



Ventura County SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Jim Fryhoff - Sheriff | John Reilly - Undersheriff

800 S. Victoria Avenue, Ventura, CA 93009 | 805.654.2385 | VenturaSheriff.org

December 17, 2024

Board of Supervisors
County of Ventura
800 South Victoria Avenue
Ventura, California 93009

Subject: **Ratification of and Approval and Authorization for the Purchasing Agent to Sign Amendment No. 2 to Contract No. 8705 with California Forensic Medical Group, Inc., to Expand the Staffing Matrix for Medical and Psychiatric Services for Inmates at Custody Facilities Operated by the Sheriff and Increase the Contract Amount by \$1,116,713 for an Annual Not-to-Exceed Amount of \$20,879,365 for Year 3. Authorization for the Purchasing Agent to Further Amend Contract No. 8705 From Time to Time After Execution of Amendment No.2 to Increase the Annual Not-to- Exceed Amount by Up to 10% Following Review and Approval by the County Executive Office and County Counsel. (Recommendation No.3 Requires 4/5ths Vote).**

Recommendations:

It is recommended that your Board:

1. Ratify and approve, and authorize General Services Agency's (GSA) Purchasing Agent to sign Amendment No. 2 (Exhibit 2) to County of Ventura Contract No. 8705 (Exhibit 1) with California Forensic Medical Group, Inc., to provide additional medical staffing at County jail facilities for medical and psychiatric services for incarcerated persons and increase the contract amount by \$1,116,713 in a total annual amount not-to-exceed \$20,879,365 for year 3 of the contracted services.

2. Authorize the Purchasing Agent to further amend Contract No. 8705 from time to time after execution of Amendment No. 2 to increase the annual not-to-exceed amount by up to 10%, following review and approval by the County Executive Office and County Counsel.
3. Authorize the Auditor-Controller to process the necessary budgetary transactions as follows within the Sheriff's Detention Administration, Division 2550, Unit 2551 (requires 4/5th vote):

INCREASE	Supplies & Services	\$ 1,279,365
DECREASE	General Fund Restricted for Healthcare	\$ 1,279,365

Fiscal/Mandates Impact:

Mandatory:	Yes
Authority:	Penal Code 4011 and CA Code of Regulation, Title 15
Source of Funding:	2011 Realignment Community Corrections - AB109, General Fund, and General Fund Restricted for Healthcare
Funding Match Required:	None
Impact on Other Departments:	None

Summary of Revenue and Total Costs:	<u>FY2024-25</u>	<u>FY2025-26</u>
Revenue:		
Realignment Revenue-Sheriff	\$ 0	\$ 0
Costs:		
Direct -Sheriff	\$20,879,365	\$22,738,943
Indirect-Sheriff	\$ 0	\$ 0
Indirect-County CAP	\$ 0	\$ 0
Total Costs	\$20,879,365	\$22,738,943
Net Cost	\$20,879,365	\$22,738,943
Recovered Indirect Cost	\$ 0	\$ 0

Current Fiscal Year Budget Projections:

FY 2024-25 Budget Projection for Sheriff Detention Services – Division 2550				
	Adopted Budget	Adjusted Budget	Projected Budget	Estimated Savings/(Deficit)
Appropriations	\$143,350,271	\$151,472,886	\$151,472,886	\$0
Revenue	\$62,411,192	\$66,694,984	\$66,694,984	\$0
Net Cost	\$80,939,079	\$84,777,902	\$84,777,902	\$0

Reason for Ratification:

While Amendment No. 2 to Contract No. 8705 has not yet been signed by the Purchasing Agent, the terms of Amendment No. 2, negotiated with California Forensic Medical Group, Inc. (“CFMG”), are effective December 10, 2024. Because the County’s obligations within Amendment No. 2 precede the December 17, 2024, Board agenda date on which this item is being brought, ratification is required.

Strategic Plan:

This item contributes to the Board of Supervisors’ (Board) 2024-2027 strategic priority in many ways. This includes providing equitable and timely access to quality healthcare, mental health, and public health services, as well as maintaining and improving dependable public resources to serve the needs of our diverse communities. The objective of Ventura County Sheriff’s Office’s Detention Services Division is to provide the same quality of medical and psychiatric services for the incarcerated population as they would receive in the community.

Discussion:

The County of Ventura has a contractual relationship with the CFMG, to provide medical and mental health services for adults in custody facilities operated by the Sheriff’s Office.

On June 21, 2022, your Board approved County of Ventura Contract No. 8705 (Contract), which became effective July 1, 2022. (Exhibit 1) The Contract was for five years with options for multi-year extensions. On November 7, 2023, your Board approved an amendment to Contract No. 8705 (Exhibit 3). The proposed contract amendment, Amendment No. 2, would be effective on December 10, 2024, but would not extend the initial term of the contract.

Since enactment of the Contract in 2022, Ventura County has experienced unprecedented inflation and professional medical staff shortages similar to those experienced nationwide. When the Request for Proposal for Contract No. 8705 was completed and final negotiations occurred, nobody could predict these external stressors to the provision of correctional healthcare in Ventura County.

Additionally, the Sheriff's Office recently added 64 beds with the opening of the Health and Programming Unit (HPU). Although staffing this new addition was included in the RFP, some of the anticipated staffing efficiencies have not been realized, and the programs to be housed in the HPU have changed. The addition of a new housing unit and increased beds necessitates additional staffing to maintain the requirements for our accreditation from the National Commission on Correctional Healthcare.

The Sheriff's Office, after meticulous negotiations with CFMG, recommends the addition of 14.25 full time equivalent (FTE) medical and mental health professionals between the two custody facilities. A detailed breakdown can be found in Amendment No. 2, Appendix B (Exhibit 2). The addition of the medical staff will ensure the provision of timely care within the jails, enhance responsiveness for incarcerated person requests for care, expand the effectiveness of follow-up evaluations, and increase efficiencies in the administration of medications within the facilities.

We seek approval from your Board for the Purchasing Agent to sign Amendment No. 2 to Contract No. 8705 with CFMG (Exhibit 2). Given the nature of inmate care and unpredictable staffing needs that is expected to continue increasing in the future, we additionally seek approval from your Board for the Purchasing Agent to further amend Contract No. 8705 from time to time after execution of Amendment No. 2 to increase the annual not-to-exceed amount by up to 10% following review and approval by the County Executive Office and County Counsel.

The Sheriff's Office is aware that Wellpath Holdings, Inc and several subsidiaries of Wellpath/debtor dbas (collectively, "Wellpath") have filed for Chapter 11 bankruptcy. Pursuant to a recent court order, Wellpath's reorganization under Chapter 11 does not preclude Wellpath from entering into future contracts and completing current contracts. Regardless, CFMG, the company that the County is contracting with in Amendment No. 2 to Contract No. 8705, is a separate legal entity from Wellpath. Thus, Wellpath's Chapter 11 filing will have no impact on this current contract amendment and CFMG's obligations therein.

This board letter has been reviewed by County Counsel, the Auditor-Controller's Office, the County Executive Office, and the General Services Agency. If you have any questions regarding this item, please contact Assistant Sheriff Shane Matthews at (805) 654-2305.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'Jim Fryhoff', with a stylized, cursive-like script.

Jim Fryhoff
Sheriff

Attachments:

Exhibit 1 – CFMG contract #8705

Exhibit 2 – Amendment 2 to contract #8705 with CFMG

Exhibit 3 – Amendment 1 to contract #8705 with CFMG