

BEFORE THE BOARD OF STEVENS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

IN THE MATTER OF THE STEVENS
COUNTY SHERIFF'S AMBULANCE

Resolution No. 36-2017

AUTHORIZING ACCOUNT
ADJUSTMENTS

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners of Stevens County, Washington, has received a request from the Stevens County Sheriff's Ambulance for account adjustments to the agency's accounts receivables in the amount of \$10,327.75 as specified in a memo dated August 11, 2017 and accompanying documents on file herein; AND,

WHEREAS, the Board has considered the request and finds the adjustments are necessary and advisable.

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED AND ORDERED that that Stevens County Sheriff's Ambulance is authorized to adjust their accounts receivables in the amount of \$10,327.75 as requested in the memo and documents referenced above and attached as **Exhibit 1** hereto and incorporated herein.

Passed by the Board of Stevens County Commissioners meeting in regular session at Colville, Washington, by the following vote, then signed by its membership and attested to by its Clerk in authorization of such passage the 21st day of August, 2017.

3 YEA; 0 NAY; 0 ABSTAIN; and 0 ABSENT

BOARD OF COUNTY
COMMISSIONERS OF STEVENS
COUNTY, WASHINGTON



Chairman Steve Parker




Commissioner Wes McCart



Commissioner Don Dashiell

Attest:


Polly Coleman
Clerk of the Board

STEVENS COUNTY SHERIFF'S AMBULANCE



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August 11, 2017

To: Stevens County BOCC,

In October of 2012 Stevens County Sheriff's Ambulance returned to in house billing. The billing had previously been done by an outside billing company.

Upon working the billing we came upon billing errors that were made by the previous billing company. Many of these errors were fixable and payment was eventually obtained for the services provided. Unfortunately there were some errors that were not fixable and these accounts remain unpaid and sitting in our system. Most of these errors ended up denied by insurance companies for timely filing. Most insurance companies only allow 12 months after the service to submit a claim. VA only allows 3 months.

These services were all provided in 2010 & 2011. We are requesting that these accounts in the amount of \$10,327.75 be written off. This is a onetime request to cover the billing errors made by the previous billing company. Please see the attached list.

Due to HIPAA laws SCSA is unable to provide specifics on these accounts to the BOCC. HIPAA laws forbid the disclosure of identifying information without a patient release. We have attached a summary of the HIPPA rules as they apply to SCSA disclosing further information to the BOCC.

SCSA Billing Office

SUMMARY OF THE HIPAA PRIVACY RULE

(As it pertains to SCSA PPI disclosure to Stevens County Commissioners office)

The *Standards for Privacy of Individually Identifiable Health Information* ("Privacy Rule") establishes, for the first time, a set of national standards for the protection of certain health information. The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services ("HHS") issued the Privacy Rule to implement the requirement of the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 ("HIPAA"). 1 The Privacy Rule standards address the use and disclosure of individuals' health information—called "protected health information" by organizations subject to the Privacy Rule—called "covered entities," as well as standards for individuals' privacy rights to understand and control how their health information is used. Within HHS, the Office for Civil Rights ("OCR") has responsibility for implementing and enforcing the Privacy Rule with respect to voluntary compliance activities and civil money penalties. A major goal of the Privacy Rule is to assure that individuals' health information is properly protected while allowing the flow of health information needed to provide and promote high quality health care and to protect the public's health and well being. The Rule strikes a balance that permits important uses of information, while protecting the privacy of people who seek care and healing. Given that the health care marketplace is diverse, the Rule is designed to be flexible and comprehensive to cover the variety of uses and disclosures that need to be addressed.

Who is covered by the Privacy Rule?

Health Care Providers. Every health care provider, regardless of size, who electronically transmits health information in connection with certain transactions, is a covered entity. These transactions include claims, benefit eligibility inquiries, referral authorization requests, or other transactions for which HHS has established standards under the HIPAA Transactions Rule. Using electronic technology, such as email, does not mean a health care provider is a covered entity; the transmission must be in connection with a standard transaction. The Privacy Rule covers a health care provider whether it electronically transmits these transactions directly or uses a billing service or other third party to do so on its behalf. Health care providers include all "providers of services" (e.g., institutional providers such as hospitals) and "providers of medical or health services" (e.g., non-institutional providers such as physicians, dentists and other practitioners) as defined by Medicare, and any other person or organization that furnishes, bills, or is paid for health care.

What information is protected?

Protected Health Information. The Privacy Rule protects all "*individually identifiable health information*" held or transmitted by a covered entity or its business associate, in any form or media, whether electronic, paper, or oral. The Privacy Rule calls this information "*protected health information (PHI)*." "*Individually identifiable health information*" is information, including demographic data, that relates to:

* the individual's past, present or future physical or mental health or condition,

* the provision of health care to the individual, or

* the past, present, or future payment for the provision of health care to the individual,

and that identifies the individual or for which there is a reasonable basis to believe can be used to identify the individual. Individually identifiable health information includes many common identifiers (e.g., name, address, birth date, Social Security Number).

De-Identified Health Information. There are no restrictions on the use or disclosure of de-identified health information. De-identified health information neither identifies nor provides a reasonable basis to identify an individual.

Copies of the rule and related materials.

The above information is only a summary. The entire Privacy Rule, as well as guidance and additional materials, may be found on our website, <http://www.hhs.gov/ocr/hipaa>.

Call Detail

Waiting for Write-off

<u>Call No</u>	<u>Lg Rk Pat No</u>	<u>Patient Account Name</u>	<u>Call Date</u>	<u>Current Pavor</u>	<u>Charges</u>	<u>Credits</u>	<u>Balance</u>
1106050	1 A 8358		03/08/2010	PRIVATE PAY	1164.64	0.00	1164.64
1106346	1 A 8460		05/05/2010	PRIVATE PAY	814.10	0.00	814.10
1117799	1 A 6463		05/11/2010	Private Pay/Self Pay	625.62	0.00	625.62
1118331	1 A 8659		08/29/2010	Private Pay/Self Pay	774.42	0.00	774.42
1118607A	1 A 8725		10/10/2010	PRIVATE PAY	526.42	0.00	526.42
11185414	1 A 7954		12/05/2010	PRIVATE PAY	655.38	524.30	131.08
1110643	1 A 1015		01/29/2011	Private Pay/Self Pay	454.79	0.00	454.79
1110645	1 A 1015		01/29/2011	Private Pay/Self Pay	454.79	0.00	454.79
1110737	1 A 7373		02/20/2011	PRIVATE PAY	444.87	0.00	444.87
1110911	1 A 6793		03/28/2011	Private Pay/Self Pay	513.32	0.00	513.32
1110871	1 A 8969		04/04/2011	PRIVATE PAY	347.04	99.35	247.69
1110877	1 A 8982		04/09/2011	Medicare Part B	464.71	14.45	450.26
1188764	1 A 9014		05/10/2011	PRIVATE PAY	444.87	0.00	444.87
1188777	1 A 9039		05/15/2011	Private Pay/Self Pay	501.41	0.00	501.41
1189125	1 A 9229		07/24/2011	PRIVATE PAY	566.10	0.00	566.10
1189146	1 A 9143		07/30/2011	Private Pay/Self Pay	444.87	0.00	444.87
1188806	1 A 9168		08/19/2011	PRIVATE PAY	554.37	123.72	430.65
1189237	1 A 9194		09/01/2011	PRIVATE PAY	464.71	414.71	50.00
1189518	1 A 9081		10/15/2011	PRIVATE PAY	1287.85	0.00	1287.85
Total For All				19	11504.28	1176.53	10327.75