

## Texas County Commission

Suite 301  
210 North Grand  
Houston, Missouri 65483  
417-967-3222  
FAX 417-967-8040



John Casey  
Associate Commissioner  
District One

Fred W. Stenger  
Presiding Commissioner

Doyle Heiney  
Associate Commissioner  
District Two

April 11, 2108

Mr. Wesley Murray  
CEO, Texas County Memorial Hospital  
1333 South Sam Houston Blvd  
Houston, Missouri 65483

Re: Medical Services

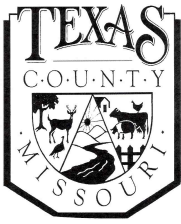
Dear Mr. Murray,

We are writing this letter in response to your letter to us dated March 27, 2018. After reviewing the minutes from the hospital's last meeting and the information you passed to local media sources it appears you are passing misleading and some completely false information.

Pursuant to Missouri Law the County, or any political subdivision, cannot pay for services without a contract for those services being agreed upon. As recently as February 20, 2018 Missouri Courts have upheld this law. Please take it upon yourself to review *Howard County Ambulance District v. City of Fayette*. The Texas County Commission cannot pay bills to the hospital without a contract in place surely, your legal team knows this as well. Currently no contract exists. Furthermore, the bills you state are outstanding are, in some cases, four years old. Therefore services performed before a contract is in place cannot be billed to the County. The hospital does have legal options to seek reimbursement from the individual which you provided services for.

Second, the individuals are not prisoners but are individuals charged with crimes and as such are individually responsible for bills they incur. These individuals are innocent until proven guilty. The County will not tax law abiding tax payers for medical services your hospital provides to other persons. Again, the hospital does have legal options to seek payment from individuals who have received services.

*"Missouri's Largest County"*



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Lastly, you reference the dropping off prisoners in the parking lot which is **false**. In the two incidents you list both are false. One was a juvenile who was NOT IN CUSTODY of any law enforcement agency. The other was medically furloughed by the court as the person posed no threat to the community.

In summation the information you are spreading to the media is not accurate. We welcome an opportunity to discuss these matters.

Sincerely,

Fred W. Stenger  
Presiding Commissioner  
Commissioner

John Casey  
Associate Commissioner  
District One

Doyle Heiney  
Associate  
District Two

C/c Houston Herald  
Licking News  
Summersville Beacon  
Cabool Enterprise

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