



June 3, 2026

**To:** Mayor and Members of City Council

202601737

**From:** Sheryl M. M. Long, City Manager

**Subject: Emergency Ordinance – Fire: Moral Obligation Payment to Upstate Wholesale Supply, Inc.**

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Attached is an Emergency Ordinance captioned:

**AUTHORIZING** a payment of \$4,440 from permanent improvement program project account no. 758x272x2000x7316x262720, “Administrative & Firehouse Furniture and Equipment,” as a moral obligation to Upstate Wholesale Supply, Inc. dba Brite for information technology equipment purchases made in August 2025.

Approval of this Emergency Ordinance authorizes payments totaling \$4,440 from permanent improvement program project account no. 758x272x2000x7316x262720, “Administrative & Firehouse Furniture and Equipment,” as a moral obligation to Upstate Wholesale Supply, Inc. dba Brite (Contractor) for information technology equipment purchases made in August 2025.

The Cincinnati Fire Department (CFD) purchased mobile dispatch information technology equipment from Upstate Wholesale Supply, Inc. and other vendors as phase one of a project to increase connectivity between fire apparatus and fire houses. In January 2025, a purchase order (PO) was submitted to purchase mobile dispatch information technology equipment; an amendment was then submitted in July 2025. In August 2025, CFD authorized the purchase of two additional mobile routers with Wi-Fi without further amending the original PO, necessitating a moral obligation.

In FY 2025, the Fire Department experienced turnover of multiple positions within its finance division which impacted timely certifications, payments, and other accounting processes. On January 22, 2026, the City Council approved Ordinance No. 0013-2026, which authorized other moral obligation payments related to staff turnover; however, the purchase of these mobile routers was not addressed in that ordinance.

The reason for the emergency is the immediate need to pay Contractor in a timely manner for outstanding charges.

The Administration recommends passage of this Emergency Ordinance.

cc: Andrew Dudas, Budget Director  
Steve Webb, Finance Director

Attachment