STATE OF TEXAS

§ §

COUNTY OF FORT BEND §

## AGREEMENT BETWEEN FORT BEND COUNTY AND FARRWEST ENVIRONMENTAL SUPPLY FOR RIGAKU AND ASSOCIATED SERVICES AND TRAINING SERVICES

THIS AGREEMENT is made and entered into by and between Fort Bend County, (hereinafter "County"), a body corporate and politic under the laws of the State of Texas, and FarrWest Environmental Supply, Inc., (hereinafter "FarrWest" or "Contractor"), a company authorized to conduct business in the State of Texas.

## WITNESSETH

WHEREAS, County desires that FarrWest provide a specified Rigaku and associated services and training services (collectively the "Services"), as described in FarrWest's Estimate (Estimate No. 17826) dated April 11, 2024, attached as Exhibit "A" and incorporated fully by reference; and

WHEREAS, funding for the Services is provided either in full or in part from the Texas Office of the Governor, Homeland Security Grant Program (HSGP) Grant No. 4894001; and

WHEREAS, FarrWest represents that it is qualified and desires to perform such Services; and

WHEREAS, the Texas County Purchasing Act, §262.024(a)(7) Texas Local Government Code, exempts from competitive bidding contracts that may only be obtained from one source; and

WHEREAS, FarrWest is the sole source provider of the Services, as indicated by the letter attached as Exhibit B, and incorporated fully by reference; and

WHEREAS, the Fort Bend County Commissioners Court specifically finds that this Agreement can only be obtained from one source and therefore grants an exemption from competitive bidding, insofar as any competitive bidding statute might apply.

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the mutual covenants and conditions set forth below, the parties agree as follows:

## <u>AGREEMENT</u>

## Section 1. Scope of Services

FarrWest shall render Services in accordance with FarrWest's Estimate No. 17826 dated April 11, 2024 attached as Exhibit "A" to this Agreement and incorporated herein for all purposes.

## **Section 2. Personnel**

- A. FarrWest represents that it presently has, or is able to obtain, adequate qualified personnel in its employment for the timely performance of the Scope of Services required under this Agreement and that FarrWest shall furnish and maintain, at its own expense, adequate and sufficient personnel, in the opinion of County, to perform the Scope of Services when and as required and without delays.
- B. All employees of FarrWest shall have such knowledge and experience as will enable them to perform the duties assigned to them. Any employee of Contractor who, in the opinion of County, is incompetent or by his conduct becomes detrimental to the project shall, upon request of County, immediately be removed from association with the project.

## Section 3. Compensation and Payment

- A. FarrWest's fees shall be calculated at the rates set forth in the attached Exhibit A. The Maximum Compensation for the performance of Services within the Scope of Services described in Exhibit A is Sixty Thousand Eight Hundred Twenty and 0/100 dollars (\$60,820.00). In no case shall the amount paid by County under this Agreement exceed the Maximum Compensation without an approved change order
- B. FarrWest understands and agrees that the Maximum Compensation stated is an allinclusive amount and no additional fee, cost or reimbursed expense shall be added whatsoever to the fees stated in the Exhibit(s).
- C. All performance of the Scope of Services by FarrWest including any changes in the Scope of Services and revision of work satisfactorily performed will be performed only when approved in advance and authorized by County.
- D. Mutually approved travel and mileage expenses incurred in the performance of required services will be reimbursed to FarrWest to the extent that those costs that do not exceed Fort Bend County travel reimbursement allowances. A copy of the County's Travel Policy with those reimbursement limits is attached and incorporated as Exhibit "E" to this Agreement.
- E. County will pay FarrWest based on the following procedures: Upon completion of the tasks identified in the Scope of Services, FarrWest shall submit to County two (2) original copies of invoices showing the amounts due for services performed in a form acceptable to County. County shall review such invoices and approve them within 30 calendar days with such modifications as are consistent with this Agreement and forward same to the

Auditor for processing. County shall pay each such approved invoice within thirty (30) calendar days. County reserves the right to withhold payment pending verification of satisfactory work performed.

## **Section 4. Limit of Appropriation**

- A. FarrWest clearly understands and agrees, such understanding and agreement being of the absolute essence of this Agreement, that County shall have available the total maximum sum of Sixty Thousand Eight Hundred Twenty and 0/100 dollars (\$60,820.00), specifically allocated to fully discharge any and all liabilities County may incur.
- B. FarrWest does further understand and agree, said understanding and agreement also being of the absolute essence of this Agreement, that the total maximum compensation that FarrWest may become entitled to and the total maximum sum that County may become liable to pay to FarrWest shall not under any conditions, circumstances, or interpretations thereof exceed Sixty Thousand Eight Hundred Twenty and 0/100 dollars (\$60,820.00).
- C. It is specifically understood and agreed that in the event no funds or insufficient funds are appropriated by Fort Bend County under this Agreement, Fort Bend County shall notify all necessary parties that this Agreement shall thereafter terminate and be null and void on the last day of the fiscal period for which appropriations were made without penalty, liability or expense to Fort Bend County.

## **Section 5.** <u>Time of Performance or Term</u>

This Agreement is effective upon execution by all parties and shall terminate on December 31, 2024, unless sooner terminated in accordance with this Section. This Agreement does not automatically renew. FarrWest shall complete the tasks described in the Scope of Services within this time or within such additional time as may be extended by the County.

## **Section 6. Termination**

- A. Termination for Convenience: County may terminate this Agreement at any time upon thirty (30) days written notice issued by the County Judge or the Department Head.
- B. Termination for Default
  - 1. County may terminate the whole or any part of this Agreement for cause in the following circumstances:
    - a. If FarrWest fails to perform services within the time specified in the Scope of Services or any extension thereof granted by the County in writing;

- b. If FarrWest materially breaches any of the covenants or terms and conditions set forth in this Agreement or fails to perform any of the other provisions of this Agreement or so fails to make progress as to endanger performance of this Agreement in accordance with its terms, and in any of these circumstances does not cure such breach or failure to County's reasonable satisfaction within a period of ten (10) calendar days after receipt of notice from County specifying such breach or failure.
- 2. If, after termination, it is determined by County that for any reason whatsoever that FarrWest was not in default, or that the default was excusable, services may continue in accordance with the terms and conditions of this Agreement or the rights and obligations of the parties shall be the same as if the termination had been issued for the convenience of the County in accordance with Section 6A above.
- C. Upon termination of this Agreement, County shall compensate FarrWest in accordance with Section 3 above for those services which were provided under this Agreement prior to its termination and which have not been previously invoiced to County. FarrWest's final invoice for said services will be presented to and paid by County in the same manner set forth in Section 3 above.
- D. If County terminates this Agreement as provided in this Section, no fees of any type, other than fees due and payable at the Termination Date, shall thereafter be paid to FarrWest.

## **Section 7. Modifications and Waivers**

- A. The parties may not amend or waive this Agreement, except by a written agreement executed by both parties.
- B. No failure or delay in exercising any right or remedy or requiring the satisfaction of any condition under this Agreement, and no course of dealing between the parties, operates as a waiver or estoppel of any right, remedy, or condition.
- C. The rights and remedies of the parties set forth in this Agreement are not exclusive of, but are cumulative to, any rights or remedies now or subsequently existing at law, in equity, or by statute.

## Section 8. Ownership and Reuse of Documents

All documents, data, reports, research, graphic presentation materials, etc., developed by FarrWest as a part of its work under this Agreement, shall become the property of County upon completion of this Agreement, or in the event of termination or cancellation thereof, at the time of payment under Section 3 for work performed. FarrWest shall promptly furnish all such data and material to County on request.

## Section 9. Inspection of Books and Records

FarrWest will permit County, or any duly authorized agent of County, to inspect and examine the books and records of FarrWest for the purpose of verifying the amount of work performed under the Scope of Services. County's right to inspect survives the termination of this Agreement for a period of four years.

## **Section 10. Insurance**

- A. Prior to commencement of the Services, FarrWest shall furnish County with properly executed certificates of insurance which shall evidence all insurance required and provide that such insurance shall not be canceled, except on 30 days' prior written notice to County. FarrWest shall provide certified copies of insurance endorsements and/or policies if requested by County. FarrWest shall maintain such insurance coverage from the time Services commence until Services are completed and provide replacement certificates, policies and/or endorsements for any such insurance expiring prior to completion of Services. FarrWest shall obtain such insurance written on an Occurrence form from such companies having Bests rating of A/VII or better, licensed or approved to transact business in the State of Texas, and shall obtain such insurance of the following types and minimum limits:
  - Workers' Compensation in accordance with the laws of the State of Texas. Substitutes to genuine Workers' Compensation Insurance will not be allowed.
  - 2. Employers' Liability insurance with limits of not less than \$1,000,000 per injury by accident, \$1,000,000 per injury by disease, and \$1,000,000 per bodily injury by disease.
  - 3. Commercial general liability insurance with a limit of not less than \$1,000,000 each occurrence and \$2,000,000 in the annual aggregate. Policy shall cover liability for bodily injury, personal injury, and property damage and products/completed operations arising out of the business operations of the policyholder.
  - 4. Business Automobile Liability coverage applying to owned, non-owned and hired automobiles with limits not less than \$1,000,000 each occurrence combined single limit for Bodily Injury and Property Damage combined.
- B. County and the members of Commissioners Court shall be named as additional insured to all required coverage except for Workers' Compensation and Professional Liability (if required). All Liability policies written on behalf of FarrWest shall contain a waiver of subrogation in favor of County and members of Commissioners Court. For Commercial General Liability, the County shall be named as an Additional Insured on a Primary & Non-Contributory basis.

- C. If required coverage is written on a claims-made basis, FarrWest warrants that any retroactive date applicable to coverage under the policy precedes the effective date of the Contract and that continuous coverage will be maintained or an extended discovery period will be exercised for a period of 2 years beginning from the time the work under this Contract is completed.
- D. FarrWest shall not commence any portion of the work under this Contract until it has obtained the insurance required herein and certificates of such insurance have been filed with and approved by Fort Bend County.
- E. No cancellation of or changes to the certificates, or the policies, may be made without thirty (30) days prior, written notification to Fort Bend County.
- F. Approval of the insurance by Fort Bend County shall not relieve or decrease the liability of the Contractor.

## **Section 11. Indemnity**

CONTRACTOR SHALL INDEMNIFY AND DEFEND COUNTY AGAINST ALL LOSSES, LIABILITIES, CLAIMS, CAUSES OF ACTION, AND OTHER EXPENSES, INCLUDING REASONABLE ATTORNEYS FEES, ARISING FROM ACTIVITIES OF CONTRACTOR, ITS AGENTS, SERVANTS OR EMPLOYEES, PERFORMED UNDER THIS AGREEMENT THAT RESULT FROM THE NEGLIGENT ACT, ERROR, OR OMISSION OF CONTRACTOR OR ANY OF CONTRACTOR'S AGENTS, SERVANTS OR EMPLOYEES. THE PARTIES AGREE THAT THIS INDEMNIFICATION PROVISION SHALL APPLY DURING THE PERFORMANCE OF SERVICES AS WELL AS DURING THE PERORMANCE OF ANY CONTINUING OBLIGATIONS THAT MAY EXIST (IF ANY) AFTER THE EXPIRATION OF THIS AGREEMENT.

## **Section 12.** Confidential and Proprietary Information

A. FarrWest acknowledges that it and its employees or agents may, in the course of performing their responsibilities under this Agreement, be exposed to or acquire information that is confidential to County. Any and all information of any form obtained by FarrWest or its employees or agents from County in the performance of this Agreement shall be deemed to be confidential information of County ("Confidential Information"). Any reports or other documents or items (including software) that result from the use of the Confidential Information by FarrWest shall be treated with respect to confidentiality in the same manner as the Confidential Information. Confidential Information shall be deemed not to include information that (a) is or becomes (other than by disclosure by FarrWest) publicly known or is contained in a publicly available document; (b) is rightfully in FarrWest's possession without the obligation of nondisclosure prior to the time of its disclosure under this Agreement; or (c) is independently developed by employees or agents of FarrWest who can be shown to have had no access to the Confidential Information.

- B. FarrWest agrees to hold Confidential Information in strict confidence, using at least the same degree of care that FarrWest uses in maintaining the confidentiality of its own confidential information, and not to copy, reproduce, sell, assign, license, market, transfer or otherwise dispose of, give, or disclose Confidential Information to third parties or use Confidential Information for any purposes whatsoever other than the provision of Services to County hereunder, and to advise each of its employees and agents of their obligations to keep Confidential Information confidential. FarrWest shall use its best efforts to assist County in identifying and preventing any unauthorized use or disclosure of any Confidential Information. Without limitation of the foregoing, FarrWest shall advise County immediately in the event FarrWest learns or has reason to believe that any person who has had access to Confidential Information has violated or intends to violate the terms of this Agreement and FarrWest will at its expense cooperate with County in seeking injunctive or other equitable relief in the name of County or FarrWest against any such person. FarrWest agrees that, except as directed by County, FarrWest will not at any time during or after the term of this Agreement disclose, directly or indirectly, any Confidential Information to any person, and that upon termination of this Agreement or at County's request, FarrWest will promptly turn over to County all documents, papers, and other matter in FarrWest's possession which embody Confidential Information.
- C. FarrWest acknowledges that a breach of this Section, including disclosure of any Confidential Information, or disclosure of other information that, at law or in equity, ought to remain confidential, will give rise to irreparable injury to County that is inadequately compensable in damages. Accordingly, County may seek and obtain injunctive relief against the breach or threatened breach of the foregoing undertakings, in addition to any other legal remedies that may be available. FarrWest acknowledges and agrees that the covenants contained herein are necessary for the protection of the legitimate business interest of County and are reasonable in scope and content.
- D. FarrWest in providing all services hereunder agrees to abide by the provisions of any applicable Federal or State Data Privacy Act.
- E. FarrWest expressly acknowledges that County is subject to the Texas Public Information Act, TEX. GOV'T CODE ANN. §§ 552.001 et seq., as amended, and notwithstanding any provision in the Agreement to the contrary, County will make any information related to the Agreement, or otherwise, available to third parties in accordance with the Texas Public Information Act. Any proprietary or confidential information marked as such provided to County by FarrWest shall not be disclosed to any third party, except as directed by the Texas Attorney General in response to a request for such under the Texas Public Information Act, which provides for notice to the owner of such marked information and the opportunity for the owner of such information to notify the Attorney General of the reasons why such information should not be disclosed. The terms and conditions of the Agreement are not proprietary or confidential information.

## **Section 13. Independent Contractor**

- A. In the performance of work or services hereunder, FarrWest shall be deemed an independent contractor, and any of its agents, employees, officers, or volunteers performing work required hereunder shall be deemed solely as employees of contractor or, where permitted, of its subcontractors.
- B. FarrWest and its agents, employees, officers, or volunteers shall not, by performing work pursuant to this Agreement, be deemed to be employees, agents, or servants of County and shall not be entitled to any of the privileges or benefits of County employment.

## Section 14. Notices

- A. Each party giving any notice or making any request, demand, or other communication (each, a "Notice") pursuant to this Agreement shall do so in writing and shall use one of the following methods of delivery, each of which, for purposes of this Agreement, is a writing: personal delivery, registered or certified mail (in each case, return receipt requested and postage prepaid), or nationally recognized overnight courier (with all fees prepaid).
- B. Each party giving a Notice shall address the Notice to the receiving party at the address listed below or to another address designated by a party in a Notice pursuant to this Section:

County: Fort Bend County

Attn: County Judge 401 Jackson, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor Richmond, Texas 77469

With a copy to: Fort Bend County Office of Homeland Security and

Emergency Management Attn: Emergency Manager

307 Fort St.

Richmond, Texas 77469

Contractor: FarrWest Environmental Supply, Inc.

Attn: Matt Meyer

108 Commercial Place Schertz, Texas 78154

C. Notice is effective only if the party giving or making the Notice has complied with subsections 14(A) and 14(B) and if the addressee has received the Notice. A Notice is deemed received as follows:

- 1. If the Notice is delivered in person, or sent by registered or certified mail or a nationally recognized overnight courier, upon receipt as indicated by the date on the signed receipt.
- 2. If the addressee rejects or otherwise refuses to accept the Notice, or if the Notice cannot be delivered because of a change in address for which no Notice was given, then upon the rejection, refusal, or inability to deliver.

## **Section 15. Compliance with Laws**

FarrWest shall comply with all federal, state, and local laws, statutes, ordinances, rules and regulations, and the orders and decrees of any courts or administrative bodies or tribunals in any matter affecting the performance of this Agreement, including, without limitation, Worker's Compensation laws, minimum and maximum salary and wage statutes and regulations, licensing laws and regulations. When required by County, FarrWest shall furnish County with certification of compliance with said laws, statutes, ordinances, rules, regulations, orders, and decrees above specified.

## **Section 16. Performance Warranty**

- A. FarrWest warrants to County that FarrWest has the skill and knowledge ordinarily possessed by well-informed members of its trade or profession practicing in the greater Houston metropolitan area and FarrWest will apply that skill and knowledge with care and diligence to ensure that the Services provided hereunder will be performed and delivered in accordance with the highest professional standards.
- B. FarrWest warrants to County that the Services will be free from material errors and will materially conform to all requirements and specifications contained in the attached Exhibit A.

## Section 17. Assignment and Delegation

- A. Neither party may assign any of its rights under this Agreement, except with the prior written consent of the other party. That party shall not unreasonably withhold its consent. All assignments of rights by FarrWest are prohibited under this subsection, whether they are voluntarily or involuntarily, without first obtaining written consent from County.
- B. Neither party may delegate any performance under this Agreement.
- C. Any purported assignment of rights or delegation of performance in violation of this Section is void.

## Section 18. Applicable Law

The laws of the State of Texas govern all disputes arising out of or relating to this Agreement. The parties hereto acknowledge that venue is proper in Fort Bend County, Texas, for all legal actions or proceedings arising out of or relating to this Agreement and waive the right to sue or be sued elsewhere. Nothing in the Agreement shall be construed to waive the County's sovereign immunity.

## **Section 19. Successors and Assigns**

County and FarrWest bind themselves and their successors, executors, administrators and assigns to the other party of this Agreement and to the successors, executors, administrators and assigns of the other party, in respect to all covenants of this Agreement.

## **Section 20. Third Party Beneficiaries**

This Agreement does not confer any enforceable rights or remedies upon any person other than the parties.

## Section 21. Severability

If any provision of this Agreement is determined to be invalid, illegal, or unenforceable, the remaining provisions remain in full force, if the essential terms and conditions of this Agreement for each party remain valid, binding, and enforceable.

## **Section 22. Publicity**

Contact with citizens of Fort Bend County, media outlets, or governmental agencies shall be the sole responsibility of County. Under no circumstances whatsoever, shall FarrWest release any material or information developed or received in the performance of the Services hereunder without the express written permission of County, except where required to do so by law.

## Section 23. Captions

The section captions used in this Agreement are for convenience of reference only and do not affect the interpretation or construction of this Agreement.

## **Section 24. Conflict**

In the event there is a conflict between this Agreement and the attached exhibit(s), this Agreement controls.

**Section 25.** <u>Certain State Law Requirements for Contracts</u> For purposes of section 2252.152, 2271.002, and 2274.002, Texas Government Code, as amended, FarrWest hereby verifies that FarrWest and any parent company, wholly owned subsidiary, majority-owned subsidiary, and affiliate:

- A. Unless affirmatively declared by the United States government to be excluded from its federal sanctions regime relating to Sudan or Iran or any federal sanctions regime relating to a foreign terrorist organization, is not identified on a list prepared and maintained by the Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts under Section 806.051, 807.051, or 2252.153 of the Texas Government Code.
- B. If employing ten (10) or more full-time employees and this Agreement has a value of \$100,000.00 or more, FarrWest does not boycott Israel and is authorized to agree in such contracts not to boycott Israel during the term of such contracts. "Boycott Israel" has the meaning provided in section 808.001 of the Texas Government Code.
- C. If employing ten (10) or more full-time employees and this Agreement has a value of \$100,000.00 or more, FarrWest does not boycott energy companies and is authorized to agree in such contracts not to boycott energy companies during the term of such contracts. "Boycott energy company" has the meaning provided in section 809.001 of the Texas Government Code.
- D. If employing ten (10) or more full-time employees and this Agreement has a value of \$100,000.00 or more, FarrWest does not have a practice, policy, guidance, or directive that discriminates against a firearm entity or firearm trade association and is authorized to agree in such contracts not to discriminate against a firearm entity or firearm trade association during the term of such contracts. "Discriminate against a firearm entity or firearm trade association" has the meaning provided in section 2274.001(3) of the Texas Government Code. "Firearm entity" and "firearm trade association" have the meanings provided in section 2274.001(6) and (7) of the Texas Government Code.

## Section 26. Human Trafficking

BY ACCEPTANCE OF CONTRACT, CONTRACTOR ACKNOWLEDGES THAT FORT BEND COUNTY IS OPPOSED TO HUMAN TRAFFICKING AND THAT NO COUNTY FUNDS WILL BE USED IN SUPPORT OF SERVICES OR ACTIVITIES THAT VIOLATE HUMAN TRAFFICKING LAWS

## Section 27. Federal Funding

- A. FarrWest understands and acknowledges that this Agreement may be totally or partially funded with federal and/or state funds, as described in the Statement of Grant Award attached hereto as Exhibit "C," and incorporated fully by reference.
- B. As a condition of receiving federal and/or state grant funds, FarrWest represents it is and will remain in compliance with all federal and/or state terms as listed in Grantee Standard Conditions and Responsibilities attached hereto as Exhibit "D", and incorporated fully by reference. These terms flow down to all third party contractors and their subcontracts at every tier that exceed the simplified acquisition threshold, unless a particular award term or condition specificially indicates otherwise. FarrWest shall require that these terms shall be included in each covered transaction at any tier.

## Section 28. Entire Agreement

This executed instrument is understood and intended to be the final expression of the parties' agreement and is a complete and exclusive statement of the terms and conditions with respect thereto, superseding all prior agreements or representations, oral or written, and all other communication between the parties relating to the subject matter of this agreement. Any oral representations or modifications concerning this instrument shall be of no force or effect excepting a subsequent modification in writing signed by all the parties hereto.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, THIS AGREEMENT shall be effective upon execution of all parties.

FORT BEND COUNTY	FARRWEST ENVIRONMENTAL SUPPLY, INC.
<u></u>	Matt Meyer
KP George, County Judge	Authorized Agent- Signature
	Matt Meyer
	Authorized Agent- Printed Name
ATTEST:	Sales Manager
	Title
	4/11/2024
Laura Richard, County Clerk	Date
	ITOR'S CERTIFICATE  allable in the amount of \$ to accomplish and under this contract.
	Robert Ed Sturdivant, County Auditor
Exhibit A: FarrWest Estimate No. 17826 Exhibit B: Sole Source Letter Exhibit C: Statement of Grant Award Exhibit D: Grantee Standard Conditions Exhibit E: Fort Bend County Travel Policy	•

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## **EXHIBIT A**

FarrWest Estimate No. 17826

## **Estimate**



Date	Estimate #
4/11/2024	17826

## 108 Commercial Place Schertz, TX 78154

Ph: 210-566-1857 Fax 210-566-1897

FORT BEND COUNTY COUNTY AUDITOR 301 JACKSON RICHMOND, TX 77469

P.O. No.	Rep	Project/Event
	JWC	

Item	Description	Qty	Cost	Total
1032882	Rigaku CQL Max-ID 1064nm Handheld Raman Includes:  • 1064nm excitation laser technology  • Touchscreen and softkey graphical user interface  • Onboard 5MP digital camera  • Library of over 13,000 items. Included Libraries; Biomolecule, Cutting Agent, CWA, CWA Precursor, Explosive, Explosives Precursor, General Chemical, General Precursor, Household Chemical, Industrial Chemical 1-4, Narcotic, Narcotic Precursor, Pesticide, Pharmaceutical, Polymer, Solvent, Steroid, TIC/TIM  • CQL Operating Software, Library and Algorithms optimized for Safety and Security applications.  • 4C predictive software for precursor monitoring and threat manufacturing warning  • Wi-Fi and Peer-to-Peer connectivity to view results remotely and immediately on cell phone or PC  • (2) Li-Ion rechargeable batteries 4-5 hours life  • External AC power adaptor (100-250V)  • USB-C to USB-A data transfer cable  • USB-C to USB-C charging cable  • Flash Drive containing User Manual (PDF)	1	46,925.00	46,925.00

It's been a pleasure working with you!

Subtotal

Sales Tax (0.0%)

Total

Phone #	Fax#
210-566-1857	210-566-1897

Web Site
www.farrwest.com

## **Estimate**



Date	Estimate #
4/11/2024	17826

## 108 Commercial Place Schertz, TX 78154

Ph: 210-566-1857 Fax 210-566-1897

FORT BEND COUNTY COUNTY AUDITOR 301 JACKSON RICHMOND, TX 77469

P.O. No.	Rep	Project/Event
	JWC	

Item	Description	Qty	Cost	Total
	<ul> <li>Quick Start Guide</li> <li>Adjustable Base Adaptor</li> <li>Universal Sample Holder</li> <li>Rugged carrying case with custom foam</li> <li>Certified Benzonitrile reference standard for onboard calibration</li> <li>Certified Polystyrene Rod for performance verification</li> <li>Rigaku hand strap</li> <li>36-month limited warranty</li> <li>Library updates for the 36-month warranty</li> <li>Software updates for the 36-month warranty</li> <li>Support via phone or email for the 36-month warranty</li> </ul>			
1021710	Trace capability (Narcotics and Explosives) utilizing QuickDetect and DetectaChem's MobileDetect Pouches (pouches sold separately)	1	5,643.00	5,643.00
1022436	Periscope Sampling Adaptor allows for greater sampling flexibility	1	871.00	871.00
1012438	Adjustable Vial Adaptor - Fits standard 1-4 mL vials. Features an attached flip-over light blocking cover and focal point adjustment screw	1	792.00	792.00

It's been a pleasure working with you!

Subtotal

Sales Tax (0.0%)

Total

Phone #	Fax#
210-566-1857	210-566-1897

Web Site
www.farrwest.com

## **Estimate**



Date	Estimate #
4/11/2024	17826

## 108 Commercial Place Schertz, TX 78154

Ph: 210-566-1857 Fax 210-566-1897

FORT BEND COUNTY COUNTY AUDITOR 301 JACKSON RICHMOND, TX 77469

P.O. No.	Rep	Project/Event
	JWC	

Item	Description	Qty	Cost	Total
1013313	Silicone rubber adapter attaches to the Adjustable Base Adaptor (1012217) to allow for a secure seal when scanning bottles of varying diameters	1	39.00	39.00
FW-SAMPL-08	FARRWEST TRAINING - Chemical Sampling Class (Initial Training Day) Sampling class covering Raman and other sampling techniques such as FT-IR, Colorimetrics & gas detection and how to use these technologies in conjunction with one another. Includes proper unit Operation and User Maintenance.  1 Day, 8 Hour Class.	1	2,850.00	2,850.00
FW-SAMPL-08	FARRWEST TRAINING - Chemical Sampling Class (Days 2 & 3) Sampling class covering Raman and other sampling techniques such as FT-IR, Colorimetrics & gas detection and how to use these technologies in conjunction with one another. Includes proper unit Operation and User Maintenance.  1 Day, 8 Hour Class.	2	1,850.00	3,700.00

Phone #	Fax#
210-566-1857	210-566-1897

Web Site
www.farrwest.com

## **EXHIBIT B**

## Sole Source Letter



February 23, 2024

Rigaku Analytical Devices, Inc. 30 Upton Drive, Suite 2 Wilmington, MA 01887

Re: CQL 1064nm Capability Statement

FarrWest is Rigaku Analytical Device's exclusive sales partner for the following states: Al, AR, AZ, CO, IA, ID, IL, IN, KS, LA, MN, MO, MS, MT, ND, NE, NM, NV, OK, OR, SD, TX, UT, WA, WI, WY.

With Farrwest's support, along with the entire team at Rigaku Analytical Devices stand behind CQL product line, to include MaxID, GenID and NarcID, and is here to partner with your agencies' efforts to stop the proliferation of threats- narcotic, explosive, Chemical Warfare Agent and others. We are committed to supporting our end users in the field.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for considering Rigaku's CQL product line of 1064nm handheld Raman chemical identification systems. Rigaku Analytical Devices, Inc is the sole manufacturer of the MaxID, GenID and NarcID 1064nm handheld Raman chemical detection systems.

Rigaku's 1064nm handheld Raman analyzers are protected by specific trade patents and cannot be duplicated for any purpose. The CQL platform products and associated accessories, software, and services are only available through Rigaku Analytical Devices and its authorized dealers. If you have received pricing information from persons of companies other than Rigaku Analytical Devices, Inc. or its approved dealer, it will be considered non-authorized by Rigaku Analytical Devices, Inc.

Currently, there is no other devices providing comparable advanced analytics and unique features which extend analysis capabilities in the field. The following table lists technical specifications and their associated advantages for rapid detection of the largest number of "Real World" chemical threats most commonly encountered in the field and not offered on any other device of its kind.

Table 1: CQL Product Platform- 1064nm handheld Raman unique specifications with user benefits

Technology	Raman Spectroscopy using 1064nm laser technology
Unique integrated technology	<ul> <li>1064nm minimizes fluorescence effects: allows for direct analysis of colored/impure chemicals through colored packaging.</li> <li>Water is invisible to 1064nm Raman, unlike technologies effected by moisture and moisture content within a sample.</li> <li>Optional onboard Automated Colorimetrics provides non-visible Trace detection of residues.</li> </ul>
Portability	<ul> <li>Small handheld device, optimized for one handed operation.</li> <li>7.28in L x 5.9in W x 3.11in H (18.5cm L x 15cm W x 7.9cm H).</li> <li>~3.25lbs (1.4kg).</li> </ul>
Ruggedness	<ul> <li>US MIL-STD 810G designed, tested and certified rugged.</li> <li>IP 68 designed, tested, certified use in varying environmental conditions and decontamination.</li> </ul>
Operational temperature range	<ul> <li>Unit can be operated in -20°C to +50°C intermittent and +40°C continuous temperatures.</li> <li>Withstands temperature and humidity fluctuations.</li> </ul>
Rapid start-up Rapid results	<ul> <li>60 seconds from power on to analysis.</li> <li>Analysis results in less than one minute for every scan.</li> </ul>
Ease of operation	<ul> <li>Scans in direct contact AND through translucent plastic or glass containers.</li> <li>Universal sample holder for analysis of samples in varying forms and packaging.</li> <li>Smartphone like touch-screen interface or large button activation.</li> <li>User prompted step-by-step onscreen analysis activation.</li> <li>Onboard system status and calibration. Reduces down-time and necessity for re-calibration at a service depot.</li> </ul>

Capability of analysis	Liquids, solids, powders, pastes, gels.
Capazino, er anarysis	Colored substances and substances found in colored translucent packaging. These types of
	substances are most often encountered in real-world samples.
	Comparative spectral analysis overlay easily performed onboard.
	User adjustable focus ensures analysis of material and not the packaging.
Capability of	4C software automatically monitors analysis for combinations of substances used in threat, drug
analysiscontinued	manufacturing, and other recipes. Users receive onscreen alert.
Onboard Library	Up to 13,000 library entries depending on model
Olibbard Library	MaxID library includes 22 libraries including the latest explosives, precursors, CWAs, TICs/TIMs,
	narcotics and psychotropic drugs, steroids, cutting agents, pharmaceuticals and diluents.
	Easily expandable by oser dreated to dad enterfails threats and other substances.
	Te heary with and finantial detailing and other types of threat manadaturing recipes.
Estidance de concentation	Elbrary apartes provided more than once a year.
Evidence documentation	Onboard 5MP camera captures image of sample and surroundings.      Industry (1) should also a with small size of the sample and files.
	<ul> <li>Image(s) stored along with analysis results in time/date stamped files.</li> </ul>
Remote activation	Remotely view analysis data in near "Real-Time" on mobile phone, tablet or PC.
Remote viewing	Exportable data in numerous file formats.
Data transfer	Streamlined data transfer via USB and WiFi (can be disabled).
Reporting	Customizable report template and easy report generation.
Onboard safety features	User activated scan delay timer in case an energetic is suspected.
	User adjustable laser power level from 10 mW to 490 mW in 10 mW increments.
Presumptive Field Testing	Laser and safety compliance
Requirements and	ANSI Z136.1 - Safe Use of Lasers
Qualifications	IEC 60825-1 – Independently tested and certified to meet compliance for laser radiation pertaining
	to human safety.
	Spectrographic analytical compliance
	ASTM Standard: E2529-6 (2014) resolution.
	ASTM Standard: E 1840-96 (2014) calibration.
	Validation of analytical method, evidence processing and evidence integrity
	ASTM E2549-14 Standard Practice for Validation of Seized-Drug Analytical Methods.
	SWGDRUG Recommendations Version 7-1
	ENFSI DRUGS WORKING GROUP Guidelines on Sampling of Illicit Drugs for Qualitative Analysis
	US FDA Code of Federal Regulations Electronic Records, Electronic Signatures
	UK MHRA Data Integrity Definitions and Guidance
Customer support	• 24/7/365 Reachback service.
package	Library updates.
	Software updates.
	Support: online, phone, email, and in some cases text message for the life of the unit.
Warranty	24-months to 36 months (dependent on model) included in package.
Training	Comprehensive 4 hour onsite training for up to 12 students.
rraining	- Comprehensive 4 nour onsite training for up to 12 students.

Sincerely,

Nancy Otto Sales Director Rigaku Analytical Devices

## **EXHIBIT C**

## Statement of Grant Award

## Statement of Grant Award (SOGA)-

The Statement of Grant Award is the official notice of award from the Office of the Governor (OOG). This Grant Agreement and all terms, conditions, provisions and obligations set forth herein shall be binding upon and shall inure to the benefit of the Parties and their respective successors and assigns and all other State of Texas agencies and any other agencies, departments, divisions, governmental entities, public corporations, and other entities which shall be successors to each of the Parties or which shall succeed to or become obligated to perform or become bound by any of the covenants, agreements or obligations hereunder of each of the Parties hereto.

The approved project narrative and budget for this award are reflected in eGrants on the 'Narrative' and 'Budget/Details' tabs. By accepting the Grant Award in eGrants, the Grantee agrees to strictly comply with the requirements and obligations of this Grant Agreement including any and all applicable federal and state statutes, regulations, policies, guidelines and requirements. In instances where conflicting requirements apply to a Grantee, the more restrictive requirement applies.

The Grant Agreement includes the Statement of Grant Award; the OOG Grantee Conditions and Responsibilities; the Grant Application in eGrants; and the other identified documents in the Grant Application and Grant Award, including but not limited to: 2 CFR Part 200, Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards; Chapter 783 of the Texas Government Code, Title 34, Part 1, Chapter 20, Subchapter E, Division 4 of the Texas Administrative Code, and the Texas Grant Management Standards (TxGMS) developed by the Comptroller of Public Accounts; the state Funding Announcement or Solicitation under which the grant application was made, and for federal funding, the Funding Announcement or Solicitation under which the OOG was awarded funds; and any applicable documents referenced in the documents listed above. For grants awarded from the U.S. Department of Justice, the current applicable version of the Department of Justice Grants Financial Guide and any applicable provisions in Title 28 of the CFR apply. For grants awarded from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), all Information Bulletins and Policies published by the FEMA Grants Program Directorate apply. The OOG reserves the right to add additional responsibilities and requirements, with or without advance notice to the Grantee.

By clicking on the 'Accept' button within the 'Accept Award' tab, the Grantee accepts the responsibility for the grant project, agrees and certifies compliance with the requirements outlined in the Grant Agreement, including all provisions incorporated herein, and agrees with the following conditions of grant funding. The grantee's funds will not be released until the grantee has satisfied the requirements of the following Condition(s) of Funding and Other Fund-Specific Requirement(s), if any, cited below:

Award Amount:

**Grantee In Kind** 

**Total Project Cost:** 

**Grantee GPI:** 

Match:

**Grantee Cash Match:** 

\$145,821.00

\$145,821.00

\$0.00

\$0.00

\$0.00

**Grant Number:** 4894001 Date Awarded: 9/26/2023

**Grant Period:** 01/01/2024 - 12/31/2024

**Liquidation Date:** 03/31/2025

**HS-Homeland Security Grant Program Program Fund:** 

(HSGP)

**Grantee Name:** Fort Bend County

**Project Title:** Fort Bend County - Hazmat ST/CP

**Grant Manager:** Chris Edwards

**Unique Entity Identifier** 

MJG8N8EPN2L3 (UEI):

9/11/2023

CFDA: 97.067 - Homeland Security Grant Program (HSGP)

**Federal Awarding** 

U.S. Department of Homeland Security, Federal Emergency Management Agency

Federal Award

Agency:

Federal/State

Date:

Award ID EMW-2023-SS-00025

Number: **Total Federal** 

Award/State \$102,000,951.00 Funds

**Appropriated:** 

**Pass Thru Entity** 

Name:

Texas Office of the Governor – Homeland Security Grants Division (HSGD)

Is the Award R&D:

No

Federal/State Award Description: The purpose of the HSGP is to support state and local efforts to prevent terrorism and other catastrophic events and to prepare the Nation for the threats and hazards that pose the greatest risk to the security of the United States. The HSGP provides funding to implement investments that build, sustain, and deliver the 31 core capabilities essential to achieving the National Preparedness Goal (the Goal) of a secure and resilient Nation. The building, sustainment, and delivery of these core capabilities are not exclusive to any single level of government, organization, or community, but rather, require the combined effort of the whole community.

## **EXHIBIT D**

# Grantee Standard Conditions and Responsibilities



Office of the Governor

## **Public Safety Office**

Criminal Justice Division & Homeland Security Grants Division

**Grantee Standard Conditions and Responsibilities** 

#### About This Document

In this document, grantees (also referred to as subrecipients) will find state and federal requirements and conditions applicable to grant funds administered by the Office of the Governor (OOG). These requirements and conditions are incorporated into the Grant Agreement accepted by a grant's Authorized Official.

These requirements are in addition to those that can be found on the eGrants system – including the Grant Application and Grant Award – or in documents identified there, to which grantees agreed when applying for and accepting the grant. Other state and federal requirements and conditions may apply to your grant, including but not limited to: 2 CFR Part 200, Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards; Chapter 783 of the Texas Government Code; Title 34, Part 1, Chapter 20, Subchapter E, Division 4 of the Texas Administrative Code; the Texas Grant Management Standards (TxGMS) published by the Comptroller of Public Accounts; the state Funding Announcement or Solicitation under which the grant application was made; for federal funding, the Funding Announcement or Solicitation under which OOG was awarded funds; and any applicable documents referenced in the documents listed above. For grants awarded from the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ), the current applicable version of the Department of Justice Grants Financial Guide and any applicable provisions in Title 28 of the CFR apply. For grants awarded from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), all Information Bulletins and Policies published by the FEMA Grants Program Directorate apply. OOG reserves the right to add additional responsibilities and requirements, with or without advance notice to the grantee.

It is important for grantees to review all of these policies to successfully manage their grant, maintain eligibility for funding, and avoid violating the terms of the Grant Agreement, any of which could result in the revocation of funding or other actions.

For clarification or further information, please see the Guide to Grants and other support materials at <a href="https://eGrants.gov.texas.gov">https://eGrants.gov.texas.gov</a> or contact the grant manager assigned to the relevant grant. If no grant manager has been assigned, please contact the eGrants help desk via email at: <a href="mailto:eGrants@gov.texas.gov">eGrants@gov.texas.gov</a>, or via telephone at: (512) 463-1919 or dial 7-1-1 for relay services.

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## 1 Grant Agreement Requirements and Conditions

## 1.1 Applicability of Grant Agreement and Provisions

The Grant Agreement is intended to be the full and complete expression of and constitutes the entire agreement between the parties hereto with respect to the subject matter hereof and all prior and contemporaneous understandings, agreements, promises, representations, terms and conditions, both oral and written, are superseded and replaced by this Grant Agreement.

If any term or provision of this Grant Agreement is found to be invalid or unenforceable, such construction shall not affect the legality or validity of any of its other provisions. The invalid term or invalid provision shall be deemed severable and stricken from the Grant Agreement as if it had never been incorporated herein, but all other provisions shall continue in full force and effect.

Notwithstanding any expiration or termination of this Grant Agreement, the rights and obligations pertaining to the grant close-out, maximum liability of OOG, cooperation and provision of additional information, return of grant funds, audit rights, records retention, public information, disclaimers and limitation of liability, indemnification, and any other provision implying survivability shall remain in effect after the expiration or termination of this Grant Agreement.

## 1.2 Legal Authority to Apply

The grantee certifies that it possesses legal authority to apply for the grant. A resolution, motion or similar action has been or will be duly adopted or passed as an official act of the applicant's governing body, authorizing the filing of the application, including all understandings and assurances contained therein, and directing and authorizing the person identified as the official representative, or their designee of the organization to act in connection with the application and to provide such additional information as may be required. State agencies are not required to adopt a resolution.

## 1.3 Amendments and Changes to the Grant Agreement

OOG and the grantee may agree to make adjustments to the grant budget and detailed budget as documented in eGrants. Adjustments include, but are not limited to, modifying the scope of the grant project, adding funds to previously un-awarded cost items or categories, or changing funds in any awarded cost items or category or changing grant officials. OOG, at its sole discretion, and upon written notice by OOG to the grantee of any proposed adjustment, and after the grantee has had an opportunity to respond to the proposed adjustment, may adjust the grantee's Budget, Grant Narrative, Special Conditions, Period of Performance, and/or any other items as deemed appropriate by OOG, at any time, during the term of this Grant Agreement.

The grantee has no right or entitlement to reimbursement with grant funds. OOG and grantee agree that any act, action or representation by either Party, their agents or employees that purports to waive or alter the terms of the Grant Agreement or increase the maximum liability of OOG is void unless a written amendment to this Grant Agreement is first executed and documented in eGrants. The grantee agrees that nothing in this Grant Agreement will be interpreted to create an obligation or liability of OOG in excess of the "Maximum Liability of the OOG" as set forth in the Statement of Grant Award (SOGA).

Any alterations, additions, or deletions to the terms of this Grant Agreement must be documented in eGrants to be binding upon the Parties.

## 1.4 General Responsibility

The grantee is responsible for the integrity of the fiscal and programmatic management of the grant project; accountability for all funds awarded; and compliance with OOG administrative rules, policies and procedures, and applicable federal and state laws and regulations.

Grant funds may be used only for the purposes in the grantee's approved application. The recipient shall not undertake any work or activities that are not described in the grant application, and that use staff, equipment, or other goods or services paid for with grant funds, without prior written approval from OOG.

The grantee will maintain an appropriate financial management and grant administration system to ensure that all terms, conditions and specifications of the grant are met.

#### 1.5 Terms and Conditions

The grantee will comply with the terms and conditions as set forth and required in the funding announcement under which the approved application was submitted, the application, and award in eGrants. Notwithstanding the imposition of corrective actions, financial hold, and/or sanctions, the grantee remains responsible for complying with these terms and conditions. Corrective action plans, financial hold and/or sanctions do not excuse or operate as a waiver of prior failure to comply with the grant agreement. The failure of OOG to insist upon strict performance of any of the terms or conditions herein, irrespective of the length of time of such failure, shall not be a waiver of OOG's right to demand strict compliance in the future. No consent or waiver, express or implied, to or of any breach or default in the performance of any obligation under this grant agreement shall constitute a consent or waiver to or of any breach or default in the performance of the same or any other obligation of this grant agreement.

To the extent the terms and conditions of this grant agreement do not address a particular circumstance or are otherwise unclear or ambiguous, such terms and conditions are to be construed consistent with the general objectives, expectations and purposes of this grant agreement and in all cases, according to its fair meaning. The parties acknowledge that each party and its counsel have reviewed this grant agreement and that any rule of construction to the effect that any ambiguities are to be resolved against the drafting party shall not be employed in the interpretation of this grant agreement. Any vague, ambiguous or conflicting terms shall be interpreted and construed in such a manner as to accomplish the purpose of the grant agreement.

### 1.6 Special Conditions

Special Conditions may be imposed by OOG, at its sole discretion and at any time, without amending this Grant Agreement. Failure by OOG to provide notice does not absolve grantee of compliance with any special conditions. OOG may place grantee on immediate financial hold, without further notice, until all Special Conditions, if any, are met.

## 1.7 Public Information

Notwithstanding any provisions of this Grant Agreement to the contrary, the grantee acknowledges that the State of Texas, OOG, and this Grant Agreement are subject to the Texas Public Information Act,

Texas Government Code Chapter 552 (the "PIA"). The grantee acknowledges that OOG will comply with the PIA, as interpreted by judicial opinions and opinions of the Attorney General of the State of Texas.

The grantee acknowledges that information created or exchanged in connection with this Grant Agreement, including all reimbursement documentation submitted to OOG, is subject to the PIA, whether created or produced by the grantee or any third party, and the grantee agrees that information not otherwise excepted from disclosure under the PIA, will be available in a format that is accessible by the public at no additional charge to OOG or State of Texas. The grantee will cooperate with OOG in the production of documents or information responsive to a request for information.

Information provided by or on behalf of the grantee under, pursuant to, or in connection with this Grant Agreement that the grantee considers proprietary, financial, trade secret, or otherwise confidential information (collectively "Confidential Information") shall be designated as such when it is provided to OOG or State of Texas or any other entity in accordance with this Grant Agreement. Merely making a blanket claim that the all documents are protected from disclosure because they may contain some proprietary or confidential information may not render the whole of the information confidential. Any information which is not clearly identified as proprietary or confidential is subject to release in accordance with the Act. OOG agrees to notify the grantee in writing within a reasonable time from receipt of a request for information covering the grantee's Confidential Information. OOG will make a determination whether to submit a Public Information Act request to the Attorney General.

The grantee agrees to maintain the confidentiality of information received from OOG or State of Texas during the performance of this Grant Agreement, including information which discloses confidential personal information particularly, but not limited to, personally identifying information, personal financial information and social security numbers.

The grantee must immediately notify and provide a copy to OOG of any Public Information Request or other third-party request for the disclosure of information it receives related to this Grant award.

## 1.8 Remedies for Non-Compliance

If OOG determines that the grantee materially fails to comply with any term of this grant agreement, whether stated in a federal or state statute or regulation, an assurance, in a state plan or application, a notice of award, or any other applicable requirement, OOG, in its sole discretion and consistent with any applicable OOG Administrative Rules, may take actions including:

- 1. Temporarily withholding cash payments pending correction of the deficiency or more severe enforcement action by OOG;
- 2. Disallowing or denying use of funds for all or part of the cost of the activity or action not in compliance;
- 3. Disallowing claims for reimbursement;
- 4. Wholly or partially suspending or terminating this grant;
- 5. Requiring return or offset of previous reimbursements;
- Prohibiting the grantee from applying for or receiving additional funds for other grant programs administered by OOG until repayment to OOG is made and any other compliance or audit finding is satisfactorily resolved;
- 7. Reducing the grant award maximum liability of OOG;

- 8. Terminating this Grant Agreement;
- 9. Imposing a corrective action plan;
- 10. Withholding further awards; or
- 11. Taking other remedies or appropriate actions.

The grantee costs resulting from obligations incurred during a suspension or after termination of this grant are not allowable unless OOG expressly authorizes them in the notice of suspension or termination or subsequently.

OOG, at its sole discretion, may impose sanctions without first requiring a corrective action plan.

## 1.9 False Statements by Grantee

By acceptance of this grant agreement, the grantee makes all the statements, representations, warranties, guarantees, certifications and affirmations included in this grant agreement. If applicable, the grantee will comply with the requirements of 31 USC § 3729, which set forth that no grantee of federal payments shall submit a false claim for payment.

If any of the statements, representations, certifications, affirmations, warranties, or guarantees are false or if the grantee signs or executes the grant agreement with a false statement or it is subsequently determined that the grantee has violated any of the statements, representations, warranties, guarantees, certifications or affirmations included in this grant agreement, then OOG may consider this act a possible default under this grant agreement and may terminate or void this grant agreement for cause and pursue other remedies available to OOG under this grant agreement and applicable law. False statements or claims made in connection with OOG grants may result in fines, imprisonment, and debarment from participating in federal grants or contract, and/or other remedy available by law, potentially including the provisions of 38 USC §§ 3801-3812, which details the administrative remedies for false claims and statements made.

## 1.10 Conflict of Interest Safeguards

The grantee will establish safeguards to prohibit its employees from using their positions for a purpose that constitutes or presents the appearance of personal or organizational conflict of interest or personal gain, whether for themselves or others, particularly those with whom they have family, business, or other ties. The grantee will operate with complete independence and objectivity without actual, potential, or apparent conflict of interest with respect to its performance under this Grant Agreement.

The grantee must disclose, in writing, within fifteen (15) calendar days of discovery, any existing, actual or potential conflicts of interest relative to its performance under this Grant Agreement.

The grantee is and shall remain in compliance during the term of this Grant Agreement with Texas Government Code, Section 669.003, Contracting with Executive Head of State Agency; and Section 572, Employment of Former State Officer or Employee of State Agency. The grantee certifies that it is not ineligible to receive this Grant Agreement under Texas Government Code, section 2155.004, regarding the financial participation by a person who received compensation from OOG or another state agency to participate in preparing the specifications or request for proposals on which the bid or contract is based, and acknowledges that this Grant Agreement may be terminated and payment withheld if this certification is inaccurate.

The grantee has not given or offered to give, nor does the grantee intend to give at any time hereafter, any economic opportunity, future employment, gift, loan, gratuity, special discount, trip, favor, or service to a public servant or employee of OOG, at any time during the award of this grant or in connection with this Grant Agreement, except as allowed under relevant state or federal law. The grantee nor its personnel or entities employed in rendering services under this grant agreement have, nor shall they knowingly acquire, any interest that would be adverse to or conflict in any manner with the performance of the grantee's obligations under this grant agreement.

## 1.11 Fraud, Waste, and Abuse

A. The grantee understands that OOG does not tolerate any type of fraud, waste, or misuse of funds received from OOG. OOG's policy is to promote consistent, legal, and ethical organizational behavior, by assigning responsibilities and providing guidelines to enforce controls. Any violations of law, OOG policies, or standards of ethical conduct will be investigated, and appropriate actions will be taken. The grantee understands and agrees that misuse of award funds may result in a range of penalties, including suspension of current and future funds, suspension or debarment from federal and state grants, recoupment of monies provided under an award, and civil and/or criminal penalties.

In the event grantee becomes aware of any allegation or a finding of fraud, waste, or misuse of funds received from OOG that is made against the grantee, the grantee is required to immediately notify OOG of said allegation or finding and to continue to inform OOG of the status of any such ongoing investigations. The grantee must also promptly refer to OOG any credible evidence that a principal, employee, agent, subrecipient, contractor, subcontractor, or other person has -- (1) submitted a claim for award funds that violates the False Claims Act; or (2) committed a criminal or civil violation of laws pertaining to fraud, conflict of interest, bribery, gratuity, or similar misconduct involving award funds. Grantees must also immediately notify OOG in writing of any misappropriation of funds, fraud, theft, embezzlement, forgery, or any other serious irregularities indicating noncompliance with grant requirements. Grantees must notify the local prosecutor's office of any possible criminal violations. Grantees must immediately notify OOG in writing if a project or project personnel become involved in any litigation, whether civil or criminal, and the grantee must immediately forward a copy of any demand, notices, subpoenas, lawsuits, or indictments to OOG. If a federal or state court or administrative agency renders a judgement or order finding discrimination by a grantee based on race, color, national origin, sex, age, or handicap, the grantee agrees to immediately forward a copy of the judgement or order to OOG.

The grantee is expected to report any possible fraudulent or dishonest acts, waste, or abuse to OOG's Fraud Coordinator or Ethics Advisor at (512) 463-1788 or in writing to: Ethics Advisor, Office of the Governor, P.O. Box 12428, Austin, Texas 78711.

B. Restrictions and certifications regarding non-disclosure agreements and related matters. No grantee or subgrantee under this award, or entity that receives a procurement contract or subcontract with any funds under this award, may require any employee or contractor to sign an internal confidentiality agreement or statement that prohibits or otherwise restricts, or purports to prohibit or restrict, the reporting (in accordance with law) of waste, fraud, or abuse to an investigative or law enforcement representative of a state or federal department or agency authorized to receive such information.

The foregoing is not intended, and shall not be understood by the agency making this award, to contravene requirements applicable to Standard Form 312 (which relates to classified information),

Form 4414 (which relates to sensitive compartmented information), or any other form issued by a federal department or agency governing the nondisclosure of classified information.

- 1. In accepting this award, the recipient:
  - Represents that it neither requires nor has required internal confidentiality agreements or statements from employees or contractors that currently prohibit or otherwise currently restrict (or purport to prohibit or restrict) employees or contractors from reporting waste, fraud, or abuse as described above; and
  - b. Certifies that, if it learns or is notified that it is or has been requiring its employees or contractors to execute agreements or statements that prohibit or otherwise restrict (or purport to prohibit or restrict), reporting of waste, fraud, or abuse as described above, it will immediately stop any further obligations of award funds, will provide prompt written notification to OOG, and will resume (or permit resumption of) such obligations only if expressly authorized to do so by that federal agency.
- 2. If the recipient does or is authorized under this award to make subawards ("subgrants") or procurement contracts, or both:
  - a. It represents that:
    - i. It has determined that no other entity that the recipient's application proposes may or will receive award funds (whether through a subaward ("subgrant"), procurement contract, or subcontract under a procurement contract) either requires or has required internal confidentiality agreements or statements from employees or contractors that currently prohibit or otherwise currently restrict (or purport to prohibit or restrict) employees or contractors from reporting waste, fraud, or abuse as described above; and
    - ii. It has made appropriate inquiry, or otherwise has an adequate factual basis, to support this representation; and
  - b. It certifies that, if it learns or is notified that any subgrantee, contractor, or subcontractor entity that receives funds under this award is or has been requiring its employees or contractors to execute agreements or statements that prohibit or otherwise restrict (or purport to prohibit or restrict), reporting of waste, fraud, or abuse as described above, it will immediately stop any further obligations of award funds to or by that entity, will provide prompt written notification to OOG, and will resume (or permit resumption of) such obligations only if expressly authorized to do so by OOG.

These provisions apply to all grantees and subgrantees or subcontractors.

#### 1.12 Dispute Resolution

The Parties' representatives will meet as needed to implement the terms of this Grant Agreement and will make a good faith attempt to informally resolve any disputes.

Notwithstanding any other provision of this Grant Agreement to the contrary, unless otherwise requested or approved in writing by OOG, the grantee shall continue performance and shall not be excused from performance during the period any breach of Grant Agreement claim or dispute is pending.

The laws of the State of Texas govern this Grant Agreement and all disputes arising out of or relating to

this Grant Agreement, without regard to any otherwise applicable conflict of law rules or requirements.

Venue for any grantee-initiated action, suit, litigation or other proceeding arising out of or in any way relating to this Grant Agreement shall be commenced exclusively in the Travis County District Court or the United States District Court, Western District of Texas - Austin Division. Venue for any OOG-initiated action, suit, litigation or other proceeding arising out of or in any way relating to this Grant Agreement may be commenced in a Texas state district court or a United States District Court selected by OOG in its sole discretion.

The grantee hereby irrevocably and unconditionally consents to the exclusive jurisdiction of the courts referenced above for the purpose of prosecuting and/or defending such litigation. The grantee hereby waives and agrees not to assert by way of motion, as a defense, or otherwise, in any suit, action or proceeding, any claim that the grantee is not personally subject to the jurisdiction of the above-named courts; the suit, action or proceeding is brought in an inconvenient forum; and/or the venue is improper.

## 1.13 Funds Limited by Agreement and Subject to Availability

The grantee agrees that nothing in this grant will be interpreted to create an obligation or liability of OOG in excess of the funds delineated in this grant. The grantee agrees that funding for this grant is subject to the actual receipt by OOG of grant funds (state and/or federal) appropriated to OOG for the grant program. The grantee agrees that the grant funds, if any, received from OOG may be limited by the term of each state biennium and by specific appropriation authority to and the spending authority of OOG for the purpose of this grant. The grantee agrees that notwithstanding any other provision of this grant, if OOG is not appropriated the funds or if OOG does not receive the appropriated funds for this grant program, or if the funds appropriated to OOG for this grant program are required to be reallocated to fund other federal or state programs or purposes, OOG is not liable to pay the grantee the maximum liability amount specified in the SOGA or any other remaining balance of unpaid funds. If OOG or the program fund becomes subject to legislative change, revocation of statutory authority, lack of appropriated funds, or unavailability of funds which would render performance under this grant agreement impossible, this grant agreement may be immediately terminated without recourse, liability, or penalty against OOG upon written notice to grantee.

#### 1.14 Termination of the Agreement

OOG may, at its sole discretion, terminate this Grant Agreement, without recourse, liability or penalty against OOG, upon written notice to grantee. In the event grantee fails to perform or comply with an obligation or a term, condition or provision of this Grant Agreement, OOG may, upon written notice to grantee, terminate this agreement for cause, without further notice or opportunity to cure. Such notification of Termination for Cause will state the effective date of such termination, and if no effective date is specified, the effective date will be the date of the notification.

OOG and grantee may mutually agree to terminate this Grant Agreement. OOG in its sole discretion will determine if, as part of the agreed termination, grantee is required to return any or all of the disbursed grant funds.

Termination is not an exclusive remedy, but will be in addition to any other rights and remedies provided in equity, by law, or under this Grant Agreement. Following termination by OOG, grantee shall continue to be obligated to OOG for the return of grant funds in accordance with applicable provisions

of this Grant Agreement. In the event of termination under this Section, OOG's obligation to reimburse grantee is limited to allowable costs incurred and paid by the grantee prior to the effective date of termination, and any allowable costs determined by OOG in its sole discretion to be reasonable and necessary to cost-effectively terminate the grant. Termination of this Grant Agreement for any reason or expiration of this Grant Agreement shall not release the Parties from any liability or obligation set forth in this Grant Agreement that is expressly stated to survive any such termination or expiration.

#### 1.15 Communication with Grantee

Notice may be given to the grantee via eGrants, email, hand-delivery, delivery service, or United States Mail. Notices to the grantee will be sent to the name and address supplied by grantee in eGrants.

## 1.16 Limitation of Liability

To the extent allowed by law, the grantee agrees to indemnify and hold harmless OOG, the State of Texas and its employees, agents, officers, representatives, contractors, and/or designees from any and all liability, actions, claims, demands or suits whatsoever, including any litigation costs, attorneys' fees, and expenses, relating to tax liability, unemployment insurance and/or workers' compensation in grantee's performance under this grant agreement. The grantee shall be liable to pay all costs of defense including attorneys' fees. The defense shall be coordinated by grantee with OOG and the Office of the Attorney General when OOG, the State of Texas or its employees, agents, officers, representatives, contractors and/or designees are named defendants in any lawsuit and grantee may not agree to any settlement without first obtaining the concurrence from OOG and the Office of the Attorney General. The grantee and OOG agree to furnish timely written notice to each other of any such claims.

The grantee further agrees to indemnify and hold harmless, to the extent allowed by law, the OOG, the State of Texas and its employees, agents, officers, representatives, contractors, and/or designees from any and all liability, actions, claims, demands, or suits, whatsoever, including any litigation costs, attorneys' fees, and expenses, that arise from any acts or omissions of grantee or any of its officers, employees, agents, contractors, and assignees, relating to this grant agreement regardless of whether the act or omission is related to this grant agreement. The defense shall be coordinated by grantee, OOG and the Office of the Attorney General when OOG, the State of Texas or its employees, agents, officers, representatives, contractors and/or designees are named defendants in any lawsuit and grantee may not agree to any settlement without first obtaining the concurrence from OOG and the Office of the Attorney General. The grantee and OOG agree to furnish timely written notice to each other of any such claims.

The grantee agrees that no provision of this Grant Agreement is in any way intended to constitute a waiver by OOG, its officers, employees, agents, or contractors or the State of Texas of any privileges, rights, defenses, remedies, or immunities from suit and liability that OOG or the State of Texas may have by operation of law.

## 1.17 Liability for Taxes

The grantee agrees and acknowledges that grantee shall be entirely responsible for the liability and payment of grantee's and grantee's employees' taxes of whatever kind, arising out of the performances in this Grant Agreement. The grantee agrees to comply with all state and federal laws applicable to any

such persons, including laws regarding wages, taxes, insurance, and workers' compensation. OOG and/or the State of Texas shall not be liable to the grantee, its employees, agents, or others for the payment of taxes or the provision of unemployment insurance and/or workers' compensation or any benefit available to a state employee or employee of OOG.

#### 1.18 Force Majeure

Neither the grantee nor OOG shall be required to perform any obligation under this Grant Agreement or be liable or responsible for any loss or damage resulting from its failure to perform so long as performance is delayed by force majeure or acts of God, including but not limited to strikes, lockouts or labor shortages, embargo, riot, war, revolution, terrorism, rebellion, insurrection, flood, natural disaster, or interruption of utilities from external causes. Each Party must inform the other in writing, with proof of receipt, within three (3) business days of the existence of such force majeure, or otherwise waive this right as a defense.

#### 1.19 Debt to State

The grantee agrees, to the extent grantee owes any debt (child support or other obligation) or delinquent taxes to the State of Texas, any payments grantee is owed under this Grant Agreement may be applied by the Comptroller of Public Accounts toward any such debt or delinquent taxes until such debt or delinquent taxes are paid in full.

#### 1.20 Grantee an Independent Contractor

The grantee expressly agrees that it is an independent contractor and under no circumstances shall any owner, incorporator, officer, director, employee, or volunteer of grantee be considered an employee, agent, servant, joint venturer, joint enterpriser or partner of OOG or the State of Texas. The grantee is not a "governmental body" solely by virtue of this Grant Agreement or receipt of grant funds under this Grant Agreement. All persons furnished, used, retained, or hired by or on behalf of the grantee or any of the grantee's contractors shall be considered to be solely the employees or agents of the grantee or the grantee's contractors. The grantee or grantee's contractors shall be responsible for ensuring that any and all appropriate payments are made, such as unemployment, workers compensation, social security, any benefit available to a state employee as a state employee, and other payroll taxes for such persons, including any related assessments or contributions required by law. The grantee agrees to take such steps as may be necessary to ensure that each contractor of the grantee will be deemed to be an independent contractor and will not be considered or permitted to be an agent, servant, joint venturer, joint enterpriser or partner of OOG or the State of Texas. The grantee is responsible for all types of claims whatsoever due to actions or performance under this Grant Agreement, including, but not limited to, the use of automobiles or other transportation, taken by its owners, incorporators, officers, directors, employees, volunteers or any third parties.

#### 1.21 No Assignment of Rights or Obligations

The grantee may not assign this Grant Agreement or any of its rights or obligations under this Grant Agreement to any third party or entity. Any attempted assignment without OOG's prior written consent is void and may result in the termination of this Grant Agreement.

#### 1.22 Funds Are for Sole Benefit of Grantee

It is expressly agreed that any solicitation for or receipt of funds of any type by the grantee is for the sole benefit of the grantee and is not a solicitation for or receipt of funds on behalf of OOG or the Governor of the State of Texas.

#### 1.23 Permission for Use of OOG Name and Labeling

Other than the required statements listed in this document, grantee shall not use OOG's name or refer to OOG directly or indirectly in any media release, public service announcement, or public service disclosure relating to this Grant Agreement or any acquisition pursuant hereto, including in any promotional or marketing materials, without first obtaining written consent from OOG. This Section is not intended to and does not limit the grantee's ability to comply with its obligations and duties under the Texas Open Meetings Act and/or the Texas Public Information Act. This Section is not intended to and does not limit OOG's duties and obligations to report this Grant Agreement, any grant payments made under this Grant Agreement, any contract compliance or performance information or other state or federal reporting requirements applicable to OOG.

#### 1.24 Acknowledgement of Funding and Disclaimer

All publications, including websites, produced in full or in part with grant funds awarded by OOG must include an acknowledgement of the funding and a disclaimer of non-endorsement by the funding agency. In general, no publication may convey OOG's or any federal funding agency's (i.e. DOJ or FEMA) official recognition or endorsement of the recipient's project simply based on having received funding. For websites, the acknowledgement should be present somewhere on all major entry pages. Acknowledgement language for grants made through state fund sources is below and language for grants made through specific federal fund sources is included within the fund specific conditions memo.

For any state grant program: "This [website/report/study/project/etc.] is funded [insert "in part", if applicable] through a grant from the Public Safety Office of the Texas Office of the Governor. Neither the Office of the Governor nor any of its components operate, control, are responsible for, or necessarily endorse, this website (including, without limitation, its content, technical infrastructure, and policies, and any services or tools provided)."

#### 1.25 Royalty-Free License

Pursuant to 2 CFR 200.315(b), the grantee may copyright any work that is subject to copyright and was developed, or for which ownership was acquired, under this award. OOG (and the federal funding agency, if the work is funded with a federal grant) reserves a royalty-free, non-exclusive, and irrevocable license to reproduce, publish, or otherwise use, and authorize others to use (in whole or in part, including in connection with derivative works), for state (or Federal) purposes:

- A. Any work subject to copyright developed under an award or subaward; and
- B. Any rights of copyright to which a grantee or subgrantee or subcontractor purchases ownership with state (or Federal) support.

The recipient acknowledges that OOG (and the federal funding agency) have the right to:

- A. Obtain, reproduce, publish, or otherwise use the data first produced under an award or subaward; and
- B. Authorize others to receive, reproduce, publish or otherwise use such data for state (or federal) purposes. "Data" includes data as defined in Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR) provision 52.227-14 (Rights in Data-general).

It is the responsibility of the grantee (and of each subgrantee or subcontractor if applicable) to ensure that this condition is included in any subaward under this award. The grantee has the responsibility to obtain from subgrantees, contractors, and subcontractors (if any) all rights and data necessary to fulfill the recipient's obligations to the Government under this award. If a proposed subgrantee contractor, or subcontractor refuses to accept terms affording the Government such rights, the grantee shall promptly bring such refusal to the attention of the OOG program manager for the award and not proceed with the agreement in question without further authorization from OOG.

#### 1.26 Project Period

The performance period for this Grant is listed on the Statement of Grant Award. All goods must be obligated and all services must be received within the performance period. OOG will not be obligated to reimburse expenses incurred after the performance period.

#### 1.27 Project Commencement

The grantee must take reasonable steps to commence project activities upon receiving notice of a grant award. If a project is not operational within 90 days of the original start date of the award period or grant award date as noted on this memorandum, whichever is later, the grantee must submit a statement to OOG explaining the implementation delay. Upon receipt of the 90-day letter, OOG may cancel the project and redistribute the funds to other project areas. OOG may also, where extenuating circumstances warrant, extend the implementation date of the project past the 90-day period.

#### 1.28 Project Close Out

OOG will close-out the grant award when it determines that all applicable administrative actions and all required work of the Grant have been completed by the grantee.

The grantee must submit all financial, performance, and other reports as required by the terms and conditions of the grant award. Submission of the final Financial Status Report will initiate grant close out with OOG.

The grantee must promptly refund any balances of unobligated cash that OOG paid in advance or paid and that are not authorized to be retained by the grantee for use in other projects.

#### 1.29 Federal Program Laws, Rules, and Guidelines

The grantee must comply with applicable provisions of federal and state law and regulations, terms and conditions applicable to the federal awards providing funding for the grant award, and any applicable program guidelines, which may include:

A. The Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 (as amended - 42 U.S.C 3711 et seq.);

- B. Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) program guidelines, including the VOCA Final Rule effective August 8, 2016 and included in 28 CFR 94;
- C. Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) relevant statutory and regulatory requirements, including the Violence Against Women Act of 1994 (P.L., 103-322), the Violence Against Women Act of 2000 (P.L. 106-386), the Violence Against Women and Department of Justice Reauthorization Act of 2005 (P.L. 109-162), the Violence Against Women Reauthorization Act of 2013 (P.L. 113- 4), the Office on Violence Against Women's (OVW) implementing regulations at 28 CFR Part 90, OVW's general terms and conditions available at <a href="http://www.justice.gov/ovw/grantees">http://www.justice.gov/ovw/grantees</a> (these do not supersede any specific conditions in the grant agreement), and the financial and administrative requirements set forth in the current edition of the Office on Violence Against Women (OVW) Financial Grants Management Guide;
- D. The provisions of the current edition of the Department of Justice Grants Financial Guide;
- E. If the grantee uses grant funds to undertake research involving human subjects, the grantee may be subject to Department of Justice (DOJ) Office of Justice (OJP) policies and requirements adopted by OOG related to human subjects found in 28 CFR Part 46;
- F. Section 2002 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002, as amended (P.L. 107-296) (6 U.S.C. § 603);
- G. If grantee receives a grant award in excess of \$150,000, it will comply with all applicable standards, orders or regulations issued pursuant to the Clean Air Act (42 U.S.C. § 7401-7671q) and the Federal Water Pollution Control Act as amended (33 U.S.C. § 1251-1387). Violations must be reported to the Federal awarding agency and the Regional Office of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). Any subgrants or contracts made by the grantee in excess of \$150,000 must contain this provision.
- H. All other applicable Federal laws, orders, circulars, or regulations.

### 1.30 Applicability of Part 200 Uniform Requirements for Federally Funded Awards

The Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements in 2 CFR Part 200 apply to any grants funded through an award from a Federal agency.

#### 1.31 Required State Assurances

The grantee must comply with the applicable State Assurances included within TxGMS, which are incorporated here by reference in the award terms and conditions.

# 2 Organizational Eligibility

#### 2.1 Good Standing for Eligible Grantees

- A. The grantee is in good standing under the laws of the State in which it was formed or organized, and has provided OOG with any requested or required documentation to support this certification.
- B. The grantee agrees to remain in good standing with any state or federal governmental bodies related to the grantee's right to conduct its business in Texas, including but not limited to the Texas Secretary of State and the Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts, as applicable.

- C. The grantee owes no delinquent taxes to any taxing unit of this State as of the effective date of this Grant Agreement.
- D. The grantee is non-delinquent in its repayment of any Federal debt. Examples of relevant debt include delinquent payroll and other taxes, audit disallowances, and benefit overpayments. See OMB Circular A-129 for additional information and guidance.
- E. The grantee has or will obtain all licenses, certifications, permits, and authorizations necessary to perform its obligations under this Grant Agreement, without costs to OOG.
- F. The grantee is currently in good standing with all licensing, permitting or regulatory bodies that regulate any or all aspects of grantee's business or operations.
- G. The grantee agrees to comply with all applicable licenses, legal certifications, inspections, and any other applicable local ordinance or state or federal laws.
- H. The grantee shall comply with any applicable federal, state, county, local and municipal laws, ordinances, resolutions, codes, decisions, orders, rules, and regulations, in connection with its obligations under this Grant Agreement.
- I. The grantee does not have any existing claims against or unresolved audit exceptions with the State of Texas or any agency of the State of Texas.

#### 2.2 System for Award Management (SAM) Requirements

- A. The grantee agrees to comply with applicable requirements regarding registration with the System for Award Management (SAM) (or with a successor government-wide system officially designated by OMB and, if applicable, the federal funding agency). These requirements include maintaining current registrations and the currency of the information in SAM. The grantee will review and update information at least annually until submission of the final financial report required under the award or receipt of final payment, whichever is later, as required by 2 CFR Part 25.
- B. Applicable to this Grant Agreement is the President's Executive Order (EO) 13224, Executive Order on Terrorist Financing Blocking Property and Prohibiting Transactions With Persons Who Commit, Threaten to Commit, or Support Terrorism, effective September 24, 2001, and any subsequent changes made to it via cross-referencing respondents/vendors with the Federal General Services Administration's System for Award Management (SAM), <a href="https://www.sam.gov">https://www.sam.gov</a>, which is inclusive of the United States Treasury's Office of Foreign Assets Control (OFAC) Specially Designated National (SDN) list.
- C. The grantee will comply with Executive Orders 12549 and 12689 that requires "a contract award (see 2 CFR 180.220) must not be made to parties listed on the government-wide exclusions in the System for Award Management (SAM)", in accordance with the OMB guidelines at 2 CFR 180 that implement Executive Orders 12549 (3 CFR part 1986 Comp., p. 189) and 12689 (3 CFR part 1989 Comp., p. 235), "Debarment and Suspension." SAM Exclusions contains the names of parties debarred, suspended, or otherwise excluded by agencies, as well as parties declared ineligible under statutory or regulatory authority. The grantee certifies it will verify each vendor's status to ensure the vendor is not debarred, suspended, otherwise excluded or declared ineligible by checking the SAM before doing/renewing business with that vendor.
- D. The grantee certifies that it and its principals are eligible to participate in this Grant Agreement and have not been subjected to suspension, debarment, or similar ineligibility determined by any federal, state or local governmental entity and the grantee is in compliance with the State of Texas

statutes and rules relating to procurement and that the grantee is not listed on the federal government's terrorism watch list as described in Executive Order 13224.

#### 2.3 Criminal History Reporting

Counties or other governmental entities required to maintain and report criminal history records per the Texas Code of Criminal Procedure, Ch. 60, must maintain compliance with that statute and Governor's Executive Order GA-07, Order 8, in order to obtain or maintain eligibility for OOG grant funds.

### 2.4 Uniform Crime Reporting

Local units of governments operating a law enforcement agency must be current on reporting complete UCR data and the Texas specific reporting mandated by 411.042 TGC, to the Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS) for inclusion in the annual Crime in Texas (CIT) publication. To maintain eligibility for funding, grantees must have submitted a full twelve months of accurate data to DPS for the most recent calendar year by the deadline(s) established by DPS. Due to the importance of timely reporting, grantees are required to submit complete and accurate UCR data, as well as the Texas-mandated reporting, on a no less than monthly basis and respond promptly to requests from DPS related to the data submitted.

#### 2.5 Immigration Related Matters

Local units of government, including cities, counties and other general purpose political subdivisions, as appropriate, and institutions of higher education that operate a law enforcement agency, must comply with all aspects of the programs and procedures utilized by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security ("DHS") to: (1) notify DHS of all information requested by DHS related to illegal aliens in Agency's custody; and (2) detain such illegal aliens in accordance with requests by DHS. Additionally, counties and municipalities may NOT have in effect, purport to have in effect, or make themselves subject to or bound by, any law, rule, policy, or practice (written or unwritten) that would: (1) require or authorize the public disclosure of federal law enforcement information in order to conceal, harbor, or shield from detection fugitives from justice or aliens illegally in the United States; or (2) impede federal officers from exercising authority under 8 U.S.C. § 1226(a), § 1226(c), § 1231(a), § 1357(a), § 1366(1), or § 1366(3).

Local units of government, including cities, counties and other general purpose political subdivisions, as appropriate, and institutions of higher education that operate a law enforcement agency, must comply with all provisions, policies, and penalties found in Chapter 752, Subchapter C of the Texas Government Code which prohibits local entity or campus police departments from: (1) adopting, enforcing, or endorsing a policy under which the entity or department prohibits or materially limits the enforcement of immigration laws; (2) as demonstrated by pattern or practice, prohibiting or materially limiting the enforcement of immigration laws; or (3) for an entity that is a law enforcement agency or for a department, as demonstrated by pattern or practice, intentionally violate Article 2.251, Code of Criminal Procedure.

#### 2.6 E-Verify

- A. The grantee shall comply with the requirements of the Immigration Reform and Control Acts of 1986 and 1990 ("IRCA") regarding employment verification and retention of verification forms for any individuals hired on or after November 6, 1986, who will perform any labor or services in the United States of America under this Grant Agreement, if any, and the Illegal Immigration Reform and Immigrant Responsibility Act of 1996 ("IIRIRA") enacted on September 30, 1996.
- B. The grantee certifies and ensures that it utilizes and will continue to utilize, for the term of this Grant Agreement, the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's E-Verify system to determine the eligibility of:
  - 1. All persons employed to perform duties within Texas, during the term of the Grant; and
  - 2. All persons employed or assigned by the grantee to perform work pursuant to the Grant Agreement, within the United States of America.

If this certification is falsely made, the Grant Agreement may be terminated.

C. If applicable, grantee will comply with Executive Order RP-80 regarding the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's E-Verify system.

#### 2.7 Deceptive Trade Practices Violations

The grantee represents and warrants that it has not been the subject of allegations of Deceptive Trade Practices violations under Chapter 17 of the Texas Business and Commerce Code, or allegations of any unfair business practice in any administrative hearing or court suit and that the grantee has not been found to be liable for such practices in such proceedings. The grantee certifies that it has no officers who have served as officers of other entities who have been the subject of allegations of Deceptive Trade Practices violations or allegations of any unfair business practices in an administrative hearing or court suit, and that such officers have not been found to be liable for such practices in such proceedings. The grantee shall notify OOG in writing within five (5) calendar days if grantee or any of its officers are subject to allegations of Deceptive Trade Practices or are the subject of alleged violations of any unfair business practices in an administrative hearing or court suit, and that the grantee or officers have been found to be liable for such practices in such proceedings.

#### 2.8 Hurricane Contract Violations

Texas law prohibits OOG from awarding a contract to any person who, in the past five years, has been convicted of violating a federal law or assessed a penalty in connection with a contract involving relief for Hurricane Rita, Hurricane Katrina, Hurricane Harvey, or any other disaster, as defined by section 418.004 of the Texas Government Code, occurring after September 24, 2005. Under section 2155.006 and 2261.053 of the Texas Government Code, the grantee certifies that the entity named in this Grant Agreement is not ineligible from entering into this Grant Agreement and acknowledges that this Grant Agreement may be terminated and payment withheld or return of grant funds required if this certification is inaccurate or false.

#### 2.9 Terminated Contracts

The grantee has not had a contract terminated or been denied the renewal of any contract for non-

compliance with policies or regulations of any state or federally funded program within the past five (5) years nor is it currently prohibited from contracting with a governmental agency. If the grantee does have such a terminated contract, the grantee shall identify the contract and provide an explanation for the termination. The grantee acknowledges that this Grant Agreement may be terminated and payment withheld or return of grant funds required if this certification is inaccurate or false.

#### 2.10 Special Requirements for Units of Local Government

Grant funds may not be expended by a unit of local government unless the following limitations and reporting requirements are satisfied:

- A. Texas General Appropriations Act, Art. IX, Parts 2, 3, and 5, except there is no requirement for increased salaries for local government employees;
- B. Texas Government Code Sections 556.004, 556.005, and 556.006, which prohibits using any money or vehicle to support the candidacy of any person for office, influencing positively or negatively the payment, loan, or gift to a person or political organization for a political purpose, and using grant funds to influence the passage or defeat of legislation including not assisting with the funding of a lobbyist, or using grant funds to pay dues to an organization with a registered lobbyist;
- C. Texas Government Code, Sections 2113.012 and 2113.101, which prohibits using grant funds to compensate any employee who uses alcoholic beverages on active duty and grantee may not use grant funds to purchase an alcoholic beverage and may not pay or reimburse any travel expense for an alcoholic beverage;

#### 2.11 Special Requirements for Non-Profit Grantees

Each non-profit corporation receiving funds from OOG must obtain and have on file a blanket fidelity bond that indemnifies OOG against the loss or theft of the entire amount of grant funds, including matching funds. The fidelity bond should cover at least the OOG grant period.

By accepting funds under this award, any non-profit grantee certifies and affirmatively asserts that it is a non-profit organization and that it keeps on file, and is available upon audit, either:

- A. A copy of the recipient's 501(c)(3) designation letter;
- B. A letter from the State of Texas stating that the recipient is a non-profit organization operating within Texas; or
- C. A copy of the grantee's Texas certificate of incorporation that substantiates its non-profitstatus.

Grantees that are local non-profit affiliates of state or national non-profits should have available proof of (1), (2), or (3), and a statement by the state or national parent organization that the recipient is a local non-profit affiliate.

Non-profit recipients of Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) funding that are not a 501(c)(3) organization finally certified by the Internal Revenue Service must make their financial statements available online.

Church, mosque, and synagogue recipients of Nonprofit Security Grant Program funding are not required to apply for and receive a recognition of exemption under section 501(c)(3). Such organizations are automatically exempt if they meet the requirements of section 501(c)(3).

# 2.12 Special Requirements for Facilities or Entities that Collect Sexual Assault/Sex Offense Evidence or Investigates/Prosecutes Sexual Assault or other Sex Offenses

Texas Government Code, Section 420.034, requires any facility or entity that collects evidence for sexual assault or other sex offenses or investigates or prosecutes a sexual assault or other sex offense for which evidence has been collected, to participate in a statewide electronic tracking system developed and implemented by the Texas Department of Public Safety. Failure to comply with the requirements of Chapter 420, Subchapter B or Subchapter B-1, of the Texas Government Code may be used to determine ongoing eligibility for receiving OOG grant funds.

#### 2.13 Firearm Suppressor Regulation

Texas Government Code, Section 2.103, prohibits state agencies, municipalities, counties, special districts or authorities, as defined in Section 2.101 of the Texas Government Code, from receiving state grant funds if the entity adopts a rule, order, ordinance, or policy that enforces or allows the enforcement of a federal law that purports to regulate a firearm suppressor if the federal statute, order, rule or regulation imposes a prohibition, restriction, or other regulation that does not exist under the laws of the State of Texas.

#### 2.14 Enforcement of Public Camping Bans

Local Government Code, Section 364.004, prohibits municipalities or counties, as defined in Section 364.001 of the Local Government Code, from receiving state grant funds if a judicial determination is made that the local entity adopts or enforces a policy, as described in Section 364.002 of the Local Government Code, that prohibits or discourages the entity from the enforcement of any public camping ban. The Comptroller of Public Accounts has adopted rules at Title 34, Part 1, Rule §20.600 applicable to implementation of Local Government Code, Section 364.004 requiring that in the event that a local entity receiving state grant funds is sued by the Attorney General under Local Government Code, Section 364.003 or such a case reaches a final judicial determination, the local entity must immediately disclose the lawsuit or judicial determination to all state agencies that oversee programs from which the entity currently receives state grant funds.

# 2.15 Prohibition on Agreements with Certain Foreign-Owned Companies in Connection with Critical Infrastructure

Texas Government Code, Chapter 113 and Section 2274.0102, prohibits an entity or company from entering into an agreement with a company or entity that is headquartered in, owned by, or the majority of stock is held or controlled by China, Iran, North Korea, Russia or a country designated by the governor as a threat to critical infrastructure, as defined in Section 113.001 or Section 2274.0101 of the Texas Government Code, if the agreement is related to and grants access to or control of critical infrastructure in the State of Texas.

# 3 Civil Rights

#### 3.1 Compliance with Civil Rights and Nondiscrimination Requirements

- A. The grantee will comply with all State and Federal statutes relating to civil rights and nondiscrimination and ensure, in accordance with federal civil rights laws, that the grantee shall not retaliate against individuals for taking action or participating in action to secure rights protected by these laws.
- B. The grantee will comply, and all its contractors and subgrantees will comply, with all federal statutes and rules relating to civil rights and nondiscrimination. These include but are not limited to:
  - 1. Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (P.L. 88-352) which prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color or national origin;
  - 2. Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, as amended (20 USC §§ 1681-1683, and 1685-1686), which prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex;
  - Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended (29 USC § 794), which prohibits discrimination on the basis of handicaps and the Americans With Disabilities Act of 1990 (42 USC § 12131-34);
  - 4. The Age Discrimination Act of 1975, as amended (42 USC §§ 6101-6107), which prohibits discrimination on the basis of age;
  - 5. The Drug Abuse Office and Treatment Act of 1972 (P.L. 92-255), as amended, relating to nondiscrimination on the basis of drug abuse;
  - 6. The Comprehensive Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism Prevention, Treatment and Rehabilitation Act of 1970 (P.L. 91-616), as amended, relating to the nondiscrimination on the basis of alcohol abuse or alcoholism;
  - 7. Sections §§ 523 and 527 of the Public Health Service Act of 1912 (42 USC 290 dd-3 and 290 ee-3), as amended, relating to confidentiality of alcohol and drug abuse patientrecords;
  - 8. Title VIII of the Civil Rights Act of 1968 (42 USC § 3601 et seq.), as amended, relating to nondiscrimination in the sale, rental or financing of housing;
  - 9. Title I, II, and III of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, which prohibits discrimination against individuals with disabilities;
  - 10. Any other nondiscrimination provisions in the specific statute(s) or the state or federal solicitation or funding announcement under which application for grant funds is being made, including but not limited to:
    - Section 809(c) of Title I of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 (codified at 34 U.S.C. 10228(c); see also 34 U.S.C. 11182(b)),
    - ii. Section 1407(e) of the Victims of Crime Act of 1984 (codified at 34 U.S.C. 20110(e))
    - iii. **Section 40002(b)(13) of the Violence Against Women Act of 1994** (codified at 34 U.S.C. 12291(b)(13))
- C. A nondiscrimination provision that deals with discrimination in employment on the basis of religion is read *together* with the pertinent provisions of the Religious Freedom Restoration Act of 1993. As a result, even if an otherwise-applicable nondiscrimination provision states that a recipient or subrecipient may not discriminate in employment based on religion, an OJP recipient or subrecipient

that is a faith-based organization *may* consider religion in hiring, *provided* it satisfies particular requirements. Additional information on those requirements can be found at <a href="https://ojp.gov/funding/Explore/LegalOverview/CivilRightsRequirements.htm#4">https://ojp.gov/funding/Explore/LegalOverview/CivilRightsRequirements.htm#4</a>.

- D. Collectively, these federal laws prohibit a grantee from discriminating either in employment (subject to the exemption for certain faith-based organizations discussed in C. above) or in the delivery of services or benefits on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, or disability.
- E. In the event any federal or state court or federal or state administrative agency makes a finding of discrimination after a due process hearing on the grounds of race, color, religion, national origin (including limited English proficiency), or sex against the grantee, or the grantee settles a case or matter alleging such discrimination, the grantee must forward a copy of the complaint and findings to OOG and, as applicable, the Office of Justice Programs Office for Civil Rights (OCR), or the DHS awarding office and the DHS Office of Civil Rights and Civil Liberties.
- F. All recipients of Department of Justice Grants must review the Information on Civil Rights for grantees posted on the eGrants website. More information on Civil Rights and Nondiscrimination requirements for grantees receiving funding originating from the Department of Justice can be found at <a href="https://ojp.gov/about/ocr/statutes.htm">https://ojp.gov/about/ocr/statutes.htm</a>.

#### 3.2 Limited English Proficiency

The grantee will comply with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, which prohibits grantees from discriminating on the basis of national origin in the delivery of services or benefits, entails taking reasonable steps to ensure that persons with limited English proficiency (LEP) have meaningful access to funded programs or activities. An LEP person is one whose first language is not English and who has a limited ability to read, write, speak, or understand English. Meaningful access may entail providing language assistance services, including oral interpretation and written translation, where necessary. In order to facilitate compliance with Title VI, grantees are encouraged to consider the need for language services for LEP persons served or encountered in developing program budgets. More information can be found at http://www.LEP.gov.

#### 3.3 Equal Employment Opportunity Plan

**All recipients of Department of Justice grants** must submit the Equal Employment Opportunity Plan (EEOP) certification information to the Office of Civil Rights, Office of Justice Programs through their on-line <u>EEOP Reporting Tool</u>. For more information and guidance on how to complete and submit the federal EEOP certification information, please visit the US Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs website at <a href="https://ojp.gov/about/ocr/eeop.htm">https://ojp.gov/about/ocr/eeop.htm</a>.

The grantee acknowledges that failure to submit an acceptable EEOP (if recipient is required to submit one), that is approved by the Office for Civil Rights, is a violation of the Grant Agreement and may result in suspension or termination of funding, until such time as the recipient is in compliance.

#### 4 Personnel

#### 4.1 Overtime

Overtime is allowable to the extent that it is included in the OOG-approved budget, the grantee agency has an overtime policy approved by its governing body, and both grant-funded and non-grant funded personnel are treated the same with regards to the application of overtime policy(ies). In addition, in no case is dual compensation allowable. That is, an employee of a grantee agency may not receive compensation for hours worked (including paid leave) from his/her agency AND from an award for a single period of time, even though such work may benefit both activities. Overtime payments issued outside of these guidelines are the responsibility of the grantee agency.

#### 4.2 Notification of Grant-Contingent Employees

Staff whose salaries are supported by this award must be made aware that continued funding is contingent upon the availability of appropriated funds as well as the outcome of the annual application review conducted by OOG.

#### 5 Travel

#### 5.1 Travel Policies

The grantee must follow their established policies and good fiscal stewardship related to travel expenses. If the grantee does not have established written policies regarding in-state and out-of-state travel, grantee must use the travel guidelines established for state employees.

#### 6 Contracts and Procurement

#### 6.1 Procurement Practices and Policies

The grantee must follow applicable Federal and State law, Federal procurement standards specified in regulations governing Federal awards to non-Federal entities, their established policy, and best practices for procuring goods or services with grant funds. Contracts must be routinely monitored for delivery of services or goods.

- A. Procurement (contract) transactions should be competitively awarded unless circumstances preclude competition.
- B. When any contractual or equipment procurement is anticipated to be in excess of Simplified Acquisition Threshold, grantees must submit a Procurement Questionnaire <a href="https://eGrants.gov.texas.gov/updates.aspx">https://eGrants.gov.texas.gov/updates.aspx</a> to OOG for approval prior to procurement. Grantees must ensure these contracts address administrative, contractual, or legal remedies in instance where contractors violate or breach contract terms and provide for such sanctions and penalties as appropriate.
- C. When contractual or equipment procurement is anticipated to be in excess of \$10,000, grantees must address termination for cause and for convenience by the grantee including the manner by which it will be affected and the basis for settlement.

#### 6.2 Subcontracting

The grantee may not subcontract any of its rights or duties under this Grant Agreement without the prior written approval of OOG. It is within OOG's sole discretion to approve any subcontracting. In the event OOG approves subcontracting by the grantee, the grantee will ensure that its contracts with others shall require compliance with the provisions of this Grant Agreement to the extent compliance is needed to support the grantee's compliance with this Grant Agreement. The grantee, in subcontracting for any performances specified herein, expressly understands and agrees that it is not relieved of its responsibilities for ensuring that all performance is in compliance with this Grant Agreement and that OOG shall not be liable in any manner to any grantee subcontractor.

#### 6.3 Buy Texas

If applicable with respect to any services purchased pursuant to this Grant Agreement, the grantee will buy Texas products and materials for use in providing the services authorized herein when such products and materials are available at a comparable price and within a comparable period of time when compared to non-Texas products and materials.

#### 6.4 Contract Provisions Under Federal Awards

All contracts made by a grantee under a federal award must contain the provisions outlined in 2 CFR 200 Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards, Appendix II to Part 200 Contract Provisions for Non-Federal Entity Contracts Under Federal Awards.

## 7 Equipment Requirements

#### 7.1 Property Management and Inventory

The grantee must ensure equipment purchased with grant funds is used for the purpose of the Grant and as approved by OOG. The grantee must develop and implement a control system to prevent loss, damage or theft of property and investigate and document any loss, damage or theft of property funded under this Grant.

The grantee must account for any real and personal property acquired with grant funds or received from the Federal Government in accordance with 2 CFR 200.310 Insurance coverage through 200.316 Property trust relationship and 200.329 Reporting on real property. This documentation must be maintained by the grantee, according to the requirements listed herein, and provided to OOG upon request, if applicable.

When original or replacement equipment acquired under this award by the grantee is no longer needed for the original project or program or for other activities currently or previously supported by the federal awarding agency or OOG, the grantee must make proper disposition of the equipment pursuant to 2 CFR 200 or TxGMS, as applicable.

The grantee shall not give any security interest, lien or otherwise encumber any item of equipment purchased with grant funds.

The grantee will maintain specified equipment management and inventory procedures for equipment (including replacement equipment), whether acquired in whole or in part with grant funds, until disposition takes place, with a per-unit cost of \$5,000 or greater, any firearms, any items on the Prohibited or Controlled Expenditures list, and the following equipment with costs between \$500 and \$4,999: sound systems and other audio equipment, still and video cameras, TVs, video players/recorders, desktop computers, laptop computers, data projectors, smartphones, tablets, other hand held devices, mobile/portable radios, and unmanned aerial vehicle (UAV) drones. (See Texas Government Code, Sec. 403.271(b) for further information. Users of these standards should contact the Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts' property accounting staff or review the Comptroller's State Property Accounting Process User's Guide, Appendix A, available on the internet, for the most current listing.) The equipment and inventory procedures include:

- A. The grantee must keep an inventory report on file containing equipment purchased with any grant funds during the grant period. The inventory report must agree with the approved grant budget and the final Financial Status Report and shall be available to OOG at all times upon request.
- B. At least every two (2) years, grantee must take a physical inventory and reconcile the results with property records.
- C. The grantee must maintain property/inventory records which, at minimum, include a description of the property, a serial number or other identification number, the source of property, who holds title, the acquisition date, the cost of the property, the percentage of Federal participation in the cost of the property, the location, use and condition of the property, and any ultimate disposition data including the date of disposal and sale price of the property.
- D. The grantee shall permanently identify all such equipment by appropriate tags or labels affixed to the equipment.

Upon termination of this Grant Agreement, title, use, and disposal of equipment by the grantee shall be in conformity with TxGMS; however, as between OOG and the grantee title for equipment will remain with the grantee, unless TxGMS requires otherwise.

#### 7.2 Maintenance and Repair

The grantee will maintain, repair, and protect all equipment purchased in whole or in part with grant funds so as to ensure the full availability and usefulness of such equipment. In the event the grantee is indemnified, reimbursed, or otherwise compensated for any loss of, destruction of, or damage to the equipment purchased under this Grant Agreement, the grantee shall use the proceeds to repair or replace said equipment.

#### 7.3 Automated License Plate Readers

Any grantee requesting funds for Automated License Plate Readers (ALPR) must have a written policy regarding use of the ALPR and related data retention. Subrecipients also must enter into a User Agreement with the Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS), Crime Records Division to gain access to the Texas Automated License Plate Reader (LPR) Database so that data may be shared among all participating local, state, and federal agencies. DPS Crime Records Division will provide written

certification of your jurisdiction's participation upon request. Grantees must provide OOG with a copy of the certification received from DPS Crime Records Division.

# 8 Information Technology

#### 8.1 Accessibility Requirements

If applicable, the grantee will comply with the State of Texas Accessibility requirements for Electronic and Information Resources specified in Title 1, Chapter 213 of the Texas Administrative Code when such products are available in the commercial marketplace or when such products are developed in response to a procurement solicitation. Likewise, if applicable, the grantee shall provide the Texas Department of Information Resources (DIR) with the URL to its Voluntary Product Accessibility Template (VPAT) for reviewing compliance with the State of Texas Accessibility requirements (based on the federal standards established under Section 508 of the Rehabilitation Act), or indicate that the product/service accessibility information is available from the General Services Administration "Buy Accessible Wizard" (http://www.buyaccessible.gov). A company not listed with the "Buy Accessible Wizard" or supplying a URL to their VPAT must provide DIR with a report that addresses the same accessibility criteria in substantively the same format. Additional information regarding the "Buy Accessible Wizard" or obtaining a copy of the VPAT is located at http://www.section508.gov.

#### 8.2 Criminal Intelligence System Operating Procedures

Any information technology system funded or supported by these funds must comply with 28 CFR Part 23, Criminal Intelligence Systems Operating Policies. Any grant-funded individual responsible for entering information into or retrieving information from an intelligence database must complete continuing education training on operating principles described by 28 CFR Part 23 at least once for each continuous two-year period that the person has responsibility for entering data into or retrieving data from an intelligence database.

# 8.3 Blocking Pornographic Material

The recipient understands and agrees that - (a) No award funds may be used to maintain or establish a computer network unless such network blocks the viewing, downloading, and exchanging of pornography, and (b) Nothing in subsection (a) limits the use of funds necessary for any Federal, State, tribal, or local law enforcement agency or any other entity carrying out criminal investigations, prosecution, or adjudication activities.

#### 8.4 Cybersecurity Training

Local units of governments must comply with the Cybersecurity Training requirements described in Section 772.012 and Section 2054.5191 of the Texas Government Code. Local governments determined to not be in compliance with the cybersecurity requirements required by Section 2054.5191 of the Texas Government Code are ineligible for OOG grant funds until the second anniversary of the date the local government is determined ineligible.

#### 9 Indirect Costs

#### 9.1 Approved Indirect Cost Rate

If indirect costs are allowable under an award, the Indirect Cost Budget Category will be available on the Budget tab. Grantees choosing to apply indirect costs to the award (except for those choosing to use a de minimis rate as described in 2 CFR § 200.414(f)) must have an approved indirect cost rate agreement with their cognizant agency (see 2 CFR § 200 Appendix III-VII for assigned cognizant agencies). A copy of the approval letter from the cognizant agency must be uploaded to the grant application for the grantee to be eligible for the indirect cost rate for the associated award.

The indirect cost rate cited in the budget denotes the approved indirect rate at the time the grant was awarded. It is the grantee's responsibility to ensure the appropriate indirect rate is charged throughout the term of the grant award even if the approved indirect rate expires or changes during the grant period. Indirect costs are subject to monitoring and the grantee must be able to produce evidence of an approved indirect cost rate upon request.

#### 9.2 De Minimis Rate

In accordance with 2 CFR § 200.414(f) and TxGMS, grantees of federal or state funds that do not have a current negotiated (including provisional) rate may elect to charge a de minimis rate of 10% of modified total direct costs, which may be used indefinitely. A grantee that elects to use the de minimis indirect cost rate, must advise OOG in writing, in the grant application, before any such funds are obligated of its election, and must comply with all associated requirements in 2 CFR § 200.414(f) and TxGMS.

# 10 Audit and Records Requirements

# 10.1 Grantee Subject to Audits

The grantee understands and agrees that grantee is subject to relevant audit requirements present in state or federal law or regulation or by the terms of this award. For federally funded grants, audit requirements can be found in 2 CFR Part 200 or OMB Circular A-133. For state funded awards, audit requirements can be found in the TxGMS.

#### 10.2 Single Audit Requirements

Any grantee expending more than \$750,000 in state or \$750,000 in federal funds in a fiscal year is subject to Single Audit Requirements in 2 CFR, Part 200, Subpart F – Audit Requirements or the requirements in TxGMS.

The audit must be completed and the data collection and reporting package described in 2 CFR 200.512 must be submitted to the Federal Audit Clearinghouse (FAC) within 30 calendar days after receipt of the auditor's report(s), or nine months after the end of the audit period, whichever is earlier. A copy of the Single Audit Report Package or a notification email stating the date the Single Audit Report Package was uploaded to the Federal Audit Clearinghouse must be sent the Governor's Office of Compliance and Monitoring within nine months or less of the grantee's fiscal year end date. Documents must be emailed to OCM-FMU@gov.texas.gov

Grantees who are not required to have an audit for the grantee's fiscal year in which the state or federal awards were made or expended, shall complete and sign a *Single Audit Reporting Exemption Form* within nine months or less of their fiscal year end date. Exemption Forms are available by fiscal year end date on eGrants in the Updates section and Single Audit links. This form must be emailed to OCM-FMU@gov.texas.gov.

#### 10.3 Cooperation with Monitoring, Audits, and Records Requirements

- A. In addition to and without limitation on the other audit provisions of this Grant Agreement, pursuant to Section 2262.154 of the Texas Government Code, the State Auditor's Office or successor agency, may conduct an audit or investigation of the grantee or any other entity or person receiving funds from the State directly under this Grant Agreement or indirectly through a subcontract under this Grant Agreement. The acceptance of funds by the grantee or any other entity or person directly under this Grant Agreement or indirectly through a subcontract under this Grant Agreement acts as acceptance of the authority of the State Auditor's Office, under the direction of the Legislative Audit Committee, to conduct an audit or investigation in connection with those funds. Under the direction of the Legislative Audit Committee, the grantee or another entity that is the subject of an audit or investigation by the State Auditor's Office shall provide the State Auditor's Office with prompt access to any information the State Auditor's Office considers relevant to the investigation or audit. The grantee further agrees to cooperate fully with the State Auditor's Office in the conduct of the audit or investigation, including providing all records requested. The grantee shall ensure that this paragraph concerning the authority to audit funds received indirectly by subcontractors through the grantee and the requirement to cooperate is included in any subcontract it awards. The State Auditor's Office shall at any time have access to and the right to examine, audit, excerpt, and transcribe any pertinent books, documents, working papers, and records of the grantee related to this Grant Agreement. This Grant Agreement may be amended unilaterally by OOG to comply with any rules and procedures of the State Auditor's Office in the implementation and enforcement Section 2262.154 of the Texas Government Code.
- B. The grantee agrees to comply with the grant monitoring guidelines, protocols, and procedures established by OOG and any federal funding agency, and to cooperate with OOG and any relevant federal agency generally, including on any compliance review or complaint investigation conducted by the Federal sponsoring agency or OOG and on all grant monitoring requests, including requests related to desk reviews and/or sitevisits.
- C. The grantee shall maintain adequate records that enable OOG and any relevant federal agency to complete monitoring tasks, including to verify all reporting measures, requests for reimbursements, and expenditure of match funds related to this Grant Agreement. The grantee shall maintain such records as are deemed necessary by OOG, the State Auditor's Office, other auditors of the State of Texas, the federal government or such other persons or entities designated or authorized by OOG to ensure proper accounting for all costs and performances related to this Grant Agreement.
- D. OOG may request documented proof of payment. Acceptable proof of payment includes, but is not necessarily limited to, a receipt or other documentation of a paid invoice, a general ledger detailing the specific revenue and expenditures, a monthly bank statement evidencing payment of the specific expenditure, bank reconciliation detail, copies of processed checks, or a printed copy of an electronic payment confirmation evidencing payment of the specific expenditure to which the reimbursement relates.
- E. The grantee authorizes OOG, the State Auditor's Office, the Comptroller General, and any relevant

federal agency, and their representatives, the right to audit, examine, and copy all paper and electronic records, books, documents, accounting procedures, practices, and any other requested records, in any form; relevant to the grant, the operation and management of the grantee, and compliance with this grant agreement and applicable state or federal laws and regulations; and will make them readily available upon request. The grantee will similarly permit access to facilities, personnel, and other individuals and information as may be necessary.

- F. If requested, the grantee shall submit to OOG a copy of its most recent independent financial audit. If requested, the grantee shall submit to OOG any audited financial statements, related management letters and management responses of grantee, and financial audit documents or portions thereof that are directly related to the grantee's performance of its obligations under this Grant Agreement.
- G. OOG may make unannounced monitoring visits at any time but will, whenever practical as determined at the sole discretion of OOG, provide the grantee with up to five (5) business days advance notice of any such examination or audit. Any audit of records shall be conducted at the grantee's principal place of business and/or the location(s) of the grantee's operations during the grantee's normal business hours. The grantee shall provide to OOG or its designees, on the grantee's premises (or if the audit is being performed of a subcontractor, the subcontractor's premises if necessary) private space, office furnishings (including lockable cabinets), telephone services and Internet connectivity, utilities, and office-related equipment and duplicating services as OOG or its designees may reasonably require to perform the audits described in this Grant Agreement.
- H. In addition to the information contained in the required reports, other information may be required as requested by OOG, including OOG asking for more information regarding project performance or funds expenditures. In the event OOG requires additional information regarding the information or data submitted, the grantee will promptly provide the additional information. The grantee also agrees to assist OOG in responding to questions and assisting in providing information responsive to any audit, legislative request, or other inquiry regarding the grant award. Upon the request of OOG, the grantee must submit to OOG any additional documentation or explanation OOG may desire to support or document the requested payment or report submitted under this Grant Agreement.
- I. If after a written request by OOG or a relevant federal agency, the grantee fails to provide required reports, information, documentation, or other information within reasonable deadlines set by OOG or the relevant federal agency, as required by this Grant Agreement, or fails to fulfil any requirement in this section, then OOG may consider this act a possible default under this Grant Agreement, and the grantee may be subject to sanctions including but not limited to, withholdings and/or other restrictions on the recipient's access to grant funds; referral to relevant agencies for audit review; designation of the recipient as a high-risk grantee; or termination of awards.
- J. The grantee agrees to hold any subcontractors or subgrantees to the provisions of this section and to require and maintain the documentation necessary to complete monitoring tasks performed by any subcontractor or subgrantee. The grantee shall ensure that this section concerning the authority to audit funds received indirectly by subcontractors through grantee and the requirement to cooperate is included in any subcontract it awards related to this grant. The grantee will direct any other entity, person, or contractor receiving funds directly under this Grant Agreement or through a subcontract under this Grant Agreement to likewise permit access to, inspection of, and reproduction of all books, records, and other relevant information of the entity, person, or contractor that pertain to this Grant Agreement.

#### 10.4 Requirement to Address Audit Findings

If any audit, financial or programmatic monitoring, investigations, review of awards, or other compliance review reveals any discrepancies, inadequacies, or deficiencies which are necessary to correct in order to maintain compliance with this Grant Agreement, applicable laws, regulations, or the grantee's obligations hereunder, the grantee agrees to propose and submit to OOG a corrective action plan to correct such discrepancies or inadequacies within thirty (30) calendar days after the grantee's receipt of the findings. The grantee's corrective action plan is subject to the approval of OOG.

OOG, at its sole discretion, may impose remedies as part of a corrective action plan, including, but not limited to: increasing monitoring visits; requiring that additional or more detailed financial and/or programmatic reports be submitted; requiring prior approval for expenditures; requiring additional technical or management assistance and/or making modifications in business practices; reducing the grant award amount; and/or terminating this Grant Agreement. The foregoing are not exclusive remedies, and OOG may impose other requirements that OOG determines will be in the best interest of the State.

The grantee understands and agrees that the grantee must make every effort to address and resolve all outstanding issues, findings, or actions identified by OOG (and/or, in the case of federally funded grant, a relevant federal agency) through the corrective action plan or any other corrective plan. Failure to promptly and adequately address these findings may result in grant funds being withheld, other related requirements being imposed, or other sanctions and penalties. The grantee agrees to complete any corrective action approved by OOG within the time period specified by OOG and to the satisfaction of OOG, at the sole cost of the grantee. The grantee shall provide to OOG periodic status reports regarding the grantee's resolution of any audit, corrective action plan, or other compliance activity for which the grantee is responsible.

#### 10.5 Records Retention

- A. The grantee shall maintain appropriate audit trails to provide accountability for all expenditures of grant funds, reporting measures, and funds received from OOG under this Grant Agreement. Audit trails maintained by the grantee will, at a minimum, identify the supporting documentation prepared by the grantee to permit an audit of its accounting systems and payment verification with respect to the expenditure of any funds awarded under this Grant Agreement. The grantee's automated systems, if any, must provide the means whereby authorized personnel have the ability to audit and to verify performance and to establish individual accountability for any action that can potentially cause access to, generation of, or modification of payment information.
- B. The grantee must maintain fiscal records and supporting documentation for all expenditures resulting from this Grant Agreement pursuant to 2 CFR 200.333, TxGMS, and state law.
  - 1. The grantee must retain these records and any supporting documentation until the third anniversary of the later date of (1) the submission of the final expenditure report, or (2) the resolution of all issues that arose from any litigation, claim, negotiation, audit, or administrative review involving the grant.
  - 2. Records related to real property and equipment acquired with grant funds shall be retained for three (3) years after final disposition.
  - 3. For all training and exercises paid for by this Grant, grantee must complete, deliver to the

- appropriate source, and then retain copies of all after-action reports and certificates of training completion for the time period specified in this Section.
- 4. OOG or the Federal Funding Agency may direct a grantee to retain documents for longer periods of time or to transfer certain records to OOG or federal custody when OOG or the Federal Funding Agency determines that the records possess long term retention value.
- 5. The grantee must give the Federal Funding Agency, the Comptroller General of the United States, the Texas State Auditor's Office, OOG, or any of their duly authorized representatives, access to and the right to examine all books, accounts, records, reports, files, other papers, things or property belonging to or in use by grantee pertaining to this Grant including records concerning the past use of grant funds. Such rights to access shall continue as long as the records are maintained.

The grantee must include the substance of this Section in all subcontracts.

C. If the grantee collects personally identifiable information, it will have a publically-available privacy policy that describes what information it collects, how it uses the information, whether it shares the information with third parties, and how individuals may have their information corrected where appropriate. The grantee shall establish a method to secure the confidentiality of any records related to the grant program that are required to be kept confidential by applicable federal or state law or rules. This provision shall not be construed as limiting OOG's access to such records and other information under any provision of this Grant Agreement.

# 11 Prohibited and Regulated Activities and Expenditures

#### 11.1 Inherently Religious Activities

A grantee may not use grant funding to engage in inherently religious activities, such as proselytizing, scripture study, or worship. Grantees may, of course, engage in inherently religious activities; however, these activities must be separate in time or location from the federally assisted program. Moreover, grantees must not compel program beneficiaries to participate in inherently religious activities. Grantees must also not discriminate against a program beneficiary or prospective program beneficiary on the basis of religion or religious belief in the delivery of services or benefits funded by the grant. These requirements apply to all grantees, not just faith-based organizations.

#### 11.2 Political Activities

Grant funds may not be used in connection with the following acts by agencies or individuals employed by grant funds:

A. Unless specifically authorized to do so by federal law, grant recipients or their subgrantees or contractors are prohibited from using grant funds directly or indirectly for political purposes, including lobbying or advocating for legislative programs or changes; campaigning for, endorsing, contributing to, or otherwise supporting political candidates or parties; and voter registration or get-out-the-vote campaigns. Generally, organizations or entities which receive federal funds by way of grants, contracts, or cooperative agreements do not lose their rights as organizations to use their own, private, non-federal resources for "political" activities because of or as a consequence of receiving such federal funds. These recipient organizations must thus

use private or other non-federal money, receipts, contributions, or dues for their political activities, and may not charge off to or be reimbursed from federal contracts or grants for the costs of such activities.

- B. Grant officials or grant funded employees may not use official authority or influence or permit the use of a program administered by the grantee agency of which the person is an officer or employee to interfere with or affect the result of an election or nomination of a candidate or to achieve any other political purpose.
- C. Grant-funded employees may not coerce, attempt to coerce, command, restrict, attempt to restrict, or prevent the payment, loan, or contribution of anything of value to a person or political organization for a political purpose.
- D. Grant funds will not be used, either directly or indirectly, in support of the enactment, repeal, modification, or adoption of any law, regulation or policy, at any level of government, without the express prior approval of OOG and applicable federal funding agencies. If any non-grant funds have been or will be used in support of the enactment, repeal, modification, or adoption of any law, regulation or policy, at any level of government, it will notify OOG to obtain the appropriate disclosure form.
- E. Grant funds may not be used to employ, as a regular full-time or part-time or contract employee, a person who is required by Chapter 305 of the Government Code to register as a lobbyist. Furthermore, grant funds may not be used to pay, on behalf of the agency or an officer or employee of the agency, membership dues to an organization that pays part or all of the salary of a person who is required by Chapter 305 of the Government Code to register as a lobbyist.
- F. Grant funds whether expended by the grantee or by any subgrantee or subcontractor will not be used for political polling. This prohibition regarding political polling does not apply to a poll conducted by an academic institution as a part of the institution's academic mission that is not conducted for the benefit of a particular candidate or party.
- G. As applicable, the grantee will comply with 31 USC § 1352, which provides that none of the funds provided under an award may be expended by the grantee to pay any person to influence, or attempt to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a Member of Congress, an officer of employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with any Federal action concerning the award or renewal.

The grantee will include the language of this section in the award documents for all subawards at all tiers and will require all subrecipients to certify accordingly.

#### 11.3 Generally Prohibited Expenditures

The following items and activities are specifically prohibited from being funded under this Grant Agreement:

- A. Costs of advertising and public relations designed solely to promote the governmental unit;
- B. Costs of international travel<sup>1</sup>;
- C. Costs of entertainment, including amusement, diversion, and social activities and any costs

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> In certain circumstances international travel may be allowed under the Homeland Security Grant Program with prior written approval from the US Department of Homeland Security, Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA).

directly associated with such costs (such as tickets to shows or sports events, meals, lodging, rentals, transportation, and gratuities);

- D. Fundraising;
- E. Lobbying;
- F. Alcoholic beverages;
- G. Costs to support any activity that has as its objective funding of sectarian worship, instruction, or proselytization; and
- H. Promotional items and memorabilia, including models, gifts, and souvenirs.

#### 11.4 Acorn

The grantee understands and agrees that it cannot use any federal funds, either directly or indirectly, in support of any contract or subaward to either the Association of Community Organizations for Reform Now (ACORN) or its subsidiaries, without the express prior written approval of OOG.

#### 11.5 Prohibition on Certain Telecommunications and Video Surveillance Services or Equipment

The John S. McCain National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2019 (FY 2019 NDAA), Pub. L. No. 115-232 (2018), prohibits the purchase of certain telecommunications and video surveillance services or equipment from specified entities. For more information on this prohibition please refer to Public Law No. 115-232 at <a href="https://www.congress.gov/bill/115th-congress/house-bill/5515/text?format=txt">https://www.congress.gov/bill/115th-congress/house-bill/5515/text?format=txt</a>.

# 12 Financial Requirements

#### 12.1 Financial Status Reports

Financial Status Reports must be submitted to OOG via eGrants. Unless otherwise specified by OOG, Reports may be submitted monthly but must be submitted at least quarterly. Reports are due after each calendar quarter regardless of when the grant was awarded. Due dates are:

- 1. April 22 (January-March quarter)
- 2. July 22 (April-June quarter)
- 3. October 22 (July-September quarter)
- 4. January 22 (October-December quarter)

A grant liquidation date will be established in eGrants. The final Financial Status Report must be submitted to OOG on or before the liquidation date or the grant funds may lapse and OOG will provide them as grants to others who need the funding. Payments will be generated based on expenditures reported in the reports. Upon OOG approval of the report, OOG will issue a payment through direct deposit or electronic transfer.

#### 12.2 Approval of Financial Status Report

Grant payments will be generated based on expenditures as reported in the Financial Status Reports in eGrants or, if authorized by OOG, through Advance Payment Requests. Upon OOG approval of a Financial Status Report or Advance Payment Request, a payment will issue through direct deposit or electronic transfer, though additional documentation may be required and this statement does not override other rules, laws or requirements. It is the policy of OOG to make prompt payment on the approval of a properly prepared and submitted Financial Status Report and any other required documentation.

#### 12.3 Reimbursements

OOG will be obligated to reimburse the grantee for the expenditure of actual and allowable allocable costs incurred and paid by the grantee pursuant to this Grant Agreement. Each item of expenditure shall be specifically attributed to the eligible cost category as identified in the Grant Budget. The Grant Budget is established as provided in eGrants and is the approved budget for the planned expenditure of awarded grant funds, with expenditures identified by approved cost category. OOG is not obligated to pay unauthorized costs or to reimburse expenses that were incurred by the grantee prior to the commencement or after the termination of this Grant Agreement.

By submission of a Financial Status Report, the grantee is warranting the following: (1) all invoices have been carefully reviewed to ensure that all invoiced services or goods have been performed or delivered; (2) that the services or goods have been performed or delivered in compliance with all terms of this Grant Agreement; (3) that the amount of each new Financial Status Report added together with all previous Financial Status Reports do not exceed the Maximum Liability of OOG; and (5) the charges and expenses shown on the Request for Reimbursement are reasonable and necessary.

#### 12.4 Generally Accepted Accounting Principles

The grantee shall adhere to Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP) promulgated by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants, unless other recognized accounting principles are required by the grantee. The grantee shall follow OOG fiscal management policies and procedures in processing and submitting requests for reimbursement and maintaining financial records related to this Grant Agreement.

#### 12.5 Program Income

"Program income" means gross income received by the grantee or subgrantee directly generated by a grant supported activity, or earned only as a result of the grant agreement during the grant period. Unless otherwise required under the terms of this Grant Agreement, any program income shall be used by the grantee to further the program objectives of the project or activity funded by this grant, and the program income shall be spent on the same project or activity in which it was generated. Program income shall be used to offset the grant award. The grantee shall identify and report this income in accordance with OOG's reporting instructions. The grantee shall expend program income during the term of this Grant Agreement; program income not expended during the term of this Grant Agreement shall be refunded to OOG.

#### *12.6 Refunds and Deductions*

If OOG determines that the grantee has been overpaid any grant funds under this Grant Agreement, including payments made inadvertently or payments made but later determined to not be actual and allowable allocable costs, the grantee shall return to OOG the amount identified by OOG as an overpayment. The grantee shall refund any overpayment to OOG within thirty (30) calendar days of the receipt of the notice of the overpayment from OOG unless an alternate payment plan is specified by OOG.

#### 12.7 Liquidation Period

The liquidation date is ninety (90) calendar days after the grant end date, unless otherwise noted in the original grant award or a grant adjustment. Funds not obligated by the end of the grant period and not expended by the liquidation date will revert to OOG.

#### 12.8 Duplication of Funding

If grantees receive any funding that is duplicative of funding received under this grant, they will notify OOG as soon as possible. OOG may issue an adjustment modifying the budget and project activities to eliminate the duplication. Further, the grantee agrees and understands that any duplicative funding that cannot be re-programmed to support non-duplicative activities within the program's statutory scope will be de-obligated from this award and returned to OOG.

#### 12.9 Supplanting

Awarded funds must be used to supplement existing funds for program activities and not replace (supplant) funds that have been appropriated, allocated or disbursed for the same purpose. Grant monitors and auditors will look for potential supplanting during reviews. Violations may result in a range of penalties, including suspension of future funds, suspension or debarment from receiving federal or state grants, recoupment of monies provided under the grant, and civil or criminal penalties. For additional information on supplanting, refer to the Guide to Grants at https://eGrants.gov.texas.gov/updates.aspx.

# **13** Required Reports

#### 13.1 Measuring, Reporting, and Evaluating Performance

Grantees should regularly collect and maintain data that measure the performance and effectiveness of activities under this award, in the manner, and within the timeframes specified in the program solicitation, or as otherwise specified by OOG. This evaluation includes a reassessment of project activities and services to determine whether they continue to be effective.

Grantees must submit required reports regarding grant information, performance, and progress towards goals and objectives in accordance with the instructions provided by OOG or its designee. If requested by OOG, the grantee shall report on the progress towards completion of the grant project and other relevant information as determined by OOG. To remain eligible for funding, the grantee must be able to show the scope of services provided and their impact, quality, and levels of performance

against approved goals, and that their activities and services effectively address and achieve the project's stated purpose.

#### 13.2 Report Formats, Submissions, and Timelines

The grantee shall provide to OOG all applicable reports in a format and method specified by OOG. The grantee shall ensure that it submits each report or document required by OOG in an accurate, complete, and timely manner to OOG or the Federal sponsoring agency, as specified by this Grant Agreement or OOG, and will maintain appropriate backup documentation to support the reports. Unless filing dates are given herein, all other reports and other documents that the grantee is required to forward to OOG shall be promptly forwarded.

#### 13.3 Failure to File Required Reports

Failure to comply with submission deadlines for required reports, Financial Status Reports, or other requested information may result in OOG, at its sole discretion, placing the grantee on immediate financial hold without further notice to the grantee and without first requiring a corrective action plan. No reimbursements will be processed until the requested information is submitted. If the grantee is placed on financial hold, OOG, at its sole discretion, may deny reimbursement requests associated with expenses incurred during the time the grantee was placed on financial hold.

# **EXHIBIT E**

# Fort Bend Travel Policy

# Annex B Fort Bend County Travel Policy

Approved in Commissioners' Court on November 3, 2009
Effective November 4, 2009
Revised September 7, 2010
Revised June 2, 2015, Effective August 1, 2015
Revised July 28, 2015, Effective August 1, 2015
Revised July 26, 2016, Effective August 1, 2016
Revised December 12, 2017, Effective January 1, 2018
Revised September 26, 2023, Effective October 1, 2023

The Commissioners' Court allocates funds annually for the payment of travel expenditures for county employees and officials within the individual departmental budgets. Travel expenditures paid from these budgets must serve a public purpose for Fort Bend County. These expenditures may be paid directly to the vendor or provided as a reimbursement to the employee/official upon completion of their travel. Advance payments to vendors may be accommodated by issuance of a check or use of a County procurement card. Eligible expenditure categories under this policy include: Lodging, meals, transportation, registration fees, and other fees (with justification). Each category is further defined below.

### **CONTRACT RATES:**

Fort Bend County is a 'Cooperative Purchasing Participating Entity' with the State of Texas. This program is also known as TPASS (Texas Procurement and Support Services) State Travel Management Program (STMP). This gives County employees and officials access to the contract rates negotiated by the State for hotels and rental cars. Procurement procedures for these contract services are explained within the categories below.

#### **OUT OF STATE TRAVEL:**

**Authorization:** The traveler must obtain Commissioners' Court approval for out-of-state travel before departure. The duration must include travel days along with the event scheduled days. To prevent delays in processing travel reimbursement, ensure that the travel duration is accurately defined when submitting the agenda request.

**Documentation:** The traveler must provide an excerpt from the Commissioners' Court minutes (<a href="http://www.fortbendcountytx.gov/index.aspx?page=55">http://www.fortbendcountytx.gov/index.aspx?page=55</a>) with the travel reimbursement form.

#### **LODGING (In and Out of State):**

#### **Hotel:**

Hotel reimbursements are limited to the Federal Travel Regulations set forth by US General Services Administration (GSA) by location not including taxes. The rates are set annually and vary by month and location. The maximum rates for lodging per day can be found at:

http://www.gsa.gov/portal/content/104877?utm\_source=OGP&utm\_medium=print-radio&utm\_term=perdiem&utm\_campaign=shortcuts based on travelers destination.

Fort Bend County is a 'Cooperative Purchasing Participating Entity' with the State of Texas. This gives County employees and officials access to the contract rates negotiated by the State for hotels. Participating hotels can be found at: <a href="https://portal.cpa.state.tx.us/hotel/hotel\_directory/index.cfm">https://portal.cpa.state.tx.us/hotel/hotel\_directory/index.cfm</a> (be sure to check the correct fiscal year).

Traveler must verify confirmed rate matches the negotiated contract rates found on the State's website listed above and <u>does not exceed the GSA</u> daily allowance.

If the organizer of a conference/seminar has negotiated discount rates with a hotel(s), the traveler may choose these lodging services without penalty but the traveler must reserve the room at the group rate and provide documentation of the group rate with the reimbursement request.

If all rooms are booked at the host hotel and no accommodation is available at or below the GSA rate, you may book a room at another hotel at a rate equal to or lower than the conference/seminar rate.

If all rooms are booked at the host hotel and no accommodation is available at or below the GSA rate or at the conference/seminar rate, you may provide three (3) comps to support the higher rate. This will serve as the justification for the higher rate. The comparable hotels should be within five miles of the host event and should be of similar hotel class.

The traveler will be responsible for the excess charge over the GSA per diem rate for the city/county even if using the State rate. The Auditor's Office will deduct from the travelers' reimbursement any excess charges over the GSA per diem rate.

If a traveler cannot find a traditional hotel, a direct rental (Airbnb, VRBO, etc.) is allowable. All previous maximum daily rates still apply. Any fees incurred through a direct rental must also be included in the daily rate calculation and remain below the limits. Fees may include, but are not limited to, cleaning fees, extra guest fees, or service fees. (Taxes are not included in this calculation, as they are charged to hotel stays as well).

Travel websites including but not limited to Expedia and Travelocity shall not be used to book lodging.

In order to qualify for any of the above-mentioned exceptions, a lodging reservation must be made 14 days prior to travel. If travel is required without 14-day notice, the traveler must provide back-up which explains why the 14-day advance booking was not possible.

**Travel Days:** If the traveler must leave before 7:00AM to arrive at the start of the event and/or return to the County after 6:00PM after the event concludes, an additional night's lodging is allowable before and/or after the event.

Additional fees allowable: Self-parking

**Additional fees allowable with justification:** Valet parking is allowable if an extreme hardship exists due to physical disability of the traveler or if no self-parking is available.

Fees not allowable: Internet, phone charges, laundry, safe fees

**Gratuities:** Gratuities are not reimbursable for any lodging services.

**Overpayments by County:** Any lodging overpayment by the County must be reimbursed by the hotel before processing a reimbursement to the traveler for any of the categories addressed in this policy. Prepaid lodging services should be accurately calculated or underestimated by excluding the taxes to prevent delays in processing travel reimbursements.

**Procurement Card:** The traveler may use the procurement card to make lodging reservations. Contact Purchasing to arrange or use the procurement card assigned to the department or traveler.

**Documentation:** A final settled hotel bill with a zero balance from the front desk is required even if lodging is paid by the procurement card. The hotel bill left under the door is not acceptable. The hotel bill should be scrutinized before traveler departs to make sure all charges are valid and notify hotel of any invalid charges and resolve issues before departing. Make sure all parking has been added to your bill and all personal incidentals have been paid by traveler. Any invalid charges will be the responsibility of the traveler. A copy of the itemized hotel statement must be submitted with the travel reimbursement claim if the traveler used a County procurement card to purchase lodging services or prepaid by County check. Event agenda/documentation or a letter from the traveler describing the event/meeting is required. If utilizing conference negotiated hotel rates, documentation of rates is required.

Changes/Modifications to Reservation – Any modifications including cancellation of reservation, the traveler must obtain a confirmation number and note the name of the person they spoke with in case the hotel charges the traveler. If the traveler does not obtain a confirmation number then any expenses incurred will be the responsibility of the traveler. Expenses resulting from changes or modifications to travel reservations will be paid by the County if the traveler produces documentation that a family emergency exists.

**County Exemption Status** – Fort Bend County Employees traveling on County Business are not exempt from State and local hotel taxes, state taxes, etc. with the exception of District Judges and the District Attorney.

#### **MEALS:**

Meals including in-state and out-of-state will be reimbursed to the traveler at a flat rate of \$70 (full day). The travelers per diem on the departure day and final day will be at 75% of the per diem, which is \$52.50. The amount reimbursed will be paid through payroll and is subject to federal taxation.

**Late Night Arrival** – If a traveler arrives in Fort Bend County between midnight and 6am the traveler will receive a full day per diem for the previous day.

**Day trips:** Prior to 01/01/2024 – Meals will not be reimbursed for trips that do not require an overnight stay. Effective 01/01/2024 - The traveler is subject to per diem reimbursement. Day trip includes a trip outside the County that requires a traveler to leave Fort Bend before 7:00 AM and/or return to the County after 6:00 PM will be eligible for reimbursement at 75% of the per diem, which is \$52.50. Amount reimbursed for day trips will be paid through payroll and are subject to federal taxation.

**Procurement Card:** No meal purchases are allowed on any County procurement card.

**Documentation:** No meal receipts are required for reimbursement. Event agenda/documentation or a letter from the traveler describing the event/meeting is required.

#### TRANSPORTATION:

**Personal Vehicle:** Use of personal vehicle will be reimbursed at the current rate/mile set by Commissioners' Court. Mileage should be calculated using the County office location of the traveler and the event location. Mileage may not be calculated using the traveler's home. Mileage should be calculated using an employees vehicle odometer reading or by

a readily available online mapping service for travel out of Fort Bend County. If using the mileage of an online mapping service, state which mapping service was used or provide a printout of your route detailing the mileage. For local travel, odometer readings or mapping service details are not required. Departments should develop a mileage guide for employees for local travel points, if a department does not have a mileage guide, the Auditor's Office will determine if the mileage listed is reasonable.

Allowable expenses: Parking and tolls with documentation.

**County Vehicle:** Fuel purchases when using a County vehicle should be made with the County Procurement card if available. Original receipts will accompany the Procurement Card statement but a copy must be provided with the travel reimbursement request.

Allowable expenses: Parking and tolls with documentation required.

**Airfare:** The County will only reimburse direct travel to and from a location where County-related business is being conducted. Airfare is reimbursable at the lowest available rate based on 14 day advance purchase of a discounted coach/economy full-service seat based on the required arrival time for the event. The payment confirmation and itinerary must be presented with the travel reimbursement form. The traveler will be responsible for the excess charges of an airline ticket purchase other than a coach/economy seat. When using Southwest Airlines a traveler should choose the "wanna get away" flight category.

**Allowable Expenses:** Bag fees. Fare changes are allowable if business related or due to family emergency.

**Unallowable Expenses/Fees:** Trip insurance, Early Bird Check In, Front of the line, Leg Room, Fare changes for personal reasons.

**Rental Car:** Rental cars are limited to the negotiated TPASS rates listed at: <a href="http://www.window.state.tx.us/procurement/prog/stmp/stmp-rental-car-contract/vendor-comparison/">http://www.window.state.tx.us/procurement/prog/stmp/stmp-rental-car-contract/vendor-comparison/</a>. The contact information for Enterprise for the State Travel Management Program is listed here: <a href="https://comptroller.texas.gov/purchasing/programs/travel-management/rental/enterprise.php">https://comptroller.texas.gov/purchasing/programs/travel-management/rental/enterprise.php</a>

When making a reservation traveler should provide the County's agency # \_\_\_\_\_\_. The traveler will not be reimbursed for any amount over the negotiated contract rates if a non-contract company is used at a higher rate. The traveler should select a vehicle size comparable to the number of County travelers. The traveler may use a non-contract vendor at an overall rate lower than the contract rates with no penalty. The original contract/receipt must be presented with the travel reimbursement form or a copy if a County procurement card is used. The traveler will be responsible for any excess charges not included in the TPASS rates or for choosing a vehicle size not comparable with the number of travelers on the trip. Insurance is included in the negotiated TPASS rates, if a traveler chooses to take out additional insurance the cost is on the traveler.

# **Enterprise:**

- Optional Customer, Coupon or Corporate number is
- Please enter the first 3 characters of your company's name or PIN number
- Enterprise will automatically bill FBC when you reserve your vehicle so you need to have a purchase order before your departure.

**Unallowable Fees/Charges:** GPS, prepaid fuel, premium radio, child safety seats, additional insurance, one way rentals.

**Allowable expenses:** Parking and tolls allowed with documentation.

**Other Transportation:** Other forms of transit (bus, taxi, train) are reimbursable with an original receipt.

**Gratuities:** Gratuities are permitted if original receipt includes gratuity (20% maximum allowed) for any transportation services.

**Procurement Card:** The traveler may use a County procurement card to make transportation reservations for air travel and rental car services. Contact Purchasing to arrange or use the procurement card assigned to the department or traveler.

**Documentation:** Original receipts are required for all transportation reimbursements paid by the traveler. Transportation services obtained with a County procurement card require a copy of the receipt. Additional requirements are noted within each category above. Event agenda/documentation or a letter from the traveler describing the event/meeting is required.

#### **REGISTRATION:**

**Registration fees:** Registration fees are reimbursable for events that serve a Fort Bend County purpose. Registration fees for golf tournaments, tours, guest fees and other recreational events are not reimbursable.

**Procurement Card**: The traveler may use a County procurement card to register for an event. Contact Purchasing to arrange or use the procurement card assigned to the department or traveler.

**Documentation:** An original receipt must be obtained upon registration and submitted with the reimbursement request if paid by the traveler. A copy of the receipt must be provided if registration is paid on a County procurement card. Event agenda/documentation or a letter from the traveler describing the event/meeting is required.

#### **GRANTS:**

Travel expenditures from Federal and State grants must also conform to the granting agency's funding requirements.

#### TRAVEL REIMBURSEMENT FORM:

The traveler must use the current travel reimbursement form <a href="https://econnect.fortbendcountytx.gov/documents-forms/auditors-office-forms">https://econnect.fortbendcountytx.gov/documents-forms/auditors-office-forms</a> for all travel related services addressed in this policy. No other expenditures may be submitted for reimbursement on the travel reimbursement form. After completing all required information, the travel form must be signed/dated by the traveler and the department head/elected official. Travel reimbursement request should be submitted within 30 days from when traveler returns from trip. Mileage reimbursement request should be submitted no less frequently than quarterly. Mileage reimbursement request for the fourth quarter should be submitted no later than October 30th for yearend processing.

# **EXCLUSIONS:**

If the traveler has custody of a person pursuant to statue or court order or if the traveler is required by court or legal entity to appear at a particular time and place the traveler will not be penalized for accommodations that require a 14 day advance purchase ticket if travel is required with less than 14 days' notice.

If the traveler has custody of a person pursuant to statue to court order the traveler will not be held to the 75% per diem on the departure and final day of travel.