

**Baltimore City Health
Department
Response**

Case #21-0047-I



Baltimore City Health Department
1001 E. Fayette Street • Baltimore, Maryland 21202
Brandon M. Scott, Mayor
Letitia Dzirasa, M.D., Commissioner of Health

TO: Isabel Mercedes Cumming, Inspector General
FROM: Letitia Dzirasa, M.D., Commissioner of Health
CC:
SUBJECT: OIG Case #21-0047-I
DATE: February 3, 2022

This memo is written in response to the findings of the Office of the Inspector General (OIG) Case #21-0047-I that examined allegations of overbilling by the Health Department's [REDACTED] vendor. Below is the agency's response to the investigative finding.

With regard to the finding that no official Change Order approval documents were submitted to add escort service pricing to the contract after the contract was awarded by the Bureau of Procurement, as noted in your report, there are no relevant BOE or AM policies that directly address Change Order approval. The Health Department relied on the expertise and knowledge of the Bureau of Procurement during the final stages of the RFP process and contract award. There were conversations between the Bureau of Procurement and the selected vendor that did not include the Health Department. Bureau of Procurement determined that the escort service rates as submitted in the Change Order were in line with the contract language.

The Health Department continues to monitor the current contract and meets with the vendor monthly to discuss compliance with [REDACTED] state and federal regulations, current policy and regulatory changes due to the COVID pandemic, MWBOO requirements, clients of interest/complaints, and overall contract compliance.