



OFFICE OF THE SHERIFF
COLLIN COUNTY, TEXAS

JIM SKINNER, SHERIFF

Date: December 6, 2024

To: Commissioners Court

From: Sheriff Jim Skinner *JOS*

Re: 2017-121 Inmate Telephone Systems, Contract Amendment and Extension

By law, the county jail must provide inmate-phone services. *See* 37 TAC 291.1. The County's current contract with ICSolutions will expire this month.

Apart from this, the Federal Communications Commission recently issued an Order, which implements the Martha Wright-Reed Act, Pub. L. No. 117-338. *See* FCC, MWRA Order, 89 Fed. Reg. 77,244 (Sept. 20, 2024). This order sets new, lower audio rate caps and new, low, interim video caps. It also prohibits monetary and in-kind site commissions.

To continue to provide inmate-phone services, the Commissioners Court should approve a Contract Modification Document to renew Contract No. 2017-121, Inmate Telephone Services Agreement (Commissioners Court Order No. 2017-1020-12-18) for December 17, 2024 to December 16, 2025. The renewal document will specify that the parties will comply with the FCC's new order.

Renewing the contract for one year will permit the County to continue to provide mandatory inmate-phone services, study and comply with the FCC's MWRA Order, and go through the competitive-bidding process (LGC, Chapter 262) to obtain a new inmate-phone services contract in late 2025.

Apart from this memo, I will forward a separate memo about the FCC's order. *See* Gov't Code, Chapter 551, Subchapter D & Chapter 552, Subchapter C.