

US DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL ADVISORY OPINIONS ON AMBULANCE ISSUES.

The opinions below have been issued in response to a specific question and the responses are specific to the individual set of circumstances described.

OIG Advisory Opinion 12-03 Issued 4/19/12 - Concerning a proposal by a municipal fire department to share certain costs related to dispatch and other services with hospital-based ambulance providers that participate in the local 911 emergency dispatch system. Although identifying information was redacted, the situation/location described matches the New York City 911 EMS system.

<https://oig.hhs.gov/fraud/docs/advisoryopinions/2012/AdvOpn12-03.pdf>

OIG Advisory Opinion 12-04 Issued 04/23/12 - Concerning certain aspects of an exclusive contract for emergency transport services between a municipality and an ambulance company that reimburses the municipality for dispatch services and for certain costs incurred when municipal firefighters drive transports.

<https://oig.hhs.gov/fraud/docs/advisoryopinions/2012/AdvOpn12-04.pdf>

OIG Advisory Opinion 12-07 Issued 6/13/12 - Concerning an exclusive arrangement between a county and an emergency medical services company whereby the company provides emergency ambulance services to county residents.

<https://oig.hhs.gov/fraud/docs/advisoryopinions/2012/AdvOpn12-07.pdf>

OIG Advisory Opinion 12-11 Issued 9/4/12 - Concerning an ambulance supplier's proposal to routinely waive cost-sharing amounts for emergency medical services rendered on a part-time basis.

<https://oig.hhs.gov/fraud/docs/advisoryopinions/2012/AdvOpn12-11.pdf>

OIG Advisory Opinion 12-12 Issued 9/6/12 - Concerning a proposed bundle billing arrangement for joint basic life support advanced and life support joint responses.

<https://oig.hhs.gov/fraud/docs/advisoryopinions/2012/AdvOpn12-12.pdf>

OIG Advisory Opinion 12-16 Issued 10/26/12 – Concerning a proposal by a VAC [Hatzalah?] to waive billed co-pays or deductibles on a non-routine, unadvertised basis for insured patients based on individualized determinations of financial need. Although identifying information was redacted, the situation described matches Chevra Hatzalah in NYC.

<https://oig.hhs.gov/fraud/docs/advisoryopinions/2012/AdvOpn12-16.pdf>

OIG Advisory Opinion issued 11/29/12 - Concerning a proposed arrangement whereby three municipalities will reciprocally waive the otherwise applicable cost-sharing obligations of each other's bona fide residents when providing backup emergency medical services transportation to such individuals in certain circumstances.

<https://oig.hhs.gov/fraud/docs/advisoryopinions/2012/AdvOpn12-18.pdf>