

PALM BEACH COUNTY
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY

Meeting Date:	August 25, 2026	☒ Consent	☐ Regular
		☐ Workshop	☐ Public Hearing
Department:	Fire Rescue		

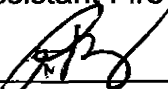
I. EXECUTIVE BRIEF

Motion and Title: Staff recommends motion to adopt: a Resolution of the Board of County Commissioners (BCC) of Palm Beach County, Florida, updating the County's Hybrid Entity status under federal regulations relating to the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) of 1996, as may be amended (HIPAA Regulations); providing for an effective date; repealing and replacing Resolution R2014-0173.

Summary: In Resolution R2014-0173, the County designated itself as a hybrid entity under the HIPAA Regulations and identified the Risk Management Department, the Fire Rescue Department (Fire Rescue), and the Division of Senior and Veterans Services (formerly known as Division of Senior Services) as the County's healthcare components subject to HIPAA Regulations. The HIPAA Regulations allow the County to limit the designation of a health care component to covered functions that it performs. Fire Rescue's Public Safety Answering Point (PSAP) and dispatch functions may be provided outside of Fire Rescue's covered entity health care provider status. This Resolution updates the County's Hybrid Entity status to separate out Fire Rescue's PSAP and dispatch function from Fire Rescue's healthcare component.
Countywide (SB)

Background and Justification: The HIPAA Regulations allow entities that have both healthcare components and non-healthcare components to designate that they are a hybrid entity, which allows the entity to administratively separate those functions that are healthcare components subject to HIPAA Regulations from non-healthcare components not subject to HIPAA requirements. This Resolution updates the County's Hybrid Entity designation to separate out Fire Rescue's PSAP and dispatch function from Fire Rescue's healthcare component.

Attachments:
1. Resolution

Recommended by:		8-11-2026
	Assistant Fire Chief	Date
Approved by:		8-11-2026
	Fire Rescue Administrator	Date
Approved by:		
	Deputy County Administrator	Date

II. FISCAL IMPACT ANALYSIS

A. Five Year Summary of Fiscal Impact:

Fiscal Years	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030
Capital Expenditures	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
Operating Costs	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
External Revenues	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
Program Income (County)	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
In-Kind Match (County)	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
NET FISCAL IMPACT	* 0	_____	_____	_____	_____
# ADDITIONAL FTE POSITIONS (Cumulative)	0	_____	_____	_____	_____

Is Item Included in Current Budget? Yes _____ No X
Does this item include the use of Federal Funds? Yes _____ No X
Does this item include the use of State Funds? Yes _____ No X

Budget Account No.: Fund _____ Dept _____ Unit _____
Revenue Source _____/Object _____

B. Recommended Sources of Funds/Summary of Fiscal Impact:

* There is no fiscal impact associated with this item

C. Departmental Fiscal Review: Lauren Magienki 8/11/2026

III. REVIEW COMMENTS

A. OFMB Fiscal and/or Contract Development and Control Comments:

Asdell 8/11/26
OFMB QA 8/11
AH 8/11

Brendi Mack 8/11/26
Contract Development and Control

B. Legal Sufficiency

Ree Burr 8/11/26
Assistant County Attorney

C. Other Department Review:

Department Director

(THIS SUMMARY IS NOT TO BE USED AS A BASIS FOR PAYMENT.)

RESOLUTION NO. R-2026-

RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF PALM BEACH COUNTY, FLORIDA, UPDATING THE COUNTY'S HYBRID ENTITY STATUS UNDER FEDERAL REGULATIONS RELATING TO THE HEALTH INSURANCE PORTABILITY AND ACCOUNTABILITY ACT OF 1996, AS MAY BE AMENDED (HIPAA REGULATIONS); PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE; REPEALING AND REPLACING RESOLUTION 2014-0173.

WHEREAS, the County maintains its own health plan providing health and dental insurance, a flexible spending benefit for medical expenses and an Employee Assistance Program through its Risk Management Department, which results in the County being a "covered entity" as a "health plan" under HIPAA Regulations; and

WHEREAS, the County provides healthcare services to seniors in Palm Beach County through its Division of Senior and Veterans Services within the Community Services Department, and bills for such services electronically, which results in the County being a "covered entity" as a "healthcare provider" under HIPAA Regulations; and

WHEREAS, the County provides emergency medical services to Palm Beach County residents and visitors through its Fire Rescue Department, and bills for such services electronically, which results in the County being a "covered entity" as a "healthcare provider" under HIPAA Regulations; and

WHEREAS, the County performs many other functions and has numerous other departments that, if part of a separate legal entity, would not qualify as a "covered entity" under HIPAA Regulations; and

WHEREAS, these other departments and functions of the County would not be required to comply with HIPAA requirements if declared "non-healthcare components" of the County as a hybrid entity; and

WHEREAS, HIPAA Regulation 45 CFR 164.105 allows entities that have "healthcare components" and "non-healthcare components" within the same organization to declare in writing that they are a "hybrid entity" and specify which components are healthcare components and which are non-healthcare components; and

WHEREAS, making a hybrid designation allows the County to administratively separate those functions that are "healthcare components" subject to HIPAA Regulations from non-healthcare components not subject to HIPAA requirements; and

WHEREAS, in Resolution 2014-0173, the County designated itself as a hybrid entity and identified the Risk Management Department, the Fire Rescue Department, and the Division of Senior and Veterans Services (fka Division of Senior Services) as the County's healthcare components; and

WHEREAS, Fire Rescue's Public Safety Answering Point (PSAP) and dispatch function were included within Fire Rescue's healthcare component; and

WHEREAS, HIPAA Regulation 45 CFR 164.105 allows the County to limit the designation of a health care component to covered functions that it performs; and

WHEREAS, Fire Rescue's PSAP and dispatch functions may be provided outside of Fire Rescue's covered entity health care provider status; and

WHEREAS, the Board desires to update its hybrid designation to separate out Fire Rescue's PSAP and dispatch function from Fire Rescue's healthcare component.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF PALM BEACH COUNTY, FLORIDA, that:

1. Palm Beach County, Florida is hereby confirmed and designated as a "Hybrid Entity" for purposes of HIPAA Regulations.
2. The Risk Management Department, the Division of Senior and Veterans Services, and the Fire Rescue Department except for its PSAP and dispatch functions, are hereby designated as "healthcare components" of the County for purposes of HIPAA Regulations. This includes support personnel in other departments solely to the extent they create, receive, maintain or transmit protected health information to support the operations of the above named healthcare components.

- 3. All other departments, organizations or functions of the County that do not perform covered functions are hereby designated as "non-healthcare components" of the County.
- 4. Resolution 2014-0173, and any subsequent HIPAA hybrid resolutions if any, are hereby repealed and replace in its entirety by this Resolution.
- 5. This Resolution shall take effect upon its approval.

The foregoing Resolution was offered by Commissioner _____ who moved its adoption. The motion was seconded by Commissioner _____, and upon being put to a vote, the vote was as follows:

- Commissioner Sara Baxter, Mayor -
- Commissioner Marci Woodward, Vice Mayor -
- Commissioner Maria G. Marino -
- Commissioner Gregg K. Weiss -
- Commissioner Joel G. Flores -
- Commissioner Maria Sachs -
- Commissioner Bobby Powell Jr. -

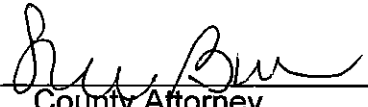
The Mayor thereupon declared the Resolution duly passed and adopted this _____ day of _____, 2026.

PALM BEACH COUNTY, A POLITICAL SUBDIVISION OF THE STATE OF FLORIDA, BY AND THROUGH ITS BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

MICHAEL A CARUSO,
CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT
& COMPTROLLER

By: _____
Deputy Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND LEGAL SUFFICIENCY

By: 
County Attorney

APPROVED AS TO TERMS AND CONDITIONS

By: 
Patrick J. Kennedy,
Fire Rescue Administrator