



COUNTY OF ERIE

MARK C. POLONCARZ

COUNTY EXECUTIVE
October 21, 2016

Erie County Legislature
95 Franklin Street
Buffalo, New York 14202

RE: Authorization to Enter into Contract with emsCharts Inc.

Dear Honorable Members:

The purpose of this resolution is to authorize the Erie County Department of Health (ECDOH) Division of Emergency Services (EMS) to enter into a contract with emsCharts Inc. beginning on November 1, 2016. emsCharts is an electronic charting software system used by emergency medical service providers.

EMS is nearing completion of the process to become a NYS authorized Advanced Life Support (ALS) provider. As part of this process, the EMS will require charting software to enable ECDOH to maintain medical records of patients assisted by Erie County EMS including the Erie County Sheriff SWAT team.

Should your honorable body require further information, I encourage you to contact the Health Department. Thank you for your consideration on this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mark C. Poloncarz".

Mark C. Poloncarz, Esq.
Erie County Executive

MCP:bqs
CC: Health Commissioner, Gale R. Burstein, MD

MEMORANDUM

To: Honorable Members of the Erie County Legislature
From: Health Department
Re: Authorization to Enter into Contract with emsCharts Inc.
Date: October 21, 2016

SUMMARY

The purpose of this resolution is to authorize The Erie County Department of Health's Division of Emergency Services to enter into contract with emsCharts Inc for emsCharts Patient Care Record (PCR).

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

emsCharts is free through the end of 2016 and \$1,300 per year onward, with funding provided through an interdepartmental billing agreement with the Erie County Sheriff's Department.

REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION

As the EMS Division finalizes the transition of the Specialized Medical Response Team (SMART) into a New York State certified ALS provider, it will become necessary to equip the ECDOH EMS vehicles with charting software. EMS vehicles are already equipped with Toshiba Toughbook laptops to run the software.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

emsCharts is a low cost, secure, clinical designed medical record module for emergency medicine. It will allow Erie County first responders (Paramedics, ER Physicians, and SMART residents) to easily track and share patient medical records.

The annual cost is under the RFP required limit, and emsCharts was determined to be the best value product on the market.

CONSEQUENCES OF NEGATIVE ACTION

We will be unable to fully implement the planned development of ALS capabilities for Erie County EMS to serve as a back-up agency in terms of critical need, or to serve as EMS back-up for the Erie County Sheriff's Department SWAT team.

STEPS FOLLOWING APPROVAL

The Health Department will work with the Department of Law and the Division of Information and Support Services to implement the contract.

A RESOLUTION SUBMITTED BY:
HEALTH DEPARTMENT

RE: Authorization to Enter into Contract with emsCharts Inc.

WHEREAS emsCharts is a widely used emergency medical health record system; and

WHEREAS, emsCharts has offered to provide their product for free until the end of 2016; and

WHEREAS, emsCharts will enhance the capabilities of the Erie County Department of Health Division of Emergency Services and the Erie County Specialized Medical Response Team; and

WHEREAS, the purpose of this resolution is to authorize the County Executive to enter into a contract for emsCharts by emsCharts Inc. beginning November 1, 2016.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED, that the Erie County Legislature hereby authorizes the County Executive to enter into contract and amendments to that contract with emsCharts Inc. to license emsCharts software beginning November 1, 2016; and be it further

RESOLVED, funding is available for 2017 through the Division of Emergency Services' Professional Services, Contracts and Fees account #516020 with the cost being defrayed through an agreement with the Erie County Sheriff's Office; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Director of Budget and Management is hereby authorized to make any necessary adjustments to facilitate this transfer; and be it further

RESOLVED, that certified copies of this resolution be forwarded to the County Executive, the Office of the Comptroller, the Division of Budget and Management, the Department of Law and to Dr. Gale R. Burstein, Commissioner in the Erie County Health Department, 9th Floor, Rath Building.