

RESOLUTION

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BURLESON, TEXAS, AMENDING RESOLUTION CSO#5077-04-2023 BY 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 passed and approved Resolution No. CSO#5077-04-2023 adopted an emergency medical and ambulance services billing policy; and

WHEREAS, on June 18, 2023, the 88th Texas Legislature passed Senate Bill 2476 that amended the Insurance Code to prohibit emergency medical providers from engaging in the practice of balance billing patients with specific types of insurance policies; and

WHEREAS, the City Council desires to amend the current billing policy to be compliant with state law; and

WHEREAS, the City Council finds that adopting the 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 initial fee schedule listed in the Emergency Medical and Ambulance Services Billing Policy back before Council during Council’s consideration of the annual budget for Fiscal Year 2023 as an ordinance or 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 further directs City staff to bring the initial fee schedule listed in the Emergency Medical and Ambulance Services Billing Policy back before Council during Council’s consideration of the annual budget for Fiscal Year 2023 as an ordinance or 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 _____ day of _____, 20_____.

Chris Fletcher, Mayor
City of Burleson, Texas

ATTEST:

APPROVED AS TO LEGAL FORM:

Amanda Campos, City Secretary

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

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:

Proposed Fee Schedule	
ALS-E - A0427	\$1,600.00
ALS 2 - A0433	\$1,750.00
BLS-E - A0429	\$1,400.00
SCT - A0434	\$2,200.00
ALS Disp - A0398	\$400.00
BLS Disp - A0382	\$350.00
O2 - A0422	\$150.00
Mileage - A0425	\$24.00
TNT - A0998	\$175.00

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

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 initial fee schedule above back before Council during Council’s consideration of its annual budget for Fiscal Year 2023 as an ordinance or part of an 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.