

## County of Panola

110 S. Sycamore • Room 216-A Carthage • Texas 75633 Phone 903-693-0391 • Fax 903-693-2726 County Judge Rodger G. McLane

County Commissioners
Billy Alexander, Pct. #1
David Cole, Pct. #2
Craig Lawless, Pct. #3
Dale LaGrone, Pct. #4

March 28, 2023

Dear Sir or Madam.

I am writing you today concerning the existing contract between Allegiance and Panola County.

This letter shall serve as your notice that the Panola County Commissioners Court intends to rescind the contract between Allegiance Ambulance Services and the County in 90 days of March 28th.

The current contract with your company derives from a January 1, 1992 contract signed by then County Judge John Cordray. Since that time, the contract has been assigned and modified several times.

Upon a detailed review, the contract held by your company is a multi-year service contract that is deemed an unconstitutional debt and thus prohibited by the laws of this state. TEX. CONST. art. XI, § 7. "Under article XI, section 8 of the Texas Constitution, a multiyear contract requiring expenditures of county funds that is not accompanied by the levy and collection of designated taxes must allow the county to terminate the contract at the end of each year." Tex. OAG Op. No. JC-0395. "A county that enters a multiyear contract without simultaneously providing for levying and collecting designated taxes has created a debt unless the contract gives the county a right to terminate it at the end of each year." Tex. OAG Op. No. JC-0395.

I write this letter with great regret and with hopes that Allegiance should respond to the Request for Proposals for Ambulance Services that will be advertised in the local paper of record.

Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Thank you,

Rodger McLane