



City of Columbia

701 East Broadway, Columbia, Missouri 65201

Department Source: Fire

To: City Council

From: City Manager & Staff

Council Meeting Date: March 17, 2025

Re: Medical Directorship Agreement

Executive Summary

The Columbia Fire Department (CFD) seeks approval to renew its Medical Director Agreement with The Curators of the University of Missouri. This agreement ensures CFD's compliance with state and national emergency medical services (EMS) regulations by providing physician oversight for approximately 180 licensed Emergency Medical Technicians (EMTs) and Paramedics. The Medical Director plays a critical role in maintaining the department's high standards of emergency medical care by overseeing education, quality improvement, and clinical protocols. The agreement reflects an updated compensation structure and supports CFD's ongoing efforts to expand and enhance its advanced life support (ALS) capabilities to provide care to patients of all ages in Columbia's neighborhoods.

Discussion

CFD is responsible for delivering high-quality prehospital emergency medical care to the community, which requires medical oversight and continuous improvement of EMS protocols. The proposed agreement with the University of Missouri Medical Director ensures compliance with Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services (DHSS) regulations and national EMS standards.

Key components of this agreement include:

- **Medical Oversight & Licensing** – The Medical Director provides guidance to ensure CFD personnel meet licensing and certification requirements, maintaining compliance with state and national EMS regulations.
- **Education & Training** – The agreement supports ongoing education through protocol updates, clinical skill enhancement, and continuing education programs tailored to EMS providers' needs.
- **Quality Improvement & Assurance** – The Medical Director reviews EMS performance, patient care reports, and incident debriefs to enhance service quality and patient outcomes.
- **Consultation & Protocol Development** – The Medical Director works closely with CFD leadership to refine clinical guidelines, implement best practices, and support the potential expansion of ALS services.

The revised agreement updates compensation with an annual cost not exceeding \$5,000. This renewal continues a long-standing partnership that enhances CFD's EMS operations and strengthens inter-agency cooperation with the University of Missouri.



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Fiscal Impact

Short-Term Impact: Not to exceed \$5,000.00 per year.
Long-Term Impact: Not to exceed \$5,000.00 per year.

Strategic & Comprehensive Plan Impact

Strategic Plan Impacts:

Primary Impact: Safe Community, Secondary Impact: Organizational Excellence, Tertiary Impact: Not Applicable

Comprehensive Plan Impacts:

Primary Impact: Inter-Governmental Cooperation, Secondary Impact: Secondary, Tertiary Impact: Tertiary

Legislative History

Date	Action
12-16-2019	B379-19 Original agreement with The Curators of the University of Missouri for medical directorship services for employees of the City's Fire Department.

Suggested Council Action

Approve and authorize the City Manager to sign the agreement.