

## **ORDINANCE NO: \_\_\_\_\_**

AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING AND IMPLEMENTING A PROGRAM TO CHARGE MITIGATION RATES FOR THE DEPLOYMENT OF EMERGENCY AND NON-EMERGENCY SERVICES BY THE FIRE DEPARTMENT FOR SERVICES PROVIDED/RENDERED FOR THE PEORIA FIRE DEPARTMENT.

WHEREAS, the emergency and non-emergency services response activity to incidents continues to increase each year; Environmental Protection requirements involving equipment and training, and Homeland Security regulations involving equipment and training, creating additional demands on all operational aspects of the fire department services; and

WHEREAS, the fire department has investigated different methods to maintain a high level of quality of emergency and non-emergency service capability throughout times of constantly increasing service demands, where maintaining an effective response by the fire department decreases the costs of incidents to insurance carriers, businesses, and individuals through timely and effective management of emergency situations, saving lives and reducing property and environmental damage; and

WHEREAS, raising real property tax to meet the increase in service demands would not be fair when the responsible party(ies) should be held accountable for their actions; and

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Peoria desires to implement a fair and equitable procedure by which to collect said mitigation rates from non-residents and shall establish a billing system in accordance with applicable laws, regulations and guidelines.

### **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PEORIA AS FOLLOWS:**

SECTION 1: The Peoria Fire Department shall initiate mitigation rates for the delivery of emergency and non-emergency services by the fire department for personnel, supplies and equipment to the scene of emergency and non-emergency incidents as listed in "EXHIBIT A" for non-residents. The mitigation rates shall be based on actual costs of the services and that which is usual, customary and reasonable (UCR) as shown in "EXHIBIT A", which may include any services, personnel, supplies, and equipment and with baselines established by addendum to this document.

SECTION 2: A claim shall be filed to the responsible party(ies) through their insurance carrier. In some circumstances, the responsible party(ies) will be billed directly.

SECTION 3: The City Council may make rules or regulations and from time to time may amend, revoke, or add rules and regulations, not consistent with this Section, as they may deem necessary or expedient in respect to billing for these mitigation rates or the collection thereof.

SECTION 4: It is found and determined that all formal actions of this City Council concerning and relating to the adoption of this Ordinance were adopted in open meetings of this City Council, and that all deliberations of this City Council and any of its committees that resulted in such formal actions were in accordance with all legal requirements, and the Codified Ordinances of the City Council.

SECTION 5: This ordinance will take effect thirty (30) days after its official publishing

SECTION 6: The Mitigation Rates lists in Exhibit A will increase by 1.5% annually or based on the annual percentage increase in the Consumer Price Index (CPI), as developed by the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the U.S. Department of Labor, whichever is more. Rate adjustments will occur on the anniversary date of this ordinance/resolution to keep the fire department's cost recovery program in conformity with increasing operating expenses.

**PASSED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PEORIA, ILLINOIS**  
this 12<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2019.

APPROVED:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
City Clerk

EXAMINED AND APPROVED:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Corporation Counsel

## **MITIGATION RATES BASED ON PER HOUR**

The mitigation rates below are average “billing levels”, and are typical for the incident responses listed, however, when a claim is submitted, it will be itemized and based on the actual services provided.

These rates are based on actual costs using amortized schedules for apparatus (including useful life, equipment, repairs, and maintenance). Labor rates include an average department’s actual burdened labor costs and not just a firefighter's wage. These include wages, retirement, benefits, workers comp, etc.

### **MOTOR VEHICLE INCIDENTS**

#### **Level 1 - \$494.00**

Provide hazardous materials assessment and scene stabilization. This will be the most common “billing level”. This occurs almost every time the fire department responds to an accident/incident.

#### **Level 2 - \$562.00**

Includes Level 1 services as well as clean up and material used (sorbents) for hazardous fluid clean up and disposal. We will bill at this level if the fire department has to clean up any gasoline or other automotive fluids that are spilled as a result of the accident/incident.

#### **Level 3 – CAR FIRE - \$687.00**

Provide scene safety, fire suppression, breathing air, rescue tools, hand tools, hose, tip use, foam, structure protection, and clean up gasoline or other automotive fluids that are spilled as a result of the accident/incident.

### **ADD-ON SERVICES:**

#### **Extrication - \$1,483.00**

Includes heavy rescue tools, ropes, airbags, cribbing etc. This charge will be added if the fire department has to free/remove anyone from the vehicle(s) using any equipment. We will not bill at this level if the patient is simply unconscious and fire department is able to open the door to access the patient. This level is to be billed only if equipment is deployed.

#### **Creating a Landing Zone - \$454.00**

Includes Air Care (multi-engine company response, mutual aid, helicopter). We will bill at this level any time a helicopter landing zone is created and/or is utilized to transport the patient(s).

**Itemized Response:** You have the option to bill each incident as an independent event with custom mitigation rates, for each incident using, itemized rates deemed usual, customary and reasonable (UCR). These incidents will be billed, itemized per apparatus, per personnel, plus products and equipment used.

### **ADDITIONAL TIME ON-SCENE**

Engine billed at \$455 per hour.

Truck billed at \$568 per hour.  
Miscellaneous equipment billed at \$341.

## **WATER INCIDENTS**

### **Level 1**

**Basic Response:** Claim will include engine response, first responder assignment, perimeter establishment, evacuations, first responder set-up and command, scene safety and investigation (including possible patient contact, hazard control). This will be the most common “billing level”. This occurs almost every time the fire department responds to a water incident.

**Billed at \$455 plus \$57 per hour, per rescue person.**

### **Level 2**

**Intermediate Response:** Includes Level 1 services as well as clean up and material used (sorbents), minor hazardous clean up and disposal. We will bill at this level if the fire department has to clean up small amounts of gasoline or other fluids that are spilled as a result of the incident.

**Billed at \$909 plus \$57 per hour, per rescue person.**

### **Level 3**

**Advanced Response:** Includes Level 1 and Level 2 services as well as D.A.R.T. activation, donning breathing apparatus and detection equipment. Set up and removal of decon center, detection equipment, recovery and identification of material. Disposal and environment clean up. Includes above in addition to any disposal rates of material and contaminated equipment and material used at scene.

**Billed at \$2,274 plus \$57 per hour per rescue person, plus \$114 per hour per HAZMAT team member.**

### **Level 4**

**Itemized Response:** You have the option to bill each incident as an independent event with custom mitigation rates for each incident using itemized rates deemed usual, customary and reasonable (UCR). These incidents will be billed, itemized, per trained rescue person, plus rescue products used.

## **MITIGATION RATE NOTES**

The mitigation rates above are average “billing levels”, and are typical for the incident responses listed, however, when a claim is submitted, it will be itemized and based on the actual services provided.

These average mitigation rates were determined by itemizing costs for a typical run (from the time a fire apparatus leaves the station until it returns to the station) and are based on the actual costs, using amortized schedules for apparatus (including useful life, equipment, repairs, and maintenance) and labor rates (an average department’s “actual personnel expense” and not just a firefighter’s basic wage). The actual personnel

expense includes costs such as wages, retirement, benefits, workers comp, insurance, etc.

**Payment Expectations:**

It is the desire of the Peoria Fire Department to bill anyone involved in the above listed incidents. All residents of the City of Peoria will NOT be billed for any of the above listed emergencies. All non-resident of the City of Peoria involved in one of the above listed emergencies that is determined, by the insurance carriers, to be the 'at fault' person, or in the case of a fire or boat tow, the owner, will be billed at the posted rates.

All rates listed in this document are tried and true over thousands of billing cycles from around the country. These rates are utilized by Fire Recovery USA in thousands of bills sent to insurance companies each year and have been deemed appropriate by the insurance industry.

**Peoria Fire Department will bill for:**

Fluid Based MVA  
Non Fluid based MVA  
Auto Extractions  
Vehicle Fires  
Boat Tows  
Boat Fires