



**COUNTY JUDGE**  
Fort Bend County, Texas

Robert E. Hebert  
County Judge

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**Memo**

TO: Lou Ann Mullings, Sheriff's Office  
FROM: Donna Ospina, Agenda Coordinator  
DATE: August 27, 2014  
SUBJECT: Commissioners Court Date August 26, 2014  
Agenda

Agenda Item 43 A

Take all appropriate action on continuation by Fort Bend County in the Texas Statewide Automated Victim Notification (VINE - Victim Information & Notification Everyday) Service (SAVNS), and approve Grant Contract No. 1554708 between the Office of the Attorney General and Fort Bend County effective September 1, 2014 through August 31, 2015, with no cash match required by Fort Bend County.

Returning original contract documents for the agenda items above. Although the documents have been signed by the County Judge, they are not yet signed by the other contracting party.

Please provide a copy of the fully executed signature page to the County Clerk's Office when your office receives signature from the contracting party, so the complete document can be recorded into the Minutes of Commissioners Court.

Thank you.

Copy: Sherry Fisk, Administrative Coordinator, County Clerk's Office

**SAVNS MAINTENANCE GRANT CONTRACT BETWEEN  
THE OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL  
AND  
FORT BEND COUNTY**

**OAG Contract No. 1554708**

This contract is executed between the Office of the Attorney General (OAG) and Fort Bend County (GRANTEE) for certain grant funds. The Office of the Attorney General and Fort Bend County may be referred to in this contract individually as "Party" or collectively as "Parties."

**SECTION 1. PURPOSE OF THE CONTRACT**

The purpose of the OAG Statewide Automated Victim Notification Service (SAVNS) grant program is to maintain Texas counties and other entities in a statewide system that will provide relevant offender release information, notification of relevant court settings or events, promote public safety and support the rights of victims of crime. To ensure a standard statewide service to all interested entities, including GRANTEE, the OAG make grant funds available for eligible expenses related to services delivered to GRANTEE by the vendor, certified by the OAG, to provide certain SAVNS services to the GRANTEE.

The OAG published a Request for Offer (RFO) for Statewide Automated Victim Services May 15, 2013. After an evaluation of offers, the OAG identified and certified a single vendor to provide statewide automated victim notification services. The initial term of the Vendor Certification is from September 1, 2013 to August 31, 2015. The OAG may exercise its option to extend the term for up to two renewal terms, consisting of two years each. The Vendor Certification includes the offer to perform the "Requested Scope of Services – Statement of Work Requirements and Terms and Conditions Applicable to the Vendor Certification" as well as the Pricing Model as provided in the BAFO. The vendor certified to provide the services is Appriss, Inc., ("Certified Vendor"), a Kentucky corporation authorized to do business in Texas..

**SECTION 2. TERM OF THE CONTRACT**

This contract shall begin on September 1, 2014 and shall terminate August 31, 2015, unless it is terminated earlier in accordance with another provision of this contract.

**SECTION 3. GRANTEE'S CONTRACTUAL SERVICES**

**3.1. Grantee Services Agreement.** GRANTEE will execute a "Services Agreement," a contractual agreement, with the Certified Vendor to provide services consistent with the OAG

Vendor Certification documents. The Services Agreement will include terms and conditions that are intended to provide the GRANTEE such rights and remedies as are necessary to ensure the delivery of the services from the Certified Vendor in accordance with the Scope of Services as stated in this contract and the OAG Vendor Certification documents.

**3.2 Grantee Maintenance Plan.** GRANTEE agrees to establish and follow a “Maintenance Plan.” The Maintenance Plan, at a minimum, will be designed to accomplish the following: make available offender information that is timely, accurate and relevant to support the SAVNS services; verify the Certified Vendors performance according to Services Agreement; satisfactorily discharge GRANTEE’s obligations as described in the Services Agreement; and identify and dedicate GRANTEE staff, resources and equipment necessary to maintain the SAVNS services in the Services Agreement.

**3.3 GRANTEE Service Levels.** In addition to other service levels that the GRANTEE may impose, GRANTEE will inspect, monitor and verify the performances required of the Certified Vendor as provided in the Services Agreement as well as this contract. GRANTEE will execute a Services Agreement or a Service Agreement (Renewal Notice) with the Certified Vendor, for the term of this contract, GRANTEE will verify that input data (the jail and court data elements used by the SAVNS system) is entered accurately and in a timely basis.

GRANTEE will allow on-site monitoring visits to be conducted by OAG or its authorized representative.

**3.4 Cooperation with Statewide Stakeholders.** GRANTEE will reasonably cooperate with and participate in Statewide Stakeholders meetings and efforts to monitor and improve the SAVNS services on a statewide basis. GRANTEE may reasonably agree to designate third-parties to assist the OAG, GRANTEE and the other Statewide Stakeholders, in the overall monitoring, inspection and verification of the Certified Vendors performances.

**3.5 Scope of Services.** For the purpose of this contract, the requirements, duties and obligations contained in Section 3 of this contract are collectively referred to as the “Scope of Services”. As a condition of reimbursement, GRANTEE agrees to faithfully, timely and in a good and workman-like manner implement and maintain the services in compliance with the Scope of Services. GRANTEE shall bear full and sole responsibility for the integrity of the fiscal and programmatic management of its SAVNS program.

## **SECTION 4. GRANTEE’S OBLIGATIONS AND REQUIRED REPORTS**

### **4.1 General Matters**

**4.1.1 Required Reports; Form of Reports; Filings with the OAG.** GRANTEE shall forward to the OAG the applicable reports on forms as specified by the OAG. GRANTEE shall ensure that it

files each document or form required by the OAG in an accurate and timely manner. Unless filing dates are given herein, all other reports and other documents that GRANTEE is required to forward to the OAG shall be promptly forwarded. From time to time, the OAG may require additional information from GRANTEE.

**4.1.2 Cooperation; Additional Information.** GRANTEE shall cooperate fully with the OAG. In addition to the information contained in the required reports, other information may be required as requested by the OAG.

**4.1.3 Notification of Changes in Organization, Changes in Authorized Official or Grant Contact.** GRANTEE shall submit within ten (10) business days notice to the OAG of any change of the following: GRANTEE's name; contact information; key personnel, officer, director or partner; organizational structure; legal standing; or authority to do business in Texas. GRANTEE shall promptly notify the OAG, preferably in advance, of a change in address or main telephone number of GRANTEE. A change in GRANTEE's name requires an amendment to the contract. To change an Authorized Official, GRANTEE must submit a written request on GRANTEE's letterhead, with an original signature of someone with authority. To change Grant Contact, GRANTEE must submit a written request on GRANTEE's letterhead signed by the Authorized Official.

**4.1.4 Standards for Financial and Programmatic Management.** GRANTEE and its governing body shall bear full and sole responsibility for the integrity of the fiscal and programmatic management of the organization including financial and programmatic policies and procedures.

Such fiscal and programmatic management shall include accountability for all funds and materials received from the OAG; compliance with OAG rules, policies and procedures, and applicable federal and state laws and regulations; and correction of fiscal and program deficiencies identified through self-evaluation and/or the OAG's monitoring processes. Ignorance of any contract provisions or other requirements referenced in this contract shall not constitute a defense or basis for waiving or failing to comply with such provisions or requirements.

GRANTEE shall develop, implement, and maintain appropriate financial management and control systems, which include budgets that adequately reflect all functions and resources necessary to carry out authorized activities and the adequate determination of costs; accurate and complete payroll, accounting, and financial reporting records; cost source documentation; effective internal and budgetary controls; allocation of costs; and timely and appropriate audits and resolution of any findings and applicable annual financial statements, including statements of financial position, activities, and cash flows, prepared on an accrual basis in accordance with Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP) or other recognized accounting principle.

**4.1.5. Security and Confidentiality of Records.** GRANTEE shall establish a method to secure the confidentiality of records required to be kept confidential by applicable federal or state law, rules or regulations. This provision shall not be construed as limiting the OAG's access to such records and other information.

## **4.2 Programmatic Reports**

**4.2.1 Service Reports.** GRANTEE shall submit service delivery reports, programmatic performance reports and other reports, in the appropriate format and on a timely basis, as established by the OAG. GRANTEE will submit other reports as requested by the OAG.

**4.2.2 Written Explanation of Variance.** GRANTEE is required to provide a written explanation to the OAG for any variances on the quarterly statistical report for any year-to-date performance by GRANTEE that varies from projected performance. In addition to the written explanation, GRANTEE shall promptly answer any questions of the OAG, whether in writing or otherwise, in connection with the quarterly and annual reports presented to the OAG.

**4.2.3 Other Program Reports.** GRANTEE shall cooperate fully in any social studies, fiscal or programmatic monitoring, auditing, evaluating, and other reviews pertaining to services rendered by GRANTEE which may be conducted by the OAG or its designees.

GRANTEE shall submit service delivery reports required by the contract or self-evaluations of performance and other reports requested by the OAG in appropriate format and on a timely basis and make available at reasonable times and for reasonable periods client records and other programmatic or financial records, books, reports, and supporting documents for reviewing and copying by the OAG or its designees.

**4.2.4 "Problem Log."** GRANTEE shall establish a "Problem Log" that records all problems noted with the SAVNS system, including, but not limited to, system down time, system outages, and equipment failure. The Problem Log will provide when the problem was identified, to whom the problem was referred, and steps taken to resolve the problem and when the problem was resolved.

## **4.3 Financial Matters**

**4.3.1 Annual Budgets.** With regard to the use of funds pursuant to this contract, GRANTEE will immediately review the budget for the fiscal year and the allowable expenditures, as shown on Exhibit A.

**4.3.2 Requests for Reimbursement. REFER TO SECTION 4.3.5. FOR MORE INFORMATION ON REIMBURSEMENT RIGHTS AND PROCESSES - GRANTEE agrees to allow the OAG to pay the Certified Vendor directly, instead of the GRANTEE, for any reimbursements due the GRANTEE under this contract.** OAG grant funds are paid on a cost reimbursement basis. Any payments made by the OAG shall not exceed the actual and allowable allocable costs of GRANTEE to obtain services from the Certified Vendor for services within the "scope of services" of this contract. GRANTEE will submit to the OAG requests for reimbursement for the actual and allowable allocable costs incurred by GRANTEE to obtain services from the Certified Vendor for services within the "scope of services" of this contract. GRANTEE is responsible for submitting its invoices to the OAG in an accurate and timely manner. The requests

for reimbursement must be accompanied by supporting documentation as required by the OAG. The OAG may from time to time require different or additional supporting documentation.

**4.3.3 Fiscal Year End Required Reports.** On or before October 15, 2015, GRANTEE will submit fiscal year end required reports.

- a. **Record of Reimbursement.** GRANTEE will submit a reconciled record of its expenses for the prior fiscal year.
- b. **Equipment Inventory Report.** GRANTEE will submit an Equipment Inventory Report which provides a record of the current inventory of items purchased, disposed of, replaced or transferred for any equipment that was purchased with grant funds.

**4.3.4 Annual Independent Financial Audit Report.** Unless otherwise noted on Exhibit B (Special Conditions), GRANTEE shall timely submit to the OAG a copy of its annual independent financial audit. The timely submission to the OAG is on or before nine (9) months after the end of GRANTEE's accounting year. Unless, otherwise noted on Exhibit B (Special Conditions), GRANTEE will contract with an independent CPA firm to perform an annual financial audit engagement. If applicable, GRANTEE's independent CPA firm will determine the type of annual financial audit, which may include a compliance attestation in accordance with the requirements of OMB Circular A-133 (audits of State, Local Government, and Non-Profit Organizations) and/or Texas Single Audit Circular (Single Audit or non-Single Audit financial audit). If applicable, GRANTEE will provide the OAG with any and all annual independent financial audits or audited financial statements, related management letters, and management responses of GRANTEE.

**4.3.5 Assignment Of Rights Of Payment And Reimbursement Details. THE FOLLOWING PROVISIONS SPECIFICALLY APPLY TO THIS CONTRACT:**

- a. GRANTEE agrees to allow the OAG to pay the Certified Vendor directly, instead of the GRANTEE, for any reimbursements due the GRANTEE under this contract. GRANTEE EXPRESSLY ASSIGNS ANY AND ALL RIGHTS OF PAYMENT UNDER THIS CONTRACT TO THE CERTIFIED VENDOR.
- b. The Certified Vendor will send its "Service Agreement Renewal Notice" (or other similar document) and invoice (either annually or quarterly which detail the amount due for each quarter) to GRANTEE by September 1, 2014. The Certified Vendor will notify the OAG within 20 days of the notices being sent that they were sent.
- c. GRANTEE shall submit an invoice to the OAG for the prior quarter by the 5th of the next month following the end of each quarter. The quarters for FY2015 end on November 30, February 28, May 31, and August 31. GRANTEE shall include verification with its invoice to the OAG stating that the GRANTEE received the services from the Certified Vendor during the preceding quarter.

d. The OAG will forward to the Certified Vendor the payments due to the GRANTEE from the OAG for services provided by the Certified Vendor as required by this contract.

e. The OAG will only pay a quarterly reimbursement payment in arrears after verification from the GRANTEE that services from the Certified Vendor were provided.

f. The OAG will process and forward payments to the Certified Vendor each quarter during FY2015 for invoices received from the GRANTEE that also include the appropriate verification along with its invoice. The quarterly payment will be made for invoices received by the OAG by the 5th day of the month following the end of the quarter, as defined above. The payment will be generated no later than the 30th day after the 5th day of the month following the end of the quarter, as defined above. If an invoice is submitted after the 5<sup>th</sup> day of the month following the end of the quarter, the invoice may not be paid until the next quarter, as defined above. The OAG will follow up at least once with any GRANTEE that has not returned its paperwork by the designated deadline for any quarter. The OAG will contact the GRANTEE by the 10th day of the next month following the end of each quarter.

g. If the GRANTEE does not submit the required invoice and verification prior to the quarterly deadline defined above, the OAG will process payment in accordance with Section 4.3.5 (f).

h. If GRANTEE does not submit the required invoice and verification to the OAG within 45 days of the next month following the end of any quarter, the OAG will determine what steps will be taken next, including placing the grant contract on financial hold or terminating the grant contract. If an OAG grant contract is placed on financial hold or terminated, the GRANTEE remains responsible for any contractual obligation it has with Certified Vendor. The OAG will not be responsible for collection efforts on behalf of the Certified Vendor.

**4.3.6 Close Out Invoice** GRANTEE shall submit a final invoice not later than the earlier of (1) forty-five (45) calendar days after termination of this contract; or (2) forty-five (45) calendar days after the end of each state fiscal year.

**4.3.7 Refunds and Deductions.** If the OAG determines that an overpayment of grant funds under this contract has occurred, such as payments made inadvertently or payments made but later determined to not be actual and allowable allocable costs, the OAG may seek a refund from GRANTEE and/or the Certified Vendor. The OAG may offset and deduct the amount of the overpayment from any amount due to be paid, but not yet paid by the OAG under this contract. The OAG may choose to require a payment directly from GRANTEE and/or the Certified Vendor rather than offset and deduct a specified amount. GRANTEE and/or the Certified Vendor shall refund any overpayment to the OAG within thirty (30) calendar days of the receipt of the notice of the overpayment from the OAG unless an alternate payment plan is specified by the OAG.

**4.3.8 Purchase of Equipment; Maintenance and Repair; Title upon Termination.** GRANTEE shall not give any security interest, lien or otherwise encumber any item of equipment purchased with contract funds. GRANTEE shall permanently identify all equipment purchased under this contract by appropriate tags or labels affixed to the equipment. GRANTEE shall maintain a current inventory of all equipment, which shall be available to the OAG at all times upon request, however, as between the OAG and Grantee title for equipment will remain with Grantee.

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

**4.3.9 Direct Deposit.** GRANTEE may make a written request to the OAG to be placed on Direct Deposit status by completing and submitting to the OAG the State Comptroller's Direct Deposit Authorization Form. After the direct deposit request is approved by the OAG and the setup is completed on the Texas Identification Number System by the State Comptroller's Office, payment will be remitted by direct deposit and the OAG will discontinue providing GRANTEE with copies of reimbursement vouchers.

## **SECTION 5. OBLIGATIONS OF OAG**

**5.1 Monitoring.** The OAG is responsible for closely monitoring GRANTEE to ensure the effective and efficient use of grant funds to accomplish the purposes of this contract.

**5.2 Maximum Liability of OAG.** The maximum liability of the OAG is contained in the attached Exhibit A. Any change to the maximum liability must be supported by a written amendment to this contract.

**5.3 Payment of Authorized Costs.** In accordance with the terms of this contract, the OAG will pay costs pursuant to this contract. The OAG is not obligated to pay unauthorized costs.

**5.4 Contract Not Entitlement or Right.** Reimbursement with contract funds is not an entitlement or right. Reimbursement depends, among other things, upon strict compliance with all terms, conditions and provisions of this contract. The OAG and GRANTEE agree that any act, action or representation by either party, their agents or employees that purports to increase the maximum liability of the OAG is void, unless a written amendment to this contract is first executed. GRANTEE agrees that nothing in this contract will be interpreted to create an obligation or liability of the OAG in excess of the funds delineated in this contract.

**5.5 Funding Limitation.** GRANTEE agrees that funding for this contract is subject to the actual receipt by the OAG of grant funds (state and/or federal) appropriated to the OAG. GRANTEE



agrees that the grant funds, if any, received from the OAG are limited by the term of each state biennium and by specific appropriation authority to and the spending authority of the OAG for the purpose of this contract. **GRANTEE agrees that notwithstanding any other provision of this contract, if the OAG is not appropriated the funds or if the OAG does not receive the appropriated funds for this grant program, or if the funds appropriated to the OAG for this grant program, are required to be reallocated to fund other state programs or purposes, the OAG is not liable to pay the GRANTEE any remaining balance on this contract.**

## **SECTION 6. TERMINATION**

**6.1 Termination for Convenience.** Either Party may, at its sole discretion, terminate this contract, without recourse, liability or penalty, upon thirty (30) calendar days notice to the other party.

**6.2 Termination for Cause.** In the event that GRANTEE fails to perform or comply with an obligation of the terms, conditions and provisions of this contract, the OAG may, upon written notice of the breach to GRANTEE, immediately terminate all or any part of this contract.

**6.3 Termination Not Exclusive Remedy; Survival of Terms and Conditions.** 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 contract.

Termination of this contract for any reason or expiration of this contract shall not release the Parties from any liability or obligation set forth in this contract that is expressly stated to survive any such termination or by its nature would be intended to be applicable following any such termination. The following terms and conditions, (in addition to any others that could reasonably be interpreted to survive but are not specifically identified), survive the termination or expiration of this contract: Sections 4, 5, 7, 11 and 12.

**6.4 Refunds to OAG by GRANTEE.** If the GRANTEE terminates for convenience under Section 6.1, or if the OAG terminates under Sections 6.1 or 6.2 before the purpose of this contract is accomplished, then the OAG may require the GRANTEE and/or the Certified Vendor to refund all or some of the grant funds paid under this contract, for the funds representing the number of months of SAVNS services previously invoiced and paid by the OAG under this contract.

**6.5 Notices to Certified Vendor.** Any termination of this contract will also be forwarded by the terminating party to the Certified Vendor.

## **SECTION 7. AUDIT RIGHTS; RECORDS RETENTION**

**7.1 Duty to Maintain Records.** GRANTEE shall maintain adequate records that enable the

OAG to verify all reporting measures and requests for reimbursements related to this contract. GRANTEE also shall maintain such records as are deemed necessary by the OAG, OAG's auditor, the State Auditor's Office or other auditors of the State of Texas, the federal government, or such other persons or entities designated by the OAG, to ensure proper accounting for all costs and performances related to this contract.

**7.2 Records Retention.** GRANTEE shall maintain and retain for a period of four (4) years after the submission of the final expenditure report, or until full and final resolution of all audit or litigation matters which arise after the expiration of the four (4) year period after the submission of the final expenditure report, whichever time period is longer, such records as are necessary to fully disclose the extent of services provided under this contract, including but not limited to any daily activity reports and time distribution and attendance records, and other records that may show the basis of the charges made or performances delivered.

**7.3 Audit Trails.** GRANTEE shall maintain appropriate audit trails to provide accountability for all reporting measures and requests for reimbursement. Audit trails maintained by GRANTEE will, at a minimum, identify the supporting documentation prepared by GRANTEE to permit an audit of its systems. GRANTEE's automated systems, if any, must provide the means whereby authorized personnel have the ability to audit and to verify contractually required performances and to establish individual accountability for any action that can potentially cause access to, generation of, or modification of confidential information.

**7.4 Access and Audit.** At the request of the OAG, GRANTEE shall grant access to and make available all paper and electronic records, books, documents, accounting procedures, practices, and any other items relevant to the performance of this contract, compliance with applicable state or federal laws and regulations, and the operation and management of GRANTEE to the OAG or its designees for the purposes of inspecting, auditing, or copying such items. GRANTEE will direct any other entity, person, or contractor receiving funds directly under this contract or through a subcontract under this contract to likewise permit access to, inspection of, and reproduction of all books, records, and other relevant information of the entity, person, or contractor(s) that pertain to this contract. All records, books, documents, accounting procedures, practices, and any other items, in whatever form, relevant to the performance of this contract, shall be subject to examination or audit. Whenever practical as determined at the sole discretion of the OAG, the OAG shall provide GRANTEE with up to five (5) business days advance notice of any such examination or audit.

**7.5 State Auditor.** In addition to and without limitation on the other audit provisions of this contract, pursuant to Section 2262.003 of the Texas Government Code, the State Auditor's Office may conduct an audit or investigation of GRANTEE or any other entity or person receiving funds from the State directly under this contract or indirectly through a subcontract under this contract. The acceptance of funds by GRANTEE or any other entity or person directly under this contract or indirectly through a subcontract under this contract 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, GRANTEE or another entity that is the subject of an audit or investigation by the State Auditor's Office must provide the State Auditor's Office with access to any information the State Auditor's Office considers relevant to the investigation or audit. 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. GRANTEE shall ensure that this paragraph concerning the authority to audit funds received indirectly by subcontractors through 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 GRANTEE related to this contract.

**7.6 Location.** Any audit of records shall be conducted at GRANTEE's principal place of business and/or the location(s) of GRANTEE's operations during GRANTEE's normal business hours. GRANTEE shall provide to OAG or its designees, on 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 and facsimile services, utilities and office-related equipment and duplicating services as OAG or its designees may reasonably require to perform the audits described in this contract.

## **SECTION 8. SUBMISSION OF INFORMATION TO THE OAG**

The OAG will designate methods for submission of information to the OAG by GRANTEE. The OAG generally requires submission of information via email or hard copy format. Some reporting requirements must occur via the internet and/or a web-based data collection method.

**8.1 Programmatic Reports, Notices and Information (excluding Financial Reports).** All quarterly statistical reports, annual performance reports, correspondence, and any other reports, notices or information, except financial reports specified below, must be submitted via email to:

OAG-Grants@texasattorneygeneral.gov

If requested or approved by the OAG, other programmatic reports may be submitted to:

Program Manager – Grants Administration Division  
Office of the Attorney General  
Mail Code 005  
Post Office Box 12548  
Austin, Texas 78711-2548

**8.2 Financial Reports (excluding Programmatic Reports, Notices and Information).** All financial status reports, requests for reimbursement, audits, and inventory reports, must be submitted

in hard copy format to:

Financial Manager – Grants Administration Division  
Office of the Attorney General  
Mail Code 005  
Post Office Box 12548  
Austin, Texas 78711-2548

The Annual Independent Financial Audit and related documents, as well as any other reports, if requested or approved by the OAG, may be submitted to:

OAG-Grants@texasattorneygeneral.gov

## **SECTION 9. CORRECTIVE ACTION PLANS AND SANCTIONS**

The Parties agree to make a good faith effort to identify, communicate and resolve problems found by either the OAG or GRANTEE.

**9.1 Corrective Action Plans.** If the OAG finds deficiencies in GRANTEE's performance under this contract, the OAG, at its sole discretion, may impose one or more of the following remedies as part of a corrective action plan: increase monitoring visits; require that additional or more detailed financial and/or programmatic reports be submitted; require prior approval for expenditures; require additional technical or management assistance and/or make modifications in business practices; reduce the contract amount; and/or terminate this contract. The foregoing are not exclusive remedies, and the OAG may impose other requirements that the OAG determines will be in the best interest of the State.

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

**9.3 Sanctions.** In addition to financial hold, the OAG, at its sole discretion, may impose other sanctions without first requiring a corrective action plan. The OAG, at its sole discretion, may impose sanctions, including, but not limited to, withholding or suspending funding, offsetting previous reimbursements, requiring repayment, disallowing claims for reimbursement, reducing funding, terminating this contract and/or any other appropriate sanction.

**9.4 No Waiver.** Notwithstanding the imposition of corrective actions, financial hold and/or sanctions, GRANTEE remains responsible for complying with the contract 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 this contract.

## **SECTION 10. GENERAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS**

**10.1 Federal and State Laws, Rules and Regulations, Directives, Guidelines, OMBs and Other Relevant Authorities.** GRANTEE agrees to comply with all applicable federal and state laws, rules and regulations, directives, guidelines, OMB circulars, or any other authorities relevant to the performance of GRANTEE under this contract.

**10.2 Uniform Grant Management Act, UGMS and Applicable Standard Federal and State Certifications and Assurances.** GRANTEE agrees to comply with applicable laws, executive orders, regulations and policies as well as Texas Government Code, Chapter 783, and the Uniform Grant Management Standards (UGMS). Further, GRANTEE agrees to comply with the applicable OAG Certifications and Assurances, as contained in the Application Kit, including, but not limited to, the equal employment opportunity program certification, disclosure and certification regarding lobbying, non-procurement debarment certification, drug-free workplace certification, annual single audit certification, compliance with annual independent financial audit filing requirement, compliance with UGMS and the applicable OMB circulars, return of grant funds in the event of loss or misuse, and conflict of interest

**10.3 Generally Accepted Accounting Principles or Other Recognized Accounting Principles.** 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 GRANTEE and Grantee shall follow OAG fiscal management policies and procedures in processing and submitting requests for reimbursement and maintaining financial records related to this contract.

**10.4 Conflicts of Interest; Disclosure of Conflicts.** GRANTEE has not given, or offered to give, nor does 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 the OAG, at any time during the negotiation of this contract or in connection with this contract, except as allowed under relevant state or federal law. 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. GRANTEE will operate with complete independence and objectivity without actual, potential or apparent conflict of interest with respect to its performance under this contract. GRANTEE must disclose, in writing, within fifteen (15) calendar days of discovery, any existing or potential conflicts of interest relative to its performance under this contract.

**10.5 Compliance with Regulatory and Licensing Bodies.** GRANTEE agrees that it has obtained all licenses, certifications, permits and authorizations necessary to perform the responsibilities of this contract and currently is in good standing with all regulatory agencies that regulate any or all aspects of GRANTEE's business or operations. GRANTEE agrees to remain in good standing with the Texas Secretary of State, the Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts and related federal governmental bodies related to GRANTEE's right to conduct its business in Texas. GRANTEE agrees to comply with all applicable licenses, legal certifications, inspections, and any other applicable local ordinance or state or federal laws.

## **SECTION 11. SPECIAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS**

**11.1 Independent Contractor Status; Indemnity and Hold Harmless Agreement.** 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 a state employee, agent, servant, joint venturer, joint enterpriser or partner of the OAG or the State of Texas. GRANTEE agrees to take such steps as may be necessary to ensure that each contractor of 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 the OAG.

All persons furnished, used, retained, or hired by or on behalf of GRANTEE or any of GRANTEE's contractors shall be considered to be solely the employees or agents of GRANTEE or GRANTEE's contractors. 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.

**GRANTEE or contractors are responsible for all types of claims whatsoever due to actions or performance under this contract, 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. To the extent allowed by law, GRANTEE and/or contractors will indemnify and hold harmless the OAG and/or the State of Texas from and against any and all claims arising out of actions or performance of GRANTEE OR GRANTEE's contractors under this contract. To the extent allowed by law, GRANTEE agrees to indemnify and hold harmless the OAG and/or the State of Texas from any and all liability, actions, claims, demands, or suits, and all related costs, attorney fees, and expenses, that arise from or are occasioned by the negligence, misconduct, or wrongful act or omission of GRANTEE, its employees, representatives, agents, or subcontractors in their performance under this contract.**

**11.2 Publicity.** GRANTEE shall not use the OAG's name or refer to the OAG directly or indirectly in any media release, public service announcement or public service disclosure relating to this contract or any acquisition pursuant hereto, including in any promotional or marketing materials, without first obtaining written consent from the OAG. This section is not intended to and does not

limit GRANTEE's ability to comply with its obligations and duties under the Texas Open Meetings Act and/or the Texas Public Information Act.

**11.3 Intellectual Property.** GRANTEE understands and agrees that where funds obtained under this contract may be used to produce original books, manuals, films, or other original material and intellectual property, GRANTEE may copyright such material subject to the royalty-free, non-exclusive, and irrevocable license which is hereby reserved by the OAG and granted by GRANTEE to the OAG or the state (or federal government, if federal funds are expended in this grant) government. The OAG is granted the unrestricted right to use, copy, modify, prepare derivative works, publish and distribute, at no additional cost to the OAG, in any manner the OAG deems appropriate at its sole discretion, any component of such intellectual property made the subject of this contract.

**11.4 Program Income.** Gross income directly generated from the grant funds through a project or activity performed under this contract are considered program income. Unless otherwise required under the terms of this contract, any program income shall be used by 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. GRANTEE shall identify and report this income in accordance with the OAG's reporting instructions. GRANTEE shall expend program income during this contract term; program income not expended in this contract term shall be refunded to the OAG.

**11.5 No Supplanting.** GRANTEE shall not supplant or otherwise use funds from this contract to replace or substitute existing funding from other sources that also supports the activities that are the subject of this contract.

**11.6 No Solicitation or Receipt of Funds on Behalf of OAG.** It is expressly agreed that any solicitation for or receipt of funds of any type by GRANTEE is for the sole benefit of GRANTEE and is not a solicitation for or receipt of funds on behalf of the OAG or the Attorney General of the State of Texas.

**11.7 No Subcontracting or Assignment Without Prior Written Approval of OAG. OTHER THAN AS SPECIFICALLY ALLOWED IN THIS CONTRACT IN THAT GRANTEE UNDERSTANDS AND AGREES TO ASSIGN ITS RIGHT TO RECEIVE ANY AND ALL REIMBURSEMENT PAYMENTS TO THE CERTIFIED VENDOR,** GRANTEE may not subcontract or assign any of its rights or duties under this contract without the prior written approval of the OAG. It is within the OAG's sole discretion to approve any subcontracting or assignment.

**11.8 No Grants to Certain Organizations.** GRANTEE confirms by executing this contract that it does not make contributions to campaigns for elective office or endorse candidates.

**11.9 No Waiver of Sovereign Immunity.** The Parties agree that no provision of this contract is in any way intended to constitute a waiver by the OAG or the State of Texas of any immunities from suit or from liability that the OAG or the State of Texas may have by operation of law.

**11.10 Governing Law; Venue.** This contract is made and entered into in the State of Texas. This contract and all disputes arising out of or relating thereto shall be governed by the laws of the State of Texas, without regard to any otherwise applicable conflict of law rules or requirements.

Except where state law establishes mandatory venue, GRANTEE agrees that any action, suit, litigation or other proceeding (collectively "litigation") arising out of or in any way relating to this contract shall be commenced exclusively in the Travis County District Court or the United States District Court in the Western District, Austin Division, and to the extent allowed by law, hereby irrevocably and unconditionally consents to the exclusive jurisdiction of those courts for the purpose of prosecuting and/or defending such litigation. 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 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.

**11.11 Special Conditions.** Exhibit B, attached here and incorporated herein, and applicable to this contract. If any Special Conditions are imposed by the OAG, those provisions will be reflected on the attached Exhibit B.

## **SECTION 12. CONSTRUCTION OF CONTRACT AND AMENDMENTS**

**12.1 Construction of Contract.** The provisions of Section 1 are intended to be a general introduction to this contract. To the extent the terms and conditions of this contract 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 contract.

**12.2 Entire Agreement, including All Exhibits.** This contract, including all exhibits, reflects the entire agreement between the Parties with respect to the subject matter therein described, and there are no other representations (verbal or written), directives, guidance, assistance, understandings or agreements between the Parties related to such subject matter. By executing this contract, GRANTEE agrees to strictly comply with the requirements and obligations of this contract, including all exhibits.

**12.3 Amendment.** This contract shall not be modified or amended except in writing, signed by both parties. Any properly executed amendment of this contract shall be binding upon the Parties and presumed to be supported by adequate consideration.

**12.4 Partial Invalidity.** If any term or provision of this contract is found to be illegal or unenforceable, such construction shall not affect the legality or validity of any of its other provisions.



The illegal or invalid provision shall be deemed severable and stricken from the contract as if it had never been incorporated herein, but all other provisions shall continue in full force and effect.

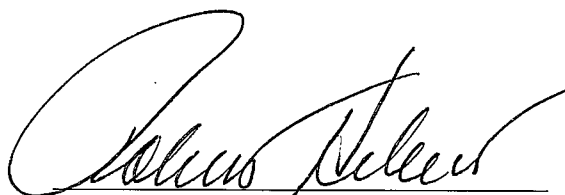
**12.5 Non-waiver.** The failure of any Party to insist upon strict performance of any of the terms or conditions herein, irrespective of the length of time of such failure, shall not be a waiver of that party's right to demand strict compliance in the future. No consent or waiver, express or implied, to or of any breach or default in the performance of any obligation under this contract 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 contract.

**12.6 Official Capacity.** The Parties stipulate and agree that the signatories hereto are signing, executing and performing this contract only in their official capacity.

**OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY  
GENERAL**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Printed Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Office of the Attorney General

**FORT BEND COUNTY**

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Robert E. Hebert", written over a horizontal line.

Printed Name: Robert E. Hebert, County Judge  
Authorized Official

**SAVNS MAINTENANCE GRANT CONTRACT BETWEEN  
THE OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL  
AND  
FORT BEND COUNTY**

**OAG Contract No. 1554708**

**EXHIBIT A**

**Population Size: Large**

The total liability of the OAG for any type of liability directly or indirectly arising out of this contract and in consideration of GRANTEE'S full, satisfactory and timely performance of all its duties, responsibilities, obligations, liability, and for reimbursement by the OAG for expenses, if any, as set forth in this contract or arising out of any performance herein shall not exceed the following:

<b>Event</b>	<b>Cost for Jail</b>	<b>Cost for Courts</b>	<b>Maximum Number of Months</b>	<b>Total Grant Funds SHALL NOT EXCEED</b>
<b>Standard Maintenance Phase</b>	\$23,765.16	\$7,900.32	12	\$31,665.48

**AS PROVIDED BY THIS CONTRACT, GRANTEE SPECIFICALLY UNDERSTANDS AND AGREES TO ASSIGN ITS RIGHT TO RECEIVE ANY AND ALL REIMBURSEMENT PAYMENTS UNDER THIS CONTRACT TO THE CERTIFIED VENDOR.**

The maximum number of months is provided above. The OAG is not obligated to pay for services prior to the commencement or after the termination of this contract.

**SAVNS MAINTENANCE GRANT CONTRACT BETWEEN  
THE OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL  
AND  
FORT BEND COUNTY**

**OAG Contract No. 1554708**

**EXHIBIT B**

**SPECIAL CONDITIONS**

Special Conditions are imposed by the OAG, at its sole discretion. In addition to the ones identified in this exhibit to this contract, the OAG may, at its sole discretion, impose additional special conditions, with or without notice, without amending this contract.

The OAG is placing GRANTEE on immediate financial hold, without further notice, until all Special Conditions, if any, listed in this Exhibit are met.

The following Special Conditions apply to this contract:

- None