

**TIMOTHY B. HOWARD**  
SHERIFF

**MARK N. WIPPERMAN**  
UNDERSHERIFF



## SHERIFF OF ERIE COUNTY

### ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICES

10 DELAWARE AVENUE  
BUFFALO, NEW YORK 14202-3913  
(716) 858-7618  
FAX: (716) 858-7680

### POLICE SERVICES

45 ELM STREET  
BUFFALO, NEW YORK 14203  
(716) 858-7618  
FAX: (716) 858-3277  
WEBSITE: <http://www.erie.gov/sheriff>

March 14, 2016

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The Honorable  
Erie County Legislature  
92 Franklin Street  
Buffalo, New York 14202

Re: Erie County Sheriff's Office – Inmate television services

Honorable Members:

Attached please find a proposed resolution and accompanying memorandum requesting authorization to enter into a contract with DISH Property Solutions to provide wireless television services for inmate housing units at the Erie County Holding Center and the Erie County Correctional facility.

Representatives of the Sheriff's Office will be available to answer any questions.

Very truly yours,

TIMOTHY B. HOWARD  
SHERIFF OF ERIE COUNTY

Attachments

## ACCOMPANYING MEMORANDUM

RE: Erie County Sheriff's Office – Inmate television services

I. Summary of Recommended Action

The attached resolution requests authorization for the County Executive and the Sheriff of Erie County to enter into contract with DISH Property Solutions to provide inmates wireless television services in the housing units at both correctional facilities operated by the Erie County Sheriff's Office.

II. Fiscal Implications of Proposal

No fiscal impact to taxpayers.

The installation and monthly subscription costs will be paid from the inmate commissary account which is designated for the welfare of inmates.

III. Reasons for Recommendation

The Jail Management Division has limited television services for inmates at the two correctional facilities due to poor cable conditions. The deteriorated cables provide low viewing quality and limits channel selection.

DISH Property Solutions offers a wireless transmission solution. This solution will save thousands of dollars in wiring repairs while and at the same time, upgrading the picture quality and offers expanded channel selection for inmate viewing. Furthermore, watching television encourages good inmate behavior and a safe working environment for deputies.

IV. Consequence of Negative Action

Without authorization, Erie County would be forced to spend thousands of dollars on cable repair.

V. Steps Following Approval of Measure

Certified copies of this resolution will be forwarded to the County Executive, the County Attorney, the Erie County Comptroller's Office and the Erie County Sheriff's Office.

## **PROPOSED RESOLUTION**

**Re: Erie County Sheriff's Office – Inmate television services**

**WHEREAS, the Erie County Sheriff's Office provides televisions in safe locations within inmate housing units for viewing and entertainment purposes; and**

**WHEREAS, television viewing privileges promote good behavior among the inmates which relates to a safer environment for the deputies assigned to housing units; and**

**WHEREAS, the existing aging and damaged cables are causing low picture quality and limited channel reception; and**

**WHEREAS, a wireless television service will eliminate the cost of repairing or replacing thousands of feet of cables in both facilities, and**

**WHEREAS, the sheriff's office has requested quotations from the leading television providers and DISH Property Solutions was the lowest quote; and**

**WHEREAS, DISH Property Solutions' installation quote of \$43,903.69 covers the Erie County Holding Center and the Erie County Correctional Facility; and**

**WHEREAS, the installation and monthly access fees, \$11.00 per month for 116 months, will be paid for from the inmate commissary account which is designated for inmate welfare expenditures; and**

**WHEREAS, authorization is required from the Erie County Legislature so the County Executive can enter into a contract for television services for the inmates.**

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT**

**RESOLVED, that the Erie County Legislature does hereby authorize the County Executive to enter into contract with DISH Property Solutions for wireless television services within the Erie County Holding Center and the Erie County Correctional Facility; and be it further**

**RESOLVED, Certified copies of this resolution will be forwarded to the County Executive, the County Attorney, Director of Purchasing, the Erie County Comptroller's Office and the Erie County Sheriff's Office.**