



Huntsville, Alabama

305 Fountain Circle
Huntsville, AL 35801

Cover Memo

Meeting Type: City Council Regular Meeting **Meeting Date:** 10/9/2025

File ID: TMP-6095

Department: Finance

Subject:

Type of Action: Approval/Action

Resolution authorizing the Mayor to execute the application for renewal of the Fire & Rescue insurance policy with the Volunteer Firemen's Insurance Services, Inc.

Resolution No.

Finance Information:

Account Number: 1000-19-00000-515220-000000000-

City Cost Amount: \$ 92,883.00

Total Cost: \$ 92,883.00

Special Circumstances:

Grant Funded: \$ N/A

Grant Title - CFDA or granting Agency: N/A

Resolution #: N/A

Location: (list below)

Address: N/A

District: District 1 ☐ District 2 ☐ District 3 ☐ District 4 ☐ District 5 ☐

Additional Comments:

RESOLUTION NO. 25- _____

WHEREAS, Huntsville Fire & Rescue has the need to renew liability insurance coverage in order to maintain state certification to provide emergency medical services, and

WHEREAS, the City desires to renew liability insurance coverage from Volunteer Firemen's Insurance Services, Inc (VFIS).

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Huntsville, Alabama, that the Mayor be, and he is hereby authorized on behalf of the City of Huntsville, a Municipal Corporation in the State of Alabama, to execute the application for insurance coverage with VFIS, on behalf of the City of Huntsville, which said agreement is substantially in words and figures similar to the certain document attached hereto and identified as "VFIS renewal proposal," consisting of eighteen pages (18) pages, and the date of September 25, 2025 appearing on the margin of the first page, together with the signature of the President or President Pro Tem of the City Council, an executed copy of said document being permanently kept on file in the Office of the City Clerk of the City of Huntsville, Alabama; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Mayor is authorized to execute any other documents necessary to secure the said insurance coverage.

ADOPTED this the 9th day of October, 2025.

President of the City Council of
the City of Huntsville, Alabama

APPROVED this the 9th day of October, 2025.

Mayor of the City of
Huntsville, Alabama

PROTECT
YOUR **CREW,**
YOUR **ASSETS,**
YOUR **FUTURE.**

CITY OF HUNTSVILLE

PRESENTED BY: HIGGINBOTHAM INSURANCE AGENCY INC
201 WASHINGTON STREET
HUNTSVILLE, AL 35801
256.551.0060

DATE: 09/25/2025

This proposal is valid for 90 days.



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THANK YOU FOR RENEWING

Thank you so much for choosing to renew your insurance with VFIS. Your choice means a lot to us.

Since 1969, we have worked to provide quality support and protection, a focus on safety and training and legendary claims service to our clients. Together, our associates boast over 550+ years of combined emergency services experience, so we pride ourselves on not just serving your industry, but also on living it, respecting it and protecting it.

We hope you've felt the VFIS difference, and that it has inspired your choice to remain a client. As our client you are part of a large and growing group of emergency service organizations, including fire departments, ambulance and rescue squads and 911 centers. We take the responsibility of protecting your most important assets very seriously, and have dedicated our lives to protecting you just as you've dedicated yours to protecting others.

We understand the risks that you face each time you leave for a call, and have listened to your concerns for your family, crew, equipment and your station. It is our hope that because you have our customized insurance options, educational opportunities, training and risk management resources on your side, you can head out for those calls each day feeling more confident, secure and protected.

At VFIS, we look forward to continuing to serve you, and hope to continue to not only meet but exceed your expectations.

Please visit our website at vfis.com to learn more about the services we offer, or give us a call at 800.233.1957 to share stories and ideas or ask questions at any time.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Troy A. Markel".

Troy A. Markel
Executive Vice President

WE LIVE IT.
WE RESPECT IT.
WE PROTECT IT.

THE VFIS ADVANTAGE

Nothing is created equal. You clearly know the best fire truck manufacturer and the best place to get your gear. You wouldn't sacrifice quality for cost on these items, so why skimp on your insurance coverage?

At VFIS, we've seen the front lines and we pioneered insurance specifically for emergency services. We understand the risks you face every time you leave for a call. That's why we not only offer customized insurance options, but education, training and risk management resources to keep your skills on point. Add in our responsiveness, quality service and legendary claims handling and you can see what separates us from the rest.

Don't be fooled by a knock-off. You, your equipment and your crew deserve the best coverage. You dedicate your life to protecting others. We dedicate ours to protecting you.

On top of all of the best-in-class coverages and features ESO's have come to expect from VFIS, we also offer some **unique benefits our competitors just can't match**.

Accident & Sickness

- 200% of the Principal Sum for quadriplegia and paraplegia and 100% for hemiplegia
- Illness Loss of Life Benefit paying for death due to heart attack or stroke within 48 hours of an emergency response or physical training exercise vs. requiring such a death to be "caused by" a covered activity

Risk Management

- 100+ "Manage Your Risk" best practice guidelines available for download
- Self-evaluation program to identify areas for improvement
- Technical assistance in interpreting and applying codes/standards and regulations
- Building replacement cost estimates
- On-site hazard identification and risk control surveys
- Industry cause of loss statistical reviews and individual loss trending studies
- On-site seminars regarding key loss exposures
- Safety focused ride along observation programs
- Provide resources that help with Human Resources

Specialty Benefits

- Minimum 3% guaranteed rate of return on LOSAP funds
- Accidental burn and disfigurement and burial benefits
- Optional 200% line of duty coverage
- Critical illness coverage for heart attack, stroke, kidney failure and cancer
- Benefits paid out at lump sum upon diagnosis – not as an expense reimbursement
- 24 hour on-and-off duty benefit.

Education, Training & Consulting Services

Our staff has over 300 years of Emergency Services experience and we have industry alliance with CFSI, NVFC, NFPA, IAFC, NFFF, NEMSMA, NAEMSO, VCOS, FDSOA. We have a proud tradition and history of being a leader in providing our emergency services clients with quality training programs and other risk management tools. VFIS provides client access to;

- In person training programs
- Online training programs
- Downloadable training booklets & safety forms
- Safety posters
- A brief overview of the training material we offer can be found in our training resource catalog.
[ETC-Resource-Catalog-VFIS.pdf](#)

Distance Learning

VFIS University offers quality online education and training courses for emergency responders, many of which are recognized as meeting industry continuing education requirements, and you'll receive a certificate upon completion of each course.

All courses are available online 24/7 so you can work to better prepare for every call, help reduce your risk for injury and loss and increase your skillsets to better support your team and community – all from the convenience of your home or work computer.

RISK MANAGEMENT SERVICES

VFIS is more than just a company that you can use to transfer risk. As a valuable service to your organization, VFIS provides Risk Control, Education and Training Services. Our Risk Control team is staffed by active emergency service personnel with more than 200 years of combined emergency service experience.

Employment Practices

It's important to keep up with the latest on employment law liability issues. Through our VFIS HR Help portal, we work to keep our clients up to date and provide timely resources that educate and inspire good employment practices. Through risktools.vfis.com we provide:

- Web-based EPL training that tracks employees' progress and completion
- Tools to evaluate your current HR policies
- Articles highlighting relevant workplace issues
- Checklists to discover areas of exposure
- Lawsuit and court decision summaries
- Free model HR policies and forms for download

Communiqués/Safety Bulletins/Checklists

VFIS has over 100 technical reference bulletins covering fire and EMS operations, vehicle operations, employment practices and ESO administration.

On-site Risk Assessments

VFIS can provide on-site risk control assessments in evaluating the effectiveness of existing procedures for controlling potential loss exposures. These assessments, where requested, will be provided by a Certified Safety Professional with experience in fire and emergency medical services.

Self-Assessment Tools

VFIS provides a web-based self-assessment guide (Mutual Aid by VFIS) which highlights known loss producing exposures and directs users to resources available to assist their organization in addressing them.

Newsletters

VFIS provides quarterly newsletters covering emerging topics of concern to emergency service leaders and personnel.

YOUR INSURANCE PROPOSAL

This proposal is prepared from information supplied to VFIS on the application submitted by your insurance representative.

The lines of business shown in this proposal are offered as a complete portfolio. Purchase of individual lines of business requires underwriting approval. This proposal may or may not contain all terms requested on the application. Proposed coverages are provided by the VFIS insurance policy forms and are subject to the terms, exclusions, conditions and limitations of those policy forms. Actual policies should be reviewed for specific details. Your insurance representative can provide specimen policies upon request.

Your exposure to loss changes over time. Keep your insurance representative informed of any changes, so your coverage can be updated. We strongly recommend frequent reviews of your operations and VFIS coverage with your insurance representative.

The proposed Property and Casualty coverage is underwritten by National Union Fire Insurance Company of Pittsburgh, Pa. (A.M. Best #19445). National Union Fire Insurance Company of Pittsburgh, Pa. is rated A (Excellent) in Financial Size Category XV by A.M. Best Company.

VFIS Claims Management provides the claims management services for VFIS Program insureds exclusively.

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The VFIS Program is administered by Volunteer Firemen's Insurance Services, Inc. CA Insurance Producer License #0B39073. Volunteer Firemen's Insurance Services, Inc., an American International Group, Inc. (AIG) company, is a premier manager and specialist of specialty commercial insurance markets in the U.S. This proposal provides a brief description of proposed insurance coverages for your consideration. It is not a contract of insurance. Refer to the actual insurance policy for a description of coverage, exclusions and conditions. Specimen policies are available for your review. All products and services are written or provided by subsidiaries or affiliates of AIG. Products or services may not be available in all countries, and coverage is subject to actual policy language. Certain property-casualty coverages may be provided by a surplus lines insurer. Surplus lines insurers do not generally participate in state guaranty funds and insureds are therefore not protected by such funds.

PROPOSAL

GENERAL INFORMATION

This Proposal reflects the renewal of policies listed below:

Expiring Policy Number	Renewal Date
VFNU-TR-0029663-03	10/31/2025

First Named Insured: CITY OF HUNTSVILLE

Mailing Address: 2110 CLINTON AVENUE
HUNTSVILLE, AL 35801

Coverage Applies To: - CITY OF HUNTSVILLE FIRE & RESCUE

PORTABLE EQUIPMENT

Insurer: National Union Fire Insurance Company of Pittsburgh, Pa.

Blanket Portable Equipment Coverage

<u>Covered For</u>	<u>Limit</u>	<u>Deductible</u>
All causes of physical loss unless excluded	Guaranteed Replacement Cost	\$1,000

If Portable Equipment coverage is provided on a blanket basis, coverage is provided for all portable firefighting, ambulance and rescue related equipment owned or furnished for your regular use. Note that boats over 100 horsepower are not covered under blanket; they must be scheduled.

PORTABLE EQUIPMENT – COVERAGE HIGHLIGHTS

The following apply unless noted otherwise in this proposal:

Personal Effects	Applies on and off premises while on authorized duty. Primary coverage (not excess over a homeowners policy, for example). Full replacement cost with no dollar limit. No deductible.
Non-owned Portable Equipment	Coverage for portable equipment of others temporarily in your possession. Automatic \$50,000 limit.
Unmanned Aircraft (Drones)	Pays to repair or replace your lost or damaged unmanned aircraft. Coverage does not apply when the unmanned aircraft is: 1. rented, leased or loaned to others without an operator who is your employee or volunteer 2. used in any professional or organized racing, demolition or stunting activity. This includes practicing for such activity. \$500 deductible applies. Pays up to \$35,000 in any one occurrence.
Deductible Waiver	If a Portable Equipment claim occurs in conjunction with a claim under a VFIS Auto Physical Damage or Property coverage, the various deductibles will not be stacked. Only one deductible, the largest, will apply. The deductible will be waived after three consecutive years with no portable equipment losses.
Coverage to Replace Obsolete Chargers	We will pay for new compatible mobile or stationary chargers when associated covered portable equipment is damaged and replaced.
Theft of Portable Equipment by Member	At your request we will pay up to \$5,000 for portable equipment taken by a volunteer or employee no longer affiliated with your organization provided the equipment is reported as stolen. The most we will pay in one year is \$10,000.
Trailers Used to Transport Covered PE	Physical damage coverage is provided automatically if the primary use of the trailer is to provide mobility to other covered portable equipment. Example: A portable generator is installed on a small trailer that can be pulled to an emergency scene by a number of vehicles; both the generator and its trailer would be covered under Blanket Portable Equipment.
Blanket Coverage	Applies to: 1. All boats up to 100 horsepower, and 2. All jet skis and waverunners regardless of horsepower.
Scheduled Coverage	Required for boats in excess of 100 horsepower.
Reporting	No need to determine equipment values if you select blanket coverage. VFIS will rate the coverage based on the number and type of vehicles you use.

If you have properly reported all such vehicles, your portable equipment is covered up to its full replacement cost.

**Temporary Storage for
Portable Equipment**

Provides coverage for your incurred costs to obtain temporary storage for portable equipment due to a covered loss or as a result of a motor vehicle accident. Coverage is provided for costs incurred up to 60 days, but not more than \$5,000.

**Accident-Impaired Patient
Transport Equipment
Reimbursement**

We will reimburse up to \$10,000 each policy period for amounts paid to replace patient transport equipment that had its warranty voided following a motor vehicle accident, even though it did not sustain observable physical damage.

GENERAL LIABILITY / PROFESSIONAL HEALTH CARE LIABILITY

Insurer: National Union Fire Insurance Company of Pittsburgh, Pa.

This coverage contains the following four sections:

- **Coverage A. Bodily Injury and Property Damage Liability** protects you when claims are made against you because of injury to others or damage to their property, unless caused by an auto.
- **Coverage B. Personal and Advertising Injury Liability** protects you when claims are made against you because of offenses such as false arrest, wrongful eviction or slander.
- **Coverage C. Professional Health Care Liability** protects you when claims are made against you as a result of your handling of patients, or providing, or failing to provide, medical services.
- **Coverage D. Medical Expense** protects you when claims are made against you as a result of injuries suffered by the public (not your volunteers or employees) because of your premises or operations. These expenses are payable even if the injury occurred through no fault of your own.

Coverages

Limits

Coverages A. and C. Each Occurrence or Medical Incident	\$1,000,000
Coverage B. Personal and Advertising Injury (each offense)	\$1,000,000
Coverage A. Fire Damage Legal Liability (any one fire)	\$1,000,000
Coverage D. Medical Expense (any one person)	\$5,000

Coverage Aggregates

General Aggregate (the total payable in any policy term)	\$1,000,000
Products / Completed Operations Aggregate (the total payable in any policy term)	\$1,000,000

Optional Coverages (apply only if checked)

☐ Employer's (Stop Gap) Liability

- Provides General Liability and Auto Liability coverage to you (the insured organization) if a volunteer or employee alleges they were injured on the job and are entitled to sue the organization and seek damages beyond the benefits available under the applicable Workers' Compensation statute.
- Needed when the insured's Workers' Compensation policy provided for your volunteers and/or employees does not contain Part Two – Employer's Liability.

☐ Owned Watercraft Liability (boats exceeding 100 horsepower)

GENERAL LIABILITY – COVERAGE HIGHLIGHTS

The following apply unless noted otherwise in this proposal:

Volunteers and Employees as Insureds

Covers all volunteers (whether or not they are members of your organization) and employees are covered while acting on behalf of your organization.

Other insureds include your officers, directors, commissioners or trustees.

Also included are the owners of any property you commandeer.

VFIS coverage is primary for all of the above insureds, not excess of any personal insurance that may apply.

Your medical director (if any) is an insured for actions taken on your behalf, with these stipulations:

1. Coverage doesn't apply to liability arising from any physician's providing or failing to provide on-line medical direction or medical command via a telecommunications device, and
2. Hands-on treatment of a patient by a physician is excess of any medical malpractice insurance carried by the physician.

Blanket Additional Insureds

Automatically covers any person or organization required by contract to be an additional insured, but only for their liability arising out of your premises or operations.

The contract must be in effect before the injury or damage occurs.

Fellow Member Liability

Covers your volunteers and employees should they accidentally injure a co-volunteer or co-employee while working on your behalf.

Note that the protection applies to the individual against whom the claim is made, whether or not a claim is made against you (the insured organization).

"Good Samaritan" Liability

Covers your volunteer members and employees for liability arising from actions on their own to render services at the scene of an emergency requiring immediate action.

Applies to professional health care or any other services.

To qualify as a "Good Samaritan," the individual must act independently of your organization or any other organization.

Unlimited Defense Costs

The cost to defend you against covered claims is the responsibility of the company and will not erode your liability limits.

Intentional Acts

Provides liability protection if, in an attempt to save lives or protect property, your volunteers or employees intentionally cause bodily injury or property damage.

Example (bodily injury): A distraught relative of a heart attack victim must be restrained in order for you to administer care to the patient, and in the process the relative is injured.

Example (property damage): In order to gain access to a small fire in one apartment unit, a firefighter breaks down a door to a different unit that is not in imminent danger.

GENERAL LIABILITY – COVERAGE HIGHLIGHTS – continued

Pollution Liability

Covers you for bodily injury or property damage arising out of a pollution incident resulting from any of the following:

1. emergency operations away from your premises,
2. training activities, or
3. water runoff from the cleaning of equipment.

Covers you for bodily injury or property damage arising out of an asbestos incident resulting from either of the following:

1. emergency operations away from your premises, or
2. training activities away from your premises.

Covers you for Pollution Liability for your Above Ground Storage tanks. Coverage applies on a named peril basis. You must notify us of the incident as soon as practicable and not more than 14 days after the incident ends.

Liquor Liability

Covers you for bodily injury or property damage arising out of the serving or selling of alcoholic beverages.

If alcoholic beverages are sold, VFIS requires that you obtain the proper license or permit, comply with our liquor loss control recommendation, and pay the applicable premium charge.

Contractual Liability

Covers you for the liability you agreed to assume of another party, either orally or in writing.

The claim must be otherwise covered (not excluded).

Example: Farmer Brown agrees to allow a fire department to use his pasture to hold a flea market, as long as any injuries to the public are agreed to be the responsibility of the fire department and not of Farmer Brown.

Watercraft Liability

Automatic coverage for injury or damage arising from your use of the following:

1. non-owned boats,
2. owned boats that are not powered by motors,
3. owned boats that are powered by motors of not more than 100 horsepower, and
4. jet skis and waverunners regardless of horsepower.

Unmanned Aircraft (Drones)

Covers you for unmanned aircraft owned, operated, rented or loaned to you.

Unmanned aircraft means an aircraft weighing 15 pounds or less that is not designed, manufactured or modified after manufacture to be controlled directly by a person from within or on the aircraft.

Unmanned aircraft includes equipment used with the unmanned aircraft, provided such equipment is attached to or essential for its operation.

Fire Damage Legal Liability

Covers you for liability for fire damage to buildings your organization may rent or otherwise occupy with the permission of the owner.

A similar provision covers your liability for other than fire damage to buildings or contents rented or loaned to you for not more than 30 consecutive days.

Damage to Property of Persons Receiving Services

Covers you for liability for a personal property loss suffered by a member of the public receiving services from you, provided the loss is caused by theft, physical damage or disappearance.

Subject to a \$100 deductible each occurrence.

Example: A patient transported by ambulance to the hospital notices shortly after arrival that his wallet and Rolex watch are missing; he files a claim against the ambulance squad alleging theft of the property.

**Expanded
Aggregate Limit**

The General Aggregate Limit shown in the schedule applies separately to:

1. each named insured (unless you have selected a \$10,000,000 aggregate limit),
and
2. each location you own or rent.

PROPOSAL NOTES

General

Note: This proposal is based solely on the insurance exposures of the organization(s) shown opposite the heading "Coverage Applies To". All of the coverages described here and any policies that we issue will apply only to injury or damage arising out of the firefighting, rescue, ambulance or incidental operations of the emergency service organization(s) listed opposite "Coverage Applies To".

PREMIUM SUMMARY

CITY OF HUNTSVILLE (AL) C84063

	<u>Premium</u>
Property	Not Quoted
Crime	Not Quoted
Portable Equipment	\$10,844
Auto	Not Quoted
General Liability	\$82,039
Management Liability	Not Quoted
Excess Liability	Not Quoted
Total Estimated Annual Premium	\$92,883

PLUS MORE VALUE!

Risk ManagementIncluded

- Employment practices
- Manage your risk – resources, check lists
- Risk Management Consultants
- On-site assessments/self-assessments

Education, Training & ConsultingIncluded

- Classroom seminars, training, resources – vfis.com
- Distance learning – VFIS University
- Consulting Available

Volunteer Firemen's Insurance Services, Inc.®

VFIS®, VFIS® with design and Volunteer Firemen's Insurance Services, Inc.® are all
registered service marks of the same PA Corporation.

OTHER VFIS PRODUCTS AVAILABLE

Accident & Sickness Coverage - provides "on duty" coverage for members, auxiliary members, junior members, members in training, officers, deputized by-standers, trustees and board members, and volunteers asked by the organization to help with non-emergency events. Coverage listed below is provided when a member performs any normal duty of the department, whether it is an emergency or not. Insurance coverage underwritten by National Union Fire Insurance Company of Pittsburgh, PA.

- Death Benefit
- Lump Sum Living Benefit
- Disability Income Benefit
- Medical Benefit

Critical Illness Insurance Program - a lump sum cash benefit is available to emergency service personnel, when diagnosed with a heart attack, stroke or life threatening cancer. Underwritten by ACE American Insurance Company, Philadelphia, PA. Coverage includes:

- 24-hour, On and Off Duty Coverage
- Lump Sum Living Benefit (for qualifying illnesses)

Group Term Life Insurance - available for all members which includes active, retired, volunteers, career or auxiliary members. Underwritten by AIG, American General. Coverage includes:

- 24-hour, On and Off Duty Coverage
- Accidental Death and Dismemberment
- Guaranteed Issue Life Insurance for Any Age

Length of Service Award Program (LOSAP) - an incentive program to effectively retain existing volunteers, increase their level of participation and recruit new members. Life insurance underwritten by AIG Life Insurance Company and American Life Assurance Company of New York (Maine and New York). Group annuity contracts underwritten by Hartford Life Insurance Company. Coverage provided:

- 24-hour, On and Off Duty Death Benefit
- Monthly Income During Retirement Years
- Disability Benefit