**Request to Increase Cost of Medical Contract**

Karas Correctional Healthcare has requested to increase the cost of their yearly contract price from $1,150,000.00 to $1,265,000.00. This is an increase of $115,000.00.

The jail census has been consistently high throughout the entire year, medical acuity is high and overall healthcare costs have increased. In addition to Dr. Karas and his current staff, he has hired a full time Medical Director who will be onsite Monday through Friday starting in November 2018 to provide an increase in medical care to the detainees. Karas expects Dental costs to increase in 2019 due to the difficulty in acquiring consistent dental coverage at the detention center.

Currently the Detention Center pays for all over the counter (OTC) medication, which costs approximately $40,000.00 per year. If the increase of $115,000.00 is approved, Karas will take on the OTC cost responsibility and the Detention Center will no longer reimburse Karas for those expenses. With Karas taking on the responsibility of the OTC costs, their request for an increase will be a 6.5% increase in their contract price.

This is the first request for an increase by Karas Correctional Healthcare since their 2017 contract with the Detention Center.