAY 5, 2025



Purpose

- Longstanding history of mutual support between Burleson and Cleburne
- Previous mutual aid operated informally
- New agreement formalizes partnership
- Aligns with current operational, legal, and medical standards

What is a Mutual Aid Agreement

Mutual aid refers to a collaborative arrangement between two or more emergency service providers to assist one another during times of need.

The fundamental idea behind mutual aid is that emergency situations and disasters can sometimes overwhelm the resources of a single agency or jurisdiction.

Key Highlights

- Mutual aid for Fire, Rescue and EMS responses when requested
- Agreement allows shared use of stations, vehicles, and equipment by mutual consent
- Each agency responsible for its own personnel, including injuries
- Each agency must maintain its own liability and workers' comp coverage
- Each agency operates under its own medical control and protocols
- No expenditures proposed as part of this agreement
- Supersedes all prior oral or written agreements

Medical Oversight & Equivalency

- Each party retains medical autonomy under their Medical Director
- Agreement requires certification of substantial medical equivalency by Medical Directors of each agency
- Either party may revoke this certification, ending the agreement

Billing & Financial Terms

Mutual Aid Services:

- Provided at no cost to either party under normal operations.

Patient & Third-Party Billing:

- The Answering Agency (Cleburne Fire Dept. or Burleson Fire/EMS) is responsible for billing the patient or their insurance.
- Each agency operates under its own billing system and rate structure.

Additional Services:

- If services beyond normal mutual aid are requested, a separate written agreement must be made in advance, including scope and cost.

Agreement Term & Renewal

Initial Term:

- The agreement term is for one (1) year.

Automatic Renewal:

- Automatically renews for successive one-year periods, unless terminated by either party.

Termination Options:

- Either party may terminate at any time with 30 days' written notice
- Immediate termination is permitted in the event of a material breach or if either agency's Medical Director determines that medical equivalency standards are no longer being met.



Council Action Requested

Approve

- Staff recommends approval of the Fire, Rescue Medical Services, Interlocal and Mutual Aid Agreement with the City of Cleburne