

# LOS ANGELES FIRE COMMISSION

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September 15, 2015

Honorable Members of the City Council  
City of Los Angeles  
City Hall, Room 395  
Attn: City Clerk

Honorable Eric Garcetti  
Mayor, City of Los Angeles  
Room 303, City Hall  
Attn: Mandy Morales, Legislative Coordinator

[BFC 15-105] – ACCEPTANCE OF GRANT FUNDS FROM LOS ANGELES COUNTY  
PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT FOR USE OF FIRSTWATCH SOLUTIONS, INC.  
SYNDROMIC SURVEILLANCE SOFTWARE IN FY2015-16

At its meeting of September 15, 2015, the Board of Fire Commissioners approved the report and recommendations. The report is hereby transmitted concurrently to the Mayor and City Council for consideration and approval.

Should you need additional information, please contact the Board of Fire Commissioners' office at 213-978-3838.

Sincerely,

Sandra Gonzalez  
Acting Commission Executive Assistant

Attachment

cc: Board of Fire Commissioners (without attachments)  
Fire Chief Ralph M. Terrazas (without attachments)

# LOS ANGELES FIRE DEPARTMENT



RALPH M. TERRAZAS  
FIRE CHIEF

APPROVED: 9/15/15  
BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS  
BY: *Anderson Douglas, Jr.*  
COMMISSION EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT

September 8, 2015

BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS  
FILE NO. 15-105

TO: Board of Fire Commissioners

FROM: *RMT* Ralph M. Terrazas, Fire Chief

SUBJECT: ACCEPTANCE OF GRANT FUNDS FROM LOS ANGELES COUNTY  
PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT FOR USE OF FIRSTWATCH  
SOLUTIONS, INC. SYNDROMIC SURVEILLANCE SOFTWARE IN  
FY2015-16

FINAL ACTION:	<input type="checkbox"/> Approved	<input type="checkbox"/> Approved w/Corrections	<input type="checkbox"/> Withdrawn
	<input type="checkbox"/> Denied	<input type="checkbox"/> Received & Filed	<input type="checkbox"/> Other

### SUMMARY

Between 2007 and 2012, grant funds from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services enabled Los Angeles County to partner with the Los Angeles Fire Department (LAFD) to implement a syndromic surveillance program in the City. Through the use of FirstWatch Solutions, Inc. (FirstWatch) syndromic surveillance software, the program served as an early warning system for the detection of bio-hazardous/bio-terrorist events by collecting and analyzing statistical data on health trends in the Los Angeles area. The LAFD's 9-1-1 EMS incident data was collected real-time from the computer aided dispatch system. The data was immediately processed to determine if appropriate triggers had been activated and authorized key personnel were alerted.

In early 2015, with the potential outbreak of the Ebola virus in the greater Los Angeles area, LA County Public Health Department and LAFD staff began discussions to resume the program using FirstWatch syndromic surveillance software. Grant funding from the Federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention was awarded to LA County for program implementation. The LAFD was designated by the County as a grant sub-recipient and, thus, awarded \$67,615 to contract with FirstWatch to license the proprietary software to assist in the bio-surveillance program.

Provided for the Board's consideration are the following:

- Agreement between the City and LA County Department of Public Health to render services related to the bio-surveillance program for the period of July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2016 (Attachment A).
- Agreement between the City and FirstWatch Solutions, Inc. to license the syndromic surveillance software for the period of July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2016 (Attachment B).

## **RECOMMENDATIONS**

That the Board:

1. Approve the grant award from Los Angeles County in the amount of \$67,615 to assist in the bio-surveillance program for the period of July 1, 2015 to June 30, 2016.
2. Approve, and transmit to the Mayor and City Council for consideration, the Agreements with Los Angeles County Department of Public Health (Attachment A), and FirstWatch Solutions, Inc. (Attachment B), subject to approval of the City Attorney as to form.
3. Request that the City Council, subject to approval of the Mayor:
  - (a) Approve the Agreement between the City and Los Angeles County Department of Public Health for funding of the syndromic surveillance program for the period of July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2016, subject to approval of the City Attorney as to form.
  - (b) Approve the Agreement between the City and FirstWatch Solutions, Inc. to license syndromic surveillance software for the period of July 1, 2015 to June 30, 2016, subject to approval of the City Attorney as to form.
  - (c) Authorize the Los Angeles Fire Department to accept disbursement of grant funds from Los Angeles County in the amount of \$67,615.
  - (d) Instruct the Controller to deposit \$67,615 into Fund 335/38, Account TBD, to fund the Agreement with FirstWatch Solutions, Inc.

## **FISCAL IMPACT**

There is no cost match in acceptance of the \$67,615 grant award. These grant funds will cover the cost of the Agreement with FirstWatch Solutions, Inc. for the syndromic surveillance software license.

Board report prepared by William Jones, Senior Management Analyst II, Administrative Services Bureau.

Attachments