

12-0686

PUBLIC SAFETY

MOTION

MAY 04 2012

Emergency ambulance services are a critical function of the Los Angeles Fire Department (LAFD) and an important source of revenue recovery for the City, with \$67.3 million projected for Fiscal Year 2011-12.

Over the past few years, LAFD has pursued efforts to improve the overall billing process for emergency medical services (EMS). In 2010-11, LAFD transitioned the management of the EMS billing and collection process to an outside vendor. In 2011-12, LAFD completed implementation of the Field Data Capture System which enables EMS field personnel to capture and record patient data electronically through handheld devices. The goals of the Field Data Capture System are to minimize billing errors and improve records management by replacing the manual paper-based forms.

The Council has not yet had an opportunity to evaluate the implementation of the Field Data Capture System. The evaluation is necessary to ensure that the devices are in use as intended with the appropriate level of training provided to field personnel. This is especially important since the Mayor's Proposed Budget for Fiscal Year 2012-13 assumes a \$5 million increase in EMS billing revenue due to more effective collection efforts.

I THEREFORE MOVE that the Fire Department be instructed to report on the status of implementing the Field Data Capture System as part of the Department's new ambulance billing system.

PRESENTED BY



MITCHELL ENGLANDER
Councilmember, 12th District

SECONDED BY



JD



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