

AGENDA PLACEMENT FORM

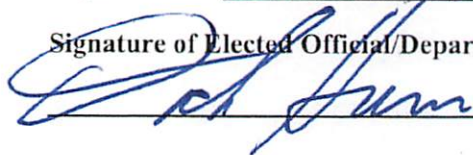
(Submission Deadline – Monday, 5:00 PM before Regular Court Meetings)

Date: 10072024

Meeting Date: 10152024

Submitted By: Dale Hanna

Department: District Attorney

Signature of Elected Official/Department Head:


Court Decision: <small>This section to be completed by County Judge's Office</small>


Description:

Grant Agreement For the Rural Law Enforcement Salary Assistance Program
Award # IA-0000001007

(May attach additional sheets if necessary)

Person to Present: _____

(Presenter must be present for the item unless the item is on the Consent Agenda)

Supporting Documentation: (check one) PUBLIC CONFIDENTIAL

(PUBLIC documentation may be made available to the public prior to the Meeting)

Estimated Length of Presentation: _____ minutes

Session Requested: (check one)

Action Item Consent Workshop Executive Other _____

Check All Departments That Have Been Notified:

County Attorney IT Purchasing Auditor
 Personnel Public Works Facilities Management

Other Department/Official (list) _____

**Please List All External Persons Who Need a Copy of Signed Documents
In Your Submission Email**

GRANT AGREEMENT
Rural Law Enforcement Salary Assistance Program
Award # IA-0000001007

This grant agreement ("Agreement") is entered into by and between the Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts ("Comptroller") and the Office of the District Attorney of Somervell; Johnson ("Grantee") located at 204 S Buffalo Ave, Ste 209 Cleburne Texas 76033. For purposes of this Agreement, Comptroller and Grantee are sometimes collectively referred to as the "Parties" or individually as a "Party."

Article I. Recitals

Whereas, the 88th Texas Legislature passed Senate Bill 22 (S.B. 22) to establish a grant program to provide financial assistance to qualified sheriff's offices, constable's offices, and prosecutor's offices in rural counties (the "Program");

Whereas, Comptroller has authority to implement and administer the Program and award grants to eligible applicants pursuant to Local Government Code, Chapter 130, Subchapter Z, Sections 130.911, 130.912, and 130.913;

Whereas, Grantee warrants that it is eligible to participate in the Program;

Whereas, Grantee certifies that it has not and will not reduce the amount of funds provided to its sheriff's office, constable's office or prosecutor's office, as applicable, because of an award of grant funds under this Agreement;

Whereas, Grantee timely submitted an application for a grant;

Whereas, Comptroller has reviewed and approved Grantee's application for a grant;

Whereas, the Parties desire to set forth their mutual expectations and obligations for participation in the Program; and

Now, therefore, in consideration of Grantee's compliance with all requirements of this Agreement, Comptroller awards this Agreement to the Grantee and the Parties do hereby represent, covenant, and agree as follows:

Article II. Authority

This Agreement is entered into pursuant to the authority granted and in compliance with the provisions of Local Government Code, Sections 130.911, 130.912, or 130.913, as applicable. This Agreement is funded by state funds appropriated by the State Legislature.

Article III. Grant

In consideration of the various obligations to be undertaken by Grantee, Comptroller awards Grantee the amount of \$ 275000.00, to be disbursed to Grantee for the purposes of funding a Rural Prosecutor's Office Salary Assistance Grant FY25, subject to the following:

1. Grantee shall use grant funds only for the authorized uses set forth in Article V of this Agreement, and only for the Rural Prosecutor's Office Salary Assistance Grant FY25 as indicated on the Grantee's application.
2. Grantee shall fully comply with all terms and conditions of this Agreement; the requirements

of Local Government Code, §§ 130.911, 130.912, or 130.913, as applicable; the relevant provisions of the Texas Grant Management Standards (TxGMS) and the State of Texas Procurement and Contract Management Guide, or their successors, adopted in accordance with Texas law; and all applicable state or federal statutes, rules, regulations, or guidance applicable to the grant award, including 34 Texas Administrative Code (TAC), Part I, Chapter 16, Subchapter D.

3. Grantee specifically assures compliance with the provisions of Appendix 6 of TxGMS (Uniform Assurances by Local Governments) that are applicable to this Grant.

Article IV. Term

This Agreement is effective from the date signed by Comptroller ("Effective Date"), after first having been signed by Grantee, to and including an expiration date of September 30, 2025, unless terminated earlier in accordance with other provisions of this Agreement.

Article V. Authorized Uses of Grant Funds; Limitations

Section 1 of this Article applies only to a Rural Sheriff's Office Salary Assistance Grant, Section 2 of this Article applies only to a Rural Constable's Office Salary Assistance Grant, Section 3 of this Article applies only to a Rural Prosecutor's Office Salary Assistance Grant, and Section 4 of this Article applies to all grants except as otherwise set out in Section 4.

Section 1. Rural Sheriff's Office Salary Assistance Grant (Local Government Code, § 130.911)

A. Authorized Uses. Grant funds may only be used:

1. to provide a minimum annual salary of at least:
 - a. \$75,000 for the county sheriff (as defined by 34 TAC §16.300(3));
 - b. \$45,000 for each deputy sheriff (as defined by 34 TAC §16.300(4)) who performs motor vehicle stops in the routine performance of their duties; and
 - c. \$40,000 for each jailer (as defined by 34 TAC §16.300(2)) whose duties include the safekeeping of prisoners and the security of a jail operated by the county; and
2. provided that each county sheriff that meets the definition in 34 TAC § 16.300(3), each deputy sheriff that meets the definition in 34 TAC §16.300(4), and each county jailer that meets the definition in 34 TAC §16.300(2) receives the minimum salary described by paragraph (1) of this section:
 - a. to increase the salary of a person described by paragraph (1) of this section;
 - b. to hire additional deputies or staff for the sheriff's office; or
 - c. to purchase vehicles, firearms, and safety equipment (as defined by 34 TAC §§ 16.300(13) and 16.300(14)) for the sheriff's office.

- B. **Deficient Grant Funds.** If Grantee does not have sufficient grant funding to fund the minimum annual salaries required by this Section 1, Grantee may use grant funds to increase the salaries of the persons described in this Section 1 on a pro-rata basis.

Section 2. Rural Constable's Office Salary Assistance Grant (Local Government Code, § 130.912)

- A. **Authorized Uses.** Grant funds may only be used to provide a minimum annual salary of \$45,000 to a qualified constable (as defined by 34 TAC § 16.300(10)).

- B. Contribution Requirement.** For each qualified constable whose salary is funded in part by the Grant, Grantee must contribute at least 75% of the money required to meet the minimum annual salary requirement.

Section 3. Rural Prosecutor's Office Salary Assistance Grant (Local Government Code, § 130.913)

A. Authorized Uses. Grant funds may only be used:

1. to increase the salary of an assistant attorney, an investigator, or a victim assistance coordinator (as defined by 34 TAC §16.300(14)) employed at the prosecutor's office; or
2. to hire additional staff for the prosecutor's office.

Section 4. Additional Terms

- A. Nonmonetary Benefits and Taxes.** A minimum annual salary as described in Sections 1 and 2 of this Article does not include any overtime compensation. A salary increase includes increases required to bring a salary to the minimum annual salary as described by Sections 1 and 2 of this Article, and salary increases described by Sections 1 and 3 of this Article, and will be measured based on the salary provided on the last day of the entity's fiscal year ending in 2023, excluding any overtime. The cost of a salary increase as described in this Article includes the increase of legally required nonmonetary benefits and taxes for that salary. A salary increase does not include overtime and the cost of a salary increase does not include an increase of legally required nonmonetary benefits and taxes for overtime compensation. Grantee may only use grant funds for the legally required nonmonetary benefits and taxes for a salary if Grantee provides the minimum annual salary required by Sections 1 and 2 of this Article, if applicable. Grantee may not reduce a salary below a minimum salary required by Sections 1 and 2 of this Article to use grant funds for legally required nonmonetary benefits and taxes for that salary.

- B. Minimum Hourly Wage Calculation.** If a person described in Sections 1 or 2 of this Article is a part-time or hourly employee, or holds a dual office or otherwise divides work hours between a position described in this Article and another position, the minimum annual salary required by Sections 1 or 2 of this Article may be converted to a minimum hourly wage and will apply only to the hours of work performed for a position described in this Article as follows:

1. for an employee with a 40-hour work week, the minimum hourly wage shall be the product of:
 - a. the minimum annual salary described in this Article; and
 - b. a quotient:
 - i. the numerator of which is equal to the number of hours the employee normally works performing duties for a position described in this Article each week, not to exceed 40; and
 - ii. the denominator of which is equal to 40; and
2. for an employee with a county adopted work period as authorized by Section 7(k), Fair Labor Standards Act, 29 U.S.C.A § 207(k), the minimum hourly wage shall be the product of:
 - a. the minimum annual salary described in this Article; and
 - b. a quotient:
 - i. the numerator of which is equal to the number of hours the employee normally works performing duties for a position described in this Article each period, not to exceed the

number of hours that are nonovertime as determined under the Fair Labor Standards Act;
and

- ii. the denominator of which is equal to the number of hours that are nonovertime as determined under the Fair Labor Standards Act.
- C. A person whose salary increase may be paid with grant funds under Sections 1 and 3 of this Article may be paid an increase in hourly wages if they are paid an hourly wage rather than an annual salary.
- D. **Expenditure of Grant Funds.** Subject to Article VI, Section D of this Agreement, Grantee shall expend the funds during the grant period. Funds for purchases are considered expended when Grantee is legally obligated to expend the funds.

Article VI. Reimbursement

- A. **Advance Payment.** Comptroller shall disburse the grant funds as soon as practicable following the Effective Date. By making advance payment, Comptroller does not waive any requirements for the reimbursement of costs. Upon Comptroller's request, Grantee shall submit records in support of reimbursement requests.
- B. **Deposit of Funds.** Whenever possible, grant funds must be deposited and maintained in insured, interest-bearing accounts. Interest earned on grant funds is not considered program income, and Grantee must use any accrued interest for grant purposes only and on allowable costs under this Agreement.
- C. **Eligibility for Cost Reimbursement.** Comptroller will reimburse Grantee for necessary and reasonable allowable costs paid by Grantee in performance of this Agreement. Allowable costs are restricted to costs that comply with the Agreement, TxGMS, and state law. The parties agree that all the requirements of TxGMS apply to this Agreement, including the criteria for allowable costs.
- D. **Pre-award Costs.** Comptroller will reimburse Grantee for pre-award costs provided (a) the costs are incurred during the portion of Grantee's fiscal year in which this grant period occurs that precedes the date of award, if any, and (b) the costs would have been allowable under the terms of this Agreement if incurred during the grant period.

Article VII. Reporting and Compliance

- A. **Compliance Reports.** Grantee shall submit a compliance report certifying compliance and detailing expenditures of grant funds using Comptroller's electronic form no later than 30 days following the expiration or termination of this Agreement. Comptroller may request supporting documentation regarding expenditures and any other information required to substantiate that grant funds are being used for the intended purpose and that Grantee has complied with the terms, conditions, and requirements of the applicable statute, the Agreement and 34 Texas Administrative Code, Chapter 16, Subchapter D. Grantee shall submit any information requested by Comptroller within fourteen (14) calendar days of the request.
- B. **Remedies for Non-Compliance.** If Comptroller finds that Grantee has failed to comply with terms and conditions of this Agreement or any other requirement described in Article III, Section 2 of this Agreement, Comptroller may:
1. require Grantee to return the grant funds or a portion of the grant funds;
 2. withhold grant funds from the current grant or future grants to be received by Grantee pending correction of the deficiency;
 3. disallow all or part of the cost of the activity or action that is not in compliance;

4. terminate the Agreement in whole or in part;
5. bar Grantee from future consideration for grant funds under 34 Texas Administrative Code, Chapter 16, Subchapter D; or
6. exercise any other legal remedies available to Comptroller under this Agreement, at law, in equity, or otherwise.

Article VIII. General

- A. **Audit Requirements.** Funds allocated in connection with this Agreement are considered to be state financial assistance for the purpose of determining the audit requirements under the Texas Grant Management Standards. If an audit is required to comply with the requirements of Texas Grant Management Standards, Grantee shall complete an audit at the end of Grantee's fiscal year. Grantee agrees that in the event of any audit findings related to state awards provided by Comptroller, Grantee will inform Comptroller within two (2) business days following Grantee's receipt of any written audit findings or reports (whether in draft or final form), and thereafter submit any documentation related to the audit findings upon Comptroller's request (including, but not limited to, a copy of the final audit report, a response to the current status of the prior year's questioned costs, copies of management letters written as a result of the audit, and action plans, if any).
- B. **Texas Public Information Act.** Comptroller is bound by the provisions of the Texas Public Information Act ("TPIA"), Chapter 552, Texas Government Code. Information, documentation, and other material in connection with this Agreement may be subject to public disclosure pursuant to the TPIA. If Grantee receives a request for information related to this Agreement from a third party, Grantee shall forward the request to Comptroller within three (3) days of receipt.
- C. **Records; Right to Audit.** Grantee acknowledges that acceptance of funds under this Agreement acts as acceptance of the authority of the State Auditor (or any successor agency), 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 other entity that is the subject of an audit or investigation by the state auditor shall provide the state auditor with access to any information the state auditor considers relevant to the investigation or audit. Comptroller further reserves the right to monitor and audit Grantee's compliance with the requirements of this Agreement.
- D. **Funding Limitation.** The Agreement shall not be construed as creating a debt on behalf of Comptroller in violation of Article III, Section 49a of the Texas Constitution. All obligations of Comptroller under the Agreement are subject to the availability of grant funds. The Agreement is subject to termination or cancellation, either in whole or in part, without penalty to Comptroller if such funds are not appropriated or become unavailable.
- E. **Records Retention.** Grantee shall maintain and retain all records relating to the performance of the Agreement, including supporting fiscal documents adequate to ensure that claims for grant funds are in accordance with applicable State of Texas requirements. These records will be maintained and retained by Grantee for a period of five (5) years after the Agreement expiration date or until all audit, claim, and litigation matters are resolved, whichever is later. Comptroller reserves the right to direct grantee to retain documents for a longer period of time or transfer certain records to Comptroller custody when it is determined the records possess longer term retention value.
- F. **NO INDEMNIFICATION. THE PARTIES AGREE THAT COMPTROLLER WILL NOT INDEMNIFY GRANTEE FOR ANY LIABILITY, ACTIONS, CLAIMS, DEMANDS, OR SUITS, OR ANY RELATED COSTS, ATTORNEY FEES, OR EXPENSES ARISING OUT OF OR RESULTING FROM ANY ACTS OR OMISSIONS OF GRANTEE IN PERFORMANCE OF THE AGREEMENT.**

- G. **Force Majeure.** Neither Party shall be liable to the other for any delay in, or failure of performance, of any requirement included in this Agreement caused by force majeure. The existence of such causes of delay or failure shall extend the period of performance until after the causes of delay or failure have been removed provided the non-performing Party exercises all reasonable due diligence to perform. Force majeure is defined as acts of God, war, fires, explosions, hurricanes, floods, failure of transportation, pandemic/quarantine orders or other causes that are beyond the reasonable control of either Party and that by exercise of due foresight such Party could not reasonably have been expected to avoid, and which, by the exercise of all reasonable due diligence, such Party is unable to overcome.
- H. **Independent Contractor.** The Parties agree that each Party is contracting as an independent contractor.
- I. **Assignment.** No assignment of this Agreement or of any right accruing hereunder shall be made, in whole or part, by either Party without the prior written consent of the other.
- J. **Headings.** The headings contained in this Agreement are for reference purposes only and shall not in any way affect the meaning or interpretation of the Agreement.
- K. **No Waiver.** This Agreement shall not constitute or be construed as a waiver of any of the privileges, rights, defenses, remedies, or immunities available to either Party as an agency of the State of Texas or otherwise available to the Party. The failure to enforce or any delay in the enforcement of any privileges, rights, defenses, remedies, or immunities available to a Party under this Agreement or under applicable law shall not constitute a waiver of such privileges, rights, defenses, remedies, or immunities or be considered as a basis for estoppel.
- L. **Survival.** The expiration or termination of this Agreement shall not affect the rights and obligations of the Parties accrued prior to the effective date of expiration or termination and such rights and obligations shall survive and remain enforceable.
- M. **Severability.** If one or more provisions are deemed invalid, illegal, or unenforceable for any reason, such invalidity, illegality or unenforceability shall not affect any other provision and this Agreement shall be construed as if the invalid, illegal or unenforceable provision had never been contained herein.
- N. **Governing Law.** This Agreement is governed by and construed under and in accordance with the laws of the State of Texas, without regard to the conflicts of law provisions. The venue of any suit arising under this Agreement is fixed in any court of competent jurisdiction of Travis County, Texas, unless the specific venue is otherwise identified in a statute that directly names or otherwise identifies its applicability to the contracting state agency.

Article IX. Certifications, Representations, and Warranties

By signing the Agreement, Grantee certifies its compliance with the following and all other provisions of Appendix 6 (Uniform Assurances by Local Governments) of Texas Grant Management Standards that are applicable to this Agreement.

- A. **Compliance with Laws, Rules, and Requirements.** Grantee represents and warrants that it will comply with all applicable laws, rules, and regulations, and all terms and conditions established by CPA and the State of Texas with respect to the use of Grant funds.
- B. **Actual or Potential Conflicts of Interest Prohibited.** Grantee represents and warrants that performance under this Agreement will not constitute an actual or potential conflict of interest or reasonably create an appearance of impropriety. Further, Grantee represents and warrants that in the administration of the Agreement, it will comply with all conflict-of-interest prohibitions and disclosure requirements required by applicable law, rules, and policies, including the provisions under Chapters 171 and 176 of the Local Government Code and Chapter 573 of the Texas Government Code.

- C. **Cybersecurity Training Program (Local Government System).** Grantee represents and warrants its compliance with Section 2054.5191 of the Texas Government Code relating to the cybersecurity training program for local government employees who have access to a local government computer system or database.
- D. **Disclosure Protections for Certain Charitable Organizations, Charitable Trusts, and Private Foundations.** Grantee represents and warrants that it will comply with Section 2252.906 of the Texas Government Code relating to disclosure protections for certain charitable organizations, charitable trusts, and private foundations.
- E. **Executive Head of a State Agency.** In accordance with Section 669.003 of the Texas Government Code, relating to contracting with the executive head of a state agency, Grantee certifies that it is not (1) the executive head of CPA, (2) a person who at any time during the four years before the date of the Agreement or grant was the executive head of CPA, or (3) a person who employs a current or former executive head of CPA.
- F. **Law Enforcement Agency Grant Restriction.** If Grantee is a law enforcement agency regulated by Chapter 1701 of the Texas Occupations Code, Grantee represents and warrants that it will not use appropriated money unless the law enforcement agency is in compliance with all rules adopted by the Texas Commission on Law Enforcement, or the Texas Commission on Law Enforcement certifies that it is in the process of achieving compliance with such rules.
- G. **Limitations on Grants.** Grantee acknowledges and agrees that funds received under this Agreement will be expended subject to the limitations and reporting requirements similar to those provided by the following: Parts 2 and 3 of the Texas General Appropriations Act, Art. IX, except there is no requirement for increased salaries for local government employees; Sections 556.004, 556.005, and 556.006 of the Texas Government Code; and Sections 2113.012 and 2113.101 of the Texas Government Code.
- H. **Lobbying Expenditure Restriction.** Grantee represents and warrants that payments to Grantee and Grantee's receipt of appropriated or other funds under the Agreement are not prohibited by Sections 403.1067 or 556.0055 of the Texas Government Code, which restrict lobbying expenditures.
- I. **Political Polling Prohibition.** Grantee represents and warrants that it does not perform political polling and acknowledges that appropriated funds may not be granted to, or expended by, any entity which performs political polling.
- J. **Public Camping Ban.** Grantee certifies that it has not received a final judicial determination finding it intentionally adopted or enforced a policy that prohibited or discouraged the enforcement of a public camping ban in an action brought by the Attorney General under Section 364.003 of the Local Government Code. If Grantee is currently being sued under the provisions of Section 364.003 of the Local Government Code, or is sued under this Section at any point during the duration of this grant, Grantee must immediately disclose the lawsuit and its current posture to Comptroller.

Article X. Notices; Liaison

Any notice relating to this Agreement, which is required or permitted to be given under this Agreement by one party to the other party shall be in writing and shall be addressed to the receiving party at the address specified below. The notice shall be deemed to have been given immediately if delivered in person to the recipient's address specified below. It shall be deemed to have been given on the date of certified receipt if placed in the United States mail, postage prepaid, by registered or certified mail with return receipt requested, addressed to the receiving party at the address specified below. Registered or certified mail with return receipt is not required for copies.

The address of Comptroller for all purposes under this Agreement and for all notices hereunder shall be:

Comptroller: Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts
ATTN: Contracts Section
111 E 17th Street, Room 310C
Austin, Texas 78774
With copy sent via electronic mail to contracts@cpa.texas.gov

The address of Grantee for all purposes under this Agreement and for all notices hereunder shall be:

Grantee: Office of the District Attorney of Somervell; Johnson
204 S Buffalo Ave, Ste 209 Cleburne Texas 76033

Contact Person: Dale Hanna
District Attorney
merry@johnsoncountytexas.org
8175566801


Article XI. Signatories

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Parties have caused this Agreement to be executed by their undersigned, duly authorized representatives. This Agreement may be executed in one or more counterparts, each of which is an original, and all of which constitute only one agreement between the Parties.

Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts

Somervell; Johnson

BY 

BY 

Lisa Craven
Deputy Comptroller

Dale Hanna
District Attorney

DATE 10/1/2024 | 9:34 AM CDT

DATE 10/1/2024 | 8:35 AM CDT

Certificate Of Completion

Envelope Id: 88573C28F7D443BBA9F8B9B6E7B7DE50
Subject: Rural Law Enforcement Grant Agreement
Source Envelope:
Document Pages: 8
Certificate Pages: 5
AutoNav: Enabled
EnvelopeId Stamping: Enabled
Time Zone: (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)

Status: Completed

Envelope Originator:
Heather Hampton
Heather.Hampton@cpa.texas.gov
IP Address: 18.253.34.110

Record Tracking

Status: Original
9/30/2024 8:06:49 AM
Security Appliance Status: Connected
Storage Appliance Status: Connected
Holder: Heather Hampton
Heather.Hampton@cpa.texas.gov
Pool: FedRamp
Pool: Salesforce-PROD

Location: DocuSign

Location: DocuSign

Signer Events

Dale Hanna
merry@johnsoncountytexas.org
Security Level: Email, Account Authentication
(None)

Signature

Signed by:
Dale Hanna
B8F8082CEA23434

Signature Adoption: Pre-selected Style
Using IP Address: 66.143.87.210

Timestamp

Sent: 9/30/2024 8:07:22 AM
Viewed: 10/1/2024 8:34:11 AM
Signed: 10/1/2024 8:35:45 AM

Electronic Record and Signature Disclosure:
Accepted: 10/1/2024 8:34:11 AM
ID: 64b34881-4d0c-4064-a7f3-453a23186eb7

Lisa Craven
lisa.craven@cpa.texas.gov
Deputy Comptroller
Security Level: Email, Account Authentication
(None)

DocuSigned by
Lisa Craven
E450165D7B4443C

Signature Adoption: Pre-selected Style
Using IP Address: 204.64.147.248

Sent: 10/1/2024 8:35:47 AM
Viewed: 10/1/2024 9:34:02 AM
Signed: 10/1/2024 9:34:34 AM

Electronic Record and Signature Disclosure:
Accepted: 2/26/2024 10:14:36 AM
ID: d0daaa94-1252-47fe-afac-dfed056dfa5a

In Person Signer Events

Signature

Timestamp

Editor Delivery Events

Status

Timestamp

Agent Delivery Events

Status

Timestamp

Intermediary Delivery Events

Status

Timestamp

Certified Delivery Events

Status

Timestamp

Carbon Copy Events

Status

Timestamp

Witness Events

Signature

Timestamp

Notary Events

Signature

Timestamp

Envelope Summary Events

Status

Timestamps

Envelope Sent

Hashed/Encrypted

9/30/2024 8:07:22 AM

Envelope Summary Events**Status****Timestamps**

Certified Delivered

Security Checked

10/1/2024 9:34:02 AM

Signing Complete

Security Checked

10/1/2024 9:34:34 AM

Completed

Security Checked

10/1/2024 9:34:34 AM

Payment Events**Status****Timestamps****Electronic Record and Signature Disclosure**

ELECTRONIC RECORD AND SIGNATURE DISCLOSURE

From time to time, Salesforce-PROD (we, us or Company) may be required by law to provide to you certain written notices or disclosures. Described below are the terms and conditions for providing to you such notices and disclosures electronically through the DocuSign system. Please read the information below carefully and thoroughly, and if you can access this information electronically to your satisfaction and agree to this Electronic Record and Signature Disclosure (ERSD), please confirm your agreement by selecting the check-box next to 'I agree to use electronic records and signatures' before clicking 'CONTINUE' within the DocuSign system.

Getting paper copies

At any time, you may request from us a paper copy of any record provided or made available electronically to you by us. You will have the ability to download and print documents we send to you through the DocuSign system during and immediately after the signing session and, if you elect to create a DocuSign account, you may access the documents for a limited period of time (usually 30 days) after such documents are first sent to you. After such time, if you wish for us to send you paper copies of any such documents from our office to you, you will be charged a \$0.00 per-page fee. You may request delivery of such paper copies from us by following the procedure described below.

Withdrawing your consent

If you decide to receive notices and disclosures from us electronically, you may at any time change your mind and tell us that thereafter you want to receive required notices and disclosures only in paper format. How you must inform us of your decision to receive future notices and disclosure in paper format and withdraw your consent to receive notices and disclosures electronically is described below.

Consequences of changing your mind

If you elect to receive required notices and disclosures only in paper format, it will slow the speed at which we can complete certain steps in transactions with you and delivering services to you because we will need first to send the required notices or disclosures to you in paper format, and then wait until we receive back from you your acknowledgment of your receipt of such paper notices or disclosures. Further, you will no longer be able to use the DocuSign system to receive required notices and consents electronically from us or to sign electronically documents from us.

All notices and disclosures will be sent to you electronically

Unless you tell us otherwise in accordance with the procedures described herein, we will provide electronically to you through the DocuSign system all required notices, disclosures, authorizations, acknowledgements, and other documents that are required to be provided or made available to you during the course of our relationship with you. To reduce the chance of you inadvertently not receiving any notice or disclosure, we prefer to provide all of the required notices and disclosures to you by the same method and to the same address that you have given us. Thus, you can receive all the disclosures and notices electronically or in paper format through the paper mail delivery system. If you do not agree with this process, please let us know as described below. Please also see the paragraph immediately above that describes the consequences of your electing not to receive delivery of the notices and disclosures electronically from us.

How to contact Salesforce-PROD:

You may contact us to let us know of your changes as to how we may contact you electronically, to request paper copies of certain information from us, and to withdraw your prior consent to receive notices and disclosures electronically as follows:

To contact us by email send messages to: kaite.guerrero@cpa.texas.gov

To advise Salesforce-PROD of your new email address

To let us know of a change in your email address where we should send notices and disclosures electronically to you, you must send an email message to us at kaite.guerrero@cpa.texas.gov and in the body of such request you must state: your previous email address, your new email address. We do not require any other information from you to change your email address.

If you created a DocuSign account, you may update it with your new email address through your account preferences.

To request paper copies from Salesforce-PROD

To request delivery from us of paper copies of the notices and disclosures previously provided by us to you electronically, you must send us an email to kaite.guerrero@cpa.texas.gov and in the body of such request you must state your email address, full name, mailing address, and telephone number. We will bill you for any fees at that time, if any.

To withdraw your consent with Salesforce-PROD

To inform us that you no longer wish to receive future notices and disclosures in electronic format you may:

- i. decline to sign a document from within your signing session, and on the subsequent page, select the check-box indicating you wish to withdraw your consent, or you may;
- ii. send us an email to kaite.guerrero@cpa.texas.gov and in the body of such request you must state your email, full name, mailing address, and telephone number. We do not need any other information from you to withdraw consent.. The consequences of your withdrawing consent for online documents will be that transactions may take a longer time to process..

Required hardware and software

The minimum system requirements for using the DocuSign system may change over time. The current system requirements are found here: <https://support.docusign.com/guides/signer-guide-signing-system-requirements>.

Acknowledging your access and consent to receive and sign documents electronically

To confirm to us that you can access this information electronically, which will be similar to other electronic notices and disclosures that we will provide to you, please confirm that you have read this ERSD, and (i) that you are able to print on paper or electronically save this ERSD for your future reference and access; or (ii) that you are able to email this ERSD to an email address where you will be able to print on paper or save it for your future reference and access. Further, if you consent to receiving notices and disclosures exclusively in electronic format as described herein, then select the check-box next to 'I agree to use electronic records and signatures' before clicking 'CONTINUE' within the DocuSign system.

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