

## **BILLING SERVICES AGREEMENT**

This Agreement is made effective \_\_\_\_\_\_ by and between One Billing Solution, Inc., hereafter referred to as "OBS", and the City of Crete, Nebraska, hereinafter referred to as "Medical Service Provider", (individually a "Party" and collectively the "Parties").

WHEREAS, OBS is engaged in the business of providing billing and collection services for public and private ambulance and rescue squad entities; and

WHEREAS, Medical Service Provider, is a public and/or private provider of rescue squad and ambulance services in the area commonly known as the City of Crete, Nebraska and surrounding rural areas, and

WHEREAS, Medical Service Provider is compensated for its ambulance and rescue services by its patients through private payments, private insurance, public insurance, including Medicare and Medicaid, or a combination thereof; and

WHEREAS, Medical Service Provider desires to engage and retain the billing services of OBS:

IT IS THEREFORE, AGREED, IN CONSIDERATION OF THE MUTUAL PROMISES, COVENANTS, AND CONDITIONS SET FORTH HEREIN AS FOLLOWS:

- 1. TERM OF AGREEMENT. OBS shall provide Medical Service Provider billing services as set forth in detail below, commencing on the effective date stated above and shall continue for a period of one (1) year thereafter unless terminated earlier as provided in this agreement. This Agreement shall be automatically renewed for successive one (1) year terms unless and until terminated as provided herein, or modified in writing and agreed to be both parties.
- 2. BILLING SERVICES TO BE PROVIDED. OBS will provide the following billing services on behalf of Medical Service Provider as follows:
  - A. Verify all billing information;
  - B. Invoice all private payment patients and all insurance carriers including, but not limited to, public, and private health insurance, Medicare, Medicaid, automobile liability carriers, workers' compensation carriers, and homeowner insurances;
  - C. Provide all appropriate HCPCS, ICD10, and condition codes (symptom/diagnosis codes);
  - D. Prepare and mail invoices to private patients and complete and submit claim forms to public and/or private insurance carriers or other responsible party (via postal service or electronically through contracted clearinghouse);
  - E. Provide follow-up billing at least two times after initial written billing to private patients;

- F. Coordinate, correspond, and reply to all inquiries from private patients, and public and/or private insurance carriers;
- G. Obtain status reports on claim processing from all public and/or private insurance carriers;
- H. Provide customer service access during normal business hours, weekends and holidays excluded;
- I. Provide contract completion for participating agreements with insurance companies; and act as authorized representative;
- J. Provide cash posting services;
- K. Provide to Medical Service Provider monthly accounts receivable, transactions, and itemized payment and write-off summaries, all to be provided to Medical Service Provider no later than the 10<sup>th</sup> business day of the following month. Any write-offs on unpaid invoices or balances after payment by public and private insurance carriers or other third-party payors shall be at the direction of the Medical Service Provider pursuant to its policies and procedures in accordance with all state and federal regulations regarding billing and write-offs for medical services.
- 3. COMPENSATION. Medical Service Provider agrees to compensate OBS for its billing services provided above on a monthly basis in an amount equal to fifteen percent (15%) of amounts actually collected by OBS and/or Medical Service Provider and/or any collection or recovery agency acting on behalf of Medical Service Provider in the previous month. OBS shall invoice Medical Service Provider for its compensation no later than the 10<sup>th</sup> day of the following month in which payments or insurance proceeds are received, and Medical Service Provider agrees to pay said invoices within 30 days.
- 4. INFORMATION PROVIDED BY MEDICAL SERVICE PROVIDER. Medical Service Provider agrees to provide to OBS for each rescue squad or ambulance call the information required on these three forms:

(1) a signed medical necessity form, a sample copy of which is attached hereto and fully incorporated herein, together with

(2) the demographic sheet from each hospital or medical care facility to which the patient has been transported, and

(3) a completed run report.

Any changes to personnel or squad licensing or equipment must be reported to OBS. Any discrepancy in deposit amount, receipt of deposit, direct payments reported or other questions regarding the squad's monies or invoice must be reported in writing to OBS within 60 days of the date of the report. OBS is not liable or responsible for discrepancies not reported in a timely manner.

- 5. PAYMENT COLLECTION AND PROCESSING PROCEDURES. Unless otherwise agreed to in writing by the Parties, OBS shall collect and process payment collections according to the following:
  - a. OBS shall provide that payments on all claims shall be made in the name of the Medical Service Provider and claims payments forwarded to OBS.
  - b. Medical Service Provider shall provide OBS with all relevant and necessary banking information in order to process and complete any depository transactions related to this agreement.
  - c. Medical Service Provider shall provide OBS with a "Deposit Only" Stamp and bank deposit slips;

- d. If applicable, OBS will endorse claims payments "For Deposit Only" to Medical Service Provider's bank and cause these claim payments to be deposited in Medical Service Provider's account not less than once a month.
- e. If applicable, Medical Service Provider has the option to sign a Direct Deposit Authorization Form to allow OBS to direct deposit claim payments directly into the Medical Service Provider's bank account, not less than once a week following the receipt of claims payments.
- f. In the event Medical Service Provider receives direct payment on any claims processed by OBS, it shall immediately notify and mail/fax a copy of direct payment along with any coordinating documentation to OBS for proper posting.
- g. Alternative payment processing procedures may be arranged by the parties, but must be in writing, signed by both parties, and added to this agreement as an addendum.
- 6. TERMINATION. This agreement may be terminated according to the following provisions:
  - A. <u>Termination Without Cause</u>. Either party may terminate this Agreement at any time by giving the other party sixty (60) days written notice of its intent to terminate. During said 60-day period, this agreement shall continue in full force and effect and OBS shall be entitled to compensation at the rate set forth above for all billing services provided during that time and for amounts collected by MEDICAL SERVICE PROVIDER as a result of the billing services provided by OBS after the effective date of termination of this agreement.
  - B. <u>Terminate for Cause</u>. A party shall have the right to terminate this Agreement upon written notice of such termination to the other party in the event:
    - i. the business of the other party is terminated or suspended;
    - ii. a petition for bankruptcy is filed by or against the other party;
    - iii. a receiver is appointed on account of the other party's insolvency;
  - C. <u>Termination or Amendment as a Result of Government Regulation</u>. A party shall have the right to terminate or unilaterally amend this Agreement, without liability, upon written notice to the other party, in order to comply with any legal order, ruling, opinion, procedure, policy, or other guidance issued by any federal or state agency, or to comply with any provision of law, regulation, or any requirement of accreditation, tax-exemption, federally-funded health care program participation or licensure which:
    - i. invalidates or is inconsistent with the provisions of this Agreement;
    - ii. would cause a party to be in violation of the law;
    - iii. jeopardizes the tax-exempt status of the terminating or amending party or any affiliate of such party, if applicable;
    - iv. jeopardizes the tax-exempt status of any bonds issues for the benefit of the terminating or amending party or any affiliate of such party, if applicable, or
    - v. jeopardizes the good standing status of licensure, accreditation or participation in any federally-funded health care program, including the Medicare and Medicaid programs, of the terminating or amending party or any affiliate of such party, if applicable. If either party deems it necessary to amend this Agreement as provided in this Section and the amendment is unacceptable to the other party, the unaccepting party may

choose to terminate this Agreement immediately without cause or liability upon notice to the other party.

- D. <u>Payment of Fees After Termination</u>. Upon any termination of this Agreement, CONTRACTOR shall be entitled to receive the fees accrued and unpaid through the effective date of termination.
- 7. MODIFICATION AND ASSIGNMENT. This agreement shall not be modified by either party unless the terms of modification of this agreement are reduced to writing and signed by both parties. Neither party may assign their right, obligations, or benefits under the terms of this agreement without first obtaining the written consent of the other party, which consent shall not be unreasonably withheld.
- 8. NOTICES. All notices and other communications required or permitted to be given hereunder shall be made in writing and shall be considered given and received when (a) personally delivered to the other party, (b) delivered by courier, (c) delivered by facsimile or (d) certified mail receipt is executed by an authorized representative of the party intended to receive the communication.

If to OBS:	If to MEDICAL SERVICES PROVIDER:
One Billing Services, LLC	City of Crete
11718 Nicholas Street	ATTN: Tom Ourada
Suite 100	234 E. 13th Street
Omaha, NE 68154	PO Box 86
ATTN: Beth Grassau	Crete, NE 68333
With a copy, by regular United States	With a copy, by regular United States
mail, postage prepaid, to:	mail, postage prepaid, to:
Erickson Sederstrom ATTN: Andrew Collins 10330 Regency Dr., Suite 100 Omaha, NE 68114	

- 9. INDEPENDENT CONTRACTOR RELATIONSHIP. Agreement is not intended to create any relationship between the parties beyond that of an independent entity contracting with each other solely for the purpose of effecting the provisions of this Agreement and its incorporated Attachments. Neither of the parties nor any of their authorized representatives, shall have the authority to bind the other in contract or quasi-contract or shall be deemed or construed to be the agent, employee or representative of the other.
- 10. AUTHORITY; EFFECT. By executing this Agreement and its incorporated Attachments on behalf of OBS, the undersigned individual represents that he or she is duly authorized by OBS to make and enter into this Agreement and its incorporated Attachments on behalf of OBS, and represents that this Agreement and its incorporated Attachments constitutes the valid and binding obligation of OBS generally enforceable in accordance with its terms. By executing this Agreement and its incorporated Attachments on behalf of Medical Service Provider, the undersigned individual represents that he or she is duly authorized by Medical Service Provider to make and enter into this Agreement and its incorporated

Attachments on behalf of Medical Service Provider, and represents further that this Agreement and its incorporated Attachments constitutes the valid and binding obligation of Medical Service Provider and is generally enforceable in accordance with its terms. This Agreement and its incorporated Attachments shall be binding on OBS and Medical Service Provider and on their respective successor organizations. The obligations of each party hereto may not be delegated without the other party's prior written consent.

- 11. INDEMNIFICATION. OBS agrees to defend, indemnify, and hold harmless the Medical Service Provider (including its officers, agents and employees) from and against any and all claims, demands, liabilities and costs incurred by the Medical Service Provider party, including reasonable attorney's fees, arising out of any claims for damages directly caused by an act or omission made by the Medical Service Provider or any claims for Social Security benefits, workers' compensation benefits, disability benefits, or any other cause of action which may directly arise out of the OBS's performance of its obligations under this Agreement and the incorporated Attachments. To the extent permitted by Nebraska law and Constitution, Medical Service Provider agrees to defend, indemnify, and hold harmless OBS (including its officers, agents, employees, and subcontractors) from and against any and all claims, demands, liabilities and costs incurred by OBS, including reasonable attorney's fees, arising out of any claims for damages directly or indirectly caused by an act or omission made by the Medical Service Provider which may directly or indirectly arise out of the Medical Service Provider's performance of its obligations under this Agreement and the incorporated Attachments. Furthermore, the Medical Service Provider agrees to defend, indemnify, and hold harmless OBS (including its officers, agents, employees, and subcontractors) from and against any and all claims, demands, liabilities and costs incurred by the OBS, including reasonable attorney's fees, arising out of any claims for negligence or any other cause of action for damages directly or indirectly related to the accuracy or substance of the work product transmitted from the OBS to the Medical Service Provider.
- 12. INSURANCE. Medical Service Provider agrees to provide general liability and medical negligence insurance for Medical Service Provider, its agents and employees. OBS agrees to provide general liability insurance for OBS, its agents and employees. Upon request, the parties agree to furnish to the other appropriate certificates of insurance. Both Medical Service Provider and OBS agree that such insurance may not be changed in any material way without at least thirty (30) days advance written notice to the other party
- 13. EXCLUDED PROVIDER WARRANTY. Neither party is now and at no time has been excluded from participation in any federally funded health care program, including Medicare and Medicaid. Each party hereby agrees to immediately notify the other party of any threatened, proposed or actual exclusion from any federally funded health care program, including Medicare and Medicaid. Each party further represents and warrants that none of its employees are now and at no time have been excluded from participation in any federally funded health care program, including Medicare and Medicaid, such employee shall be terminated. In the event either party is excluded from participation in any federally funded health care program during the Term of this Agreement, this Agreement and its incorporated Attachments shall, as of the effective date of such exclusion or breach, automatically terminate. Each party shall indemnify the other for any and all damages resulting from such party's exclusion from any federally funded health care program, including Medicare and Medicaid.

- 14. ACCESS TO BOOKS AND RECORDS. Until the expiration of four (4) years after the furnishing of the services under this Agreement, each party shall make available to the Secretary of the United States Department of Health and Human Services, and the United States Comptroller General, and their representatives, a copy of this Agreement and its incorporated Attachments and such books, documents and records of that party that are necessary to certify the nature and extent of any cost incurred by either party. If a party carries out the duties of the Agreement through a subcontract worth Ten Thousand and 00/100 Dollars (\$10,000.00) or more over a twelve (12) month period with a related organization, the subcontract shall contain a clause placing the same obligations on the subcontractor as this clause places on that party. In the event this Agreement is not subject to the provisions of 42 U.S.C. 1395x (v)(1)(I) and 42 C.F.R. 420.300, et. seq. or relevant regulations, this paragraph shall be of no effect.
- 15. CONFIDENTIALITY. The parties shall maintain the confidentiality of patient medical records in accordance with state and federal laws. Each party further acknowledges that information regarding the other party and its business operations, including, but not limited to, procedures, policies, programs, billing codes and systems, reimbursement and fee schedules, contracts, business plans and such other business records is proprietary and confidential. Each party agrees to hold such information in strict confidence and not disclose or make available such information to any third party, except as required by law. This provision shall survive any termination of this Agreement.

## 16. HIPAA BUSINESS ASSOCIATE ASSURANCES.

## A. Privacy Rule

- OBS, in its capacity as a Business Associate, shall carry out its obligations under this Agreement in compliance with the Privacy Regulations pursuant to Public Law 104-191 of August 21, 1996, known as the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996, Subtitle F – Administrative Simplification, Section 261, et seq., as amended ("HIPAA"), to protect the privacy of any personally identifiable protected health information ("PHI") that is collected, processed or learned as a result of the Services provided hereunder. In conformity therewith, OBS agrees that it will:
  - (a) Not use or further disclose PHI except as permitted under this Agreement or required by law;
  - (b) Use appropriate safeguards to prevent use or disclosure of PHI except as permitted by this Agreement
  - (c) Mitigate, to the extent practicable, any harmful effect that is known to OBS of a use or disclosure of PHI by OBS in violation of this Agreement.
  - (d) Report to Medical Service Provider any use or disclosure of PHI by OBS in violation of this Agreement.
  - (e) Ensure that any agents or subcontractors to whom OBS provides PHI, or who have access to PHI, agree to the same restrictions and conditions that apply to OBS with respect to such PHI;
  - (f) Make PHI available to Medical Service Provider and to the individual who has a right to access as required under HIPAA within 30 days of the request by Medical Service Provider regarding the individual;
  - (g) Incorporate any amendments to PHI when notified to do so by Medical Service Provider;
  - (h) Provide an accounting of all uses or disclosures of PHI made by OBS as required under the HIPAA privacy rule within 60 days;

- (i) Make its internal practices, books and records relating to the use and disclosure of PHI available to the Secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services for purposes of determining Medical Service Provider's compliance with HIPAA; and
- (j) At the termination of this Agreement, return or destroy all PHI received by OBS on behalf of, Medical Service Provider and if return is infeasible, the protections of this Agreement will extend to such PHI.
- 2. The specific uses and disclosures of PHI that may be made by OBS on behalf of Medical Service Provider include:
  - (a) The preparation of invoices to patients, carriers, insurers and Others responsible for payment or reimbursement of the services provided by Medical Service Provider to its patients;
  - (b) Preparation of reminder notices and documents pertaining to collections of overdue accounts;
  - (c) The submission of supporting documentation to carriers, insurers and other payers to substantiate the health care services provided by Medical Service Provider to its patients or to appeal denials of payment for same.
  - (d) Uses required for the proper management of OBS as a business associate.
  - (e) Other uses and disclosures of PHI that are enumerated within this Agreement.
  - (f) Other uses or disclosures if PHI as permitted by the HIPAA Privacy Rule.
- B. Security Rule
  - OBS, in its capacity as a Business Associate, shall carry out its obligations under this Agreement in compliance with the Security Regulations pursuant to Public Law 104-191 of August 21, 1996, known as the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act if 1996, Subtitle F – Administrative Simplification, Sections 261, et seq., as amended ("HIPAA"), regarding the security if electronic protected health information(e-PHI")that is received as a result of the Services provided hereunder. In conformity therewith, OBS agrees that it will:
    - (a) Implement administrative, physical, and technical safeguards that reasonably and appropriately protect the confidentiality, integrity, and availability of the electronic protected health information that it creates, receives, maintains, or transmits on behalf of the covered entity as required in the regulations;
    - (b) Ensure that any agent of OBS, including a subcontractor, to whom it provides such information, agrees to implement reasonable and appropriate safeguards to protect protected health information; and
    - (c) Report to the Medical Service Provider any security incident of which it becomes aware. Notwithstanding any other provisions of this Agreement, this Agreement may be terminated by Medical Service Provider, in its sole discretion, if Medical Service Provider determines that OBS has violated a term or provision of this Paragraph pertaining to OBS's obligation as a Business Associate of Medical Service Provider, or if OBS engages to engage in conduct which would, if committed by Medical Service Provider, result in a violation of the HIPAA privacy rule or HIPAA security rule by Medical Service Provider.
- 17. COMPLIANCE
  - A. OBS will conduct its activities and operations in compliance with all state and federal statues, rules and regulations applicable to billing activities.
  - B. Medical Service Provider shall conduct its activities, operations and documentation in compliance with all applicable state and federal statues, rules and regulations. Medical

Service Provider expressly represents and warrants that it is under no legal impediment to billing or receiving reimbursement for its services.

- C. Each party is responsible for monitoring and ensuring its own compliance with all applicable state and federal laws and regulations pertaining to billing and reimbursement for its services. However, either party which becomes aware of a violation of any such state or federal laws or regulations or a questionable claim or claim practice agrees to notify the other party within thirty (30) days so the other party may appropriately address the matter.
- D. The parties represent that they are not the subject of any actions or investigations pertaining to its participation in or standing with any state or federal health care program, are not subject to exclusion from any state and/or federal health care program, and that no persons providing services for which reimbursement is sought were at the time such services were rendered excluded from any state or federal health care program.
- E. The parties recognize that this Agreement is at all times subject to applicable state, local, and federal laws and shall be construed accordingly. The parties further recognize that this Agreement may become subject to or be affected by amendments un such laws and regulations or to new legislation or regulations. Any provisions of law that invalidate, or are otherwise inconsistent with, the material terms and conditions of this Agreement, or that would cause one or both of the parties hereto to be in violation of law, shall be deemed to have superseded the terms of this Agreement and, in such event, the parties agree to utilize their best efforts to modify the terms and conditions if this Agreement to be consistent with the requirements of such law(s) in order to effectuate the purposes and intent of this Agreement. In the event that any such laws or regulations affecting this Agreement are enacted, amended or promulgated either party may propose to the other a written amendment to this Agreement to be consistent with the provisions of such laws or regulations. In the event that the parties do not agree on such written amendments within thirty (30) days of receipt of the proposed written amendments, then either party may terminate this Agreement without further notice, unless this Agreement would expire earlier by its terms.
- 18. SEVERABILITY. If any section, portion, or clause of this agreement is deemed to be legally unenforceable, such unenforceability shall not invalidate the remaining provisions of this agreement and such provisions shall remain valid and enforceable against either party.
- 19. GOVERNING LAW. This Agreement and any incorporated Attachments shall be construed under and shall be governed by the substantive laws of the State of Nebraska and applicable federal laws.
- 20. AMENDMENT. This Agreement or its incorporated Attachments may not be amended except upon written agreement signed by both parties.
- 21. HEADINGS. The headings to the various sections of this Agreement or its incorporated Attachments have been inserted for convenience only and shall not modify, define, limit, or expand the express provisions of this Agreement or its incorporated Attachments.
- 22. WAIVER. The waiver of a breach of or default under any term or provision of this Agreement or its incorporated Attachments by either party, by course of dealing or

otherwise, shall not be deemed a waiver of any other or subsequent breach of or default under the same or a different provision of this Agreement or its incorporated Attachments.

23. ENTIRE AGREEMENT. This Agreement or its incorporated Attachments constitutes the entire understanding and agreement between the parties with respect to the subject matter hereof and supersedes all prior agreements, whether oral or written, concerning the subject matter hereof.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Parties have executed this Agreement on this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2022 to become effective as of the day and year of the effective date set forth above.

One Billing Solution, LLC

**City of Crete, Nebraska** ("Medical Service Provider")

Signature

By: Beth Grassau

Title: Director of Operations

Date:\_\_\_\_\_

Signature

By: David Bauer

Title: <u>Mayor</u>

Date:\_\_\_\_\_