

16844

DATE: December 29, 2010

TO: Honorable Members of the Board of Acquisition and Contract

FROM: Grant E. Mitchell, M.D., Commissioner
Department of Community Mental Health

Marguerite Beirne, Chief Information Officer
Department of Information Technology

SUBJECT: Resolution to exempt from the Westchester County Procurement Policy, pursuant to Section 3(a)(xxi) thereof, an agreement with ABA Business Technologies, Inc. for technical assistance and services related to the Department of Community Mental Health's IMA clinical record and billing system as that system relates to the operation and closure of several County-operated clinics

Authority is respectfully requested from your Honorable Board to exempt from the Westchester County Procurement Policy an agreement between the County of Westchester (the "County"), acting by and through its Department of Community Mental Health (the "Department"), and ABA Business Technologies, Inc. ("ABA"), pursuant to which ABA will provide technical assistance and services related to the Department's IMA clinical record and billing system as that system relates to the operation and closure of several County-operated clinics, for a term from January 1, 2011 through December 31, 2011, for an amount not-to-exceed \$32,500, pursuant to an approved budget.

ABA is better able than any other entity to provide the needed services to the Department. This is because of the complexity of New York State Medicaid billing (and other third party payers as well) and the development of state-required reporting to ensure payment. The Department uses IMA system as the interface with eMedNY—the state system that generates Medicaid payments. The IMA system is owned by a small business named IMA Systems and Services ("IMASS"). There is only one other provider in the county besides the Department that operates IMASS's IMA system, so support is not widely available. ABA has been providing the Department with services regarding the IMA system in connection with the Medicaid billing for the last four years. Selecting another vendor, such as IMASS, at this juncture for the necessary services would ultimately be more costly and time-consuming.

In addition to billings, IMA supports County operations in the case of the audits. Failure to maintain the data and records as stipulated in law could cost the County hundreds of thousands

of dollars. ABA has been using the IMA system for 10 years and has the experience necessary to operate it reliably.

Therefore, it is proposed that the best interests of the County would be served by exempting the proposed agreement from the Westchester County Procurement Policy, pursuant to Section 3(a)(xxi) thereof. Accordingly, a resolution to exempt this procurement is hereby submitted for your consideration.

GEM/TP/bdm/nn

APPROVED BOARD OF ACQUISITION & CONTRACT - 2-10-2011 - JOMARY VIEIRA, SECRETARY

RESOLUTION

Upon a communication from the Commissioner of the Department of Community Mental Health, and the Chief Information Officer of the Department of Information Technology 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 an agreement with ABA Business Technologies, Inc. for technical assistance and services related to the Department of Community Mental Health's IMA clinical record and billing system as that system relates to the operation and closure of several County-operated clinics.

APPROVED BOARD OF ACQUISITION & CONTRACT - 2-10-2011 - JOMARY VIEIRA, SECRETARY