

53850

DATE: December 13, 2016

TO: Board of Acquisition and Contract

FROM: Evan Latainer
Director, Office for People with Disabilities

RE: **Resolution exempting from the Westchester County Procurement Policy all agreements between Westchester County and sign language interpreters for the provision of sign language interpretation services for the period from January 1, 2017 through December 31, 2017 for a total aggregate amount not to exceed \$2,000.00**

Authority of your Honorable Board is hereby requested to exempt from the Westchester County Procurement Policy all sign language interpretation agreements for the period from January 1, 2017 through December 31, 2017, in a total aggregate amount not to exceed \$2,000.00.

Pursuant to Section 3(a)xxi, the Westchester County Procurement Policy and Procedures are not applicable to any procurement for which this Honorable Board determines, by resolution passed prior to commencing such procurement, that compliance with the policy would not be in the best interests of the County. The Westchester County Office for People with Disabilities hereby seeks to exempt all 2015 sign language interpreter agreements from the Procurement Policy.

Price competition does not exist, as the current county-set rate of \$55.00 per hour paid to all sign language interpreters who hold a contract with the county is below the standard market rate compared to other institutions throughout the county ranging from \$60.00 to \$125.00 per hour as follows: Mercy College pays as low as \$60.00 per hour and up depending on the level of the interpreter's skill set, Pace University pays \$125.00 per hour and up, Monroe College pays \$65.00 per hour and up. The Office for the Disabled advertises the opportunity to become a sign language interpreter on its website.

Westchester County Office for People with Disabilities offers all sign language interpreters the opportunity to obtain a county contract for sign language interpreter services as stated on the webpage for Office for People with Disabilities advertising this opportunity.

Accordingly, I recommend and urge your Honorable Board's approval of the annexed Resolution.

RESOLUTION

Upon a communication from the Office for People with Disabilities, be it hereby

RESOLVED, that pursuant to Section 3(a)(xxi) of the Westchester County Procurement Policy and Procedures, it is hereby determined that application of the procedural requirements contained therein, including the necessity of soliciting proposals, is neither cost effective nor expedient, and accordingly, not in the best interests of the County in connection with the procurement of various agreements with sign language interpreters for the provision of sign language interpretation services for the period from January 1, 2017 through December 31, 2017 in a total aggregate amount not to exceed \$2,000.

APPROVED BOARD OF ACQUISITION & CONTRACT - 01/03/2017 - LISA M. RIZZO, SECRETARY