

Questions submitted to Sheriff Vic Regalado by The Frontier

Editor's note: After Sheriff Regalado refused an interview request with The Frontier, a spokesman asked that questions about the jail medical contract bidding process be submitted in writing. The Frontier responded that such a process makes follow-up questions impossible and has requested answers to additional questions raised by Regalado's answers.

1. At what point did you decide to put the medical contract out for bids?

It had been my intention shortly after taking office to put out RFP on medical in order to ensure inmates in the care of TCSO were receiving the best medical care possible as well as to ensure fiscal responsibility.

2. What factors motivated that decision?

Refer to question #1

3. Have you been satisfied with Armor's performance as the medical contractor? If not, why not?

Refer to question #1

4. Tell me what led to the change in requirements for companies to bid on the contract. The previous requirement was that the company had to have experience in a minimum 1,000-bed jail and the new RFP has cut that in half. Why lower that requirement at a time when the jail is experiencing problems and adding 265 new beds?

To expand the field of providers responding to the bid. Lowering the bed count does not change the standard of care requirements.

5. Did anyone ask you to make that change? If so who? Linda Dorrell says you initially wanted no requirement as far as minimum number of beds. Is that correct?

No one asked me to make that change. See question #4 for reasoning

6. Do you have any concern that by changing the requirement, the sheriff's office could end up with a contractor that doesn't have enough experience in running large jails?

It is a fully vetted process that will involve representation from the medical and mental health professions

7. Have employees of any of the companies bidding on this contract contributed to your campaign, that you are aware of?

Yes

8. The RFP doesn't appear to require any additional staff to staff the mental health pods. It says that could be added at a later date. How likely is that and what kinds of staff will be added?

There will be an addendum added and staffing will be discussed with medical provider.