



**MASTER AGREEMENT**

**BY AND BETWEEN**

**COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES**

**DEPARTMENT OF MEDICAL EXAMINER-CORONER**

**AND**

**(CONTRACTOR)**

**FOR PART-TIME / INTERMITTENT  
FORENSIC PATHOLOGY SERVICES**

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## **STANDARD EXHIBITS**

- A Statement of Work
- B Schedule of Fees
- C County's Administration
- D Contractor's Administration
- E Safely Surrendered Baby Law
- F Jury Service Ordinance
- G Sample Work Order Formats
- H Forms Required For Each Work Order Before Work Begins
- I Business Associate Agreement under the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 ("HIPAA")
- J Contractor's EEO Certification
- K Intentionally Omitted

**MASTER AGREEMENT BETWEEN  
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES,  
DEPARTMENT OF MEDICAL EXAMINER-CORONER  
AND  
\_\_\_\_\_  
FOR  
PART-TIME / INTERMITTENT  
FORENSIC PATHOLOGY SERVICES**

This Master Agreement and Exhibits made and entered into this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 201\_ by and between the County of Los Angeles, hereinafter referred to as "County" and \_\_\_\_\_, hereinafter referred to as "Contractor," to provide forensic autopsy services required of the County's Chief Medical Examiner-Coroner (hereinafter, "Coroner") who conducts medico-legal investigations in certain deaths.

**RECITALS**

WHEREAS, the Coroner has a need to perform autopsy services pursuant to Government Code Section 27471; and

WHEREAS, the County has determined that the forensic pathology services to be performed hereunder are needed only on a part-time or intermittent basis; and

WHEREAS, in accordance with the provision of part-time or intermittent services, it is the intent of the parties that the services provided pursuant to this Agreement shall be used only to address unanticipated, critical staffing shortages, peak workloads, unexpected emergencies, vacation coverage or service needs that are sporadic or unpredictable in nature such that they do not give rise to the need for a full-time physician; and

WHEREAS, the Coroner has found that the Contractor has the ability, based upon meeting qualifications and having previous experience, to provide autopsy services; and

WHEREAS, the Coroner has selected the Contractor who has proposed and desires to provide autopsy services to the Coroner; and

WHEREAS, Contractor either is (if not incorporated), or has (if incorporated) as its principal officer or employee, a physician duly licensed and certified under the laws of the State of California to engage in the practice of medicine; and

WHEREAS, this Master Agreement is therefore authorized under California Codes, Government Code Section 31000 which authorizes the Board of Supervisors to contract for special services; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Supervisors has authorized the Coroner or his/her designee to execute and administer this Master Agreement; and

NOW THEREFORE, in consideration of the mutual covenants contained herein, and for good and valuable consideration, the parties agree to the following:

## **1.0 APPLICABLE DOCUMENTS**

Exhibits A, B, C, D, E, F, G, H, I, J and K are attached to and form a part of this Master Agreement. In the event of any conflict or inconsistency in the definition or interpretation of any word, responsibility, schedule, or the contents or description of any task, deliverable, goods, service, or other work, or otherwise between the base Master Agreement and the Exhibits, or between Exhibits, such conflict or inconsistency shall be resolved by giving precedence first to the Master Agreement and then to the Exhibits according to the following priority:

### **Standard Exhibits:**

- 1.1 Exhibit A Statement of Work
- 1.2 Exhibit B Schedule of Fees
- 1.3 Exhibit C County's Administration

- 1.4 Exhibit D Contractor's Administration
- 1.5 Exhibit E Safely Surrendered Baby Law
- 1.6 Exhibit F Jury Service Ordinance
- 1.7 Exhibit G Sample Work Order Forms
- 1.8 Exhibit H - Forms Required For Each Work Order Before Work Begins
- 1.9 Exhibit I - Business Associate Agreement under the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 ("HIPAA")
- 1.10 Exhibit J - Contractor's EEO Certification Subsequent Executed Work Orders
- 1.11 EXHIBIT K - Intentionally Omitted

This Master Agreement and the Exhibits hereto constitute the complete and exclusive statement of understanding between the parties, and supersedes all previous Master Agreements, written and oral, and all communications between the parties relating to the subject matter of this Master Agreement. No change to this Master Agreement shall be valid unless prepared pursuant to sub-paragraph 8.1 - Amendments and signed by both parties.

## 2.0 DEFINITIONS

The headings herein contained are for convenience and reference only and are not intended to define the scope of any provision thereof. The following words as used herein shall be construed to have the following meaning, unless otherwise apparent from the context in which they are used.

- 2.1 **Active Contractor:** Identifies a Qualified Contractor who is in compliance with the terms and conditions and whose evidence of insurance requirements have all been received by the Department and are valid and in effect at the time of a given Work Order award. As used herein, the terms Active Contractor and Contractor may be used interchangeably throughout this document.
- 2.2 **Contractor Project Manager:** The individual designated by the Contractor to administer the day-to-day activities and operations as related to this Master Agreement after the Master Agreement award.
- 2.3 **Intentionally Omitted**
- 2.4 **County Project Director:** Person designated by Coroner with authority over administrative and operational matters relating to this Master Agreement.
- 2.5 **County Project Manager:** Person designated by Coroner as the chief contact person with respect to the day-to-day administration of the Master Agreement.



- 2.6 **Intentionally Omitted**
- 2.7 **Day(s):** Calendar day(s) unless otherwise specified.
- 2.8 **Coroner:** Chief Medical Examiner-Coroner of the Department of Medical Examiner-Coroner.
- 2.9 **Fiscal Year:** The twelve (12) month period beginning July 1st and ending the following June 30th.
- 2.10 **Master Agreement:** County's standard agreement executed between County and Contractor. It sets forth the terms and conditions for the issuance and performance of, and otherwise governs, subsequent Work Orders.
- 2.11 **Qualified Contractor:** A Contractor who has submitted a Statement of Qualifications (SOQ) in response to County's Request For Statement of Qualifications (RFSQ); has met the minimum qualifications listed in the RFSQ, and has an executed Master Agreement with the Department of Medical Examiner-Coroner.
- 2.12 **Request For Statement of Qualifications (RFSQ):** A solicitation based on establishing a pool of Qualified Vendors to provide services through Master Agreements.
- 2.13 **Statement of Qualifications (SOQ):** A Contractor's response to an RFSQ.
- 2.14 **Statement of Work:** A written description of tasks and/or deliverables desired by County for a specific Work Order.
- 2.15 **Work Order:** A subordinate agreement executed wholly within and subject to the provisions of this Master Agreement, for the performance of tasks and/or provision of deliverables as described in a specification or a Statement of Work. No work shall be performed by Contractor except in accordance with validly executed Work Orders.

### 3.0 WORK

- 3.1 Pursuant to the provisions of this Master Agreement, the Contractor shall fully perform, complete and deliver on time, all tasks, deliverables, services and other work as set forth herein.
  - 3.1.1 Contractor shall provide forensic autopsy services as set forth in Exhibit "A", Statement of Work, attached hereto and incorporated by reference. Contractor shall be under the administrative and professional direction of the Coroner, Department of Medical Examiner-Coroner, or designee. Contractor shall only work part-time or intermittently as required by the Department of Medical Examiner-Coroner only to fulfill service needs that arise as a result of unanticipated or critical staffing shortages, peak workloads,

unexpected emergencies, vacation coverage or a sporadic or unpredictable need that does not give rise to the need for a full-time physician.

- 3.1.2 Contractor, and Contractor's personnel, performing forensic pathology services shall be appropriately licensed by the State of California. Prior to the effective date of this Master Agreement, Contractor shall provide County with a copy of all current licenses, credentials, or certifications required by law for the provision of services hereunder.
- 3.1.3 Contractor, and Contractor's personnel, performing forensic pathology services, shall continuously have and maintain board verification or board eligibility in her/his specialty (ies) for which he or she has contracted to provide hereunder.
- 3.1.4 Contractor shall meet the credentialing requirements set forth herein prior to providing services under this Master Agreement.
- 3.2 Work shall be issued via an executed Work Order. Work Orders shall generally conform to Exhibit G, on an all-inclusive fixed price per deliverable basis. Each Work Order shall include the Coroner Case Number of the case(s) and deliverable type being requested. Payment for all work shall be on a fixed priced per deliverable basis.
- 3.3 If Contractor provides any task, deliverable, service, or other work to County that utilizes other than approved Contractor personnel, and/or that goes beyond the Work Order expiration date, and/or that exceeds the Total Maximum Amount as specified in the Work Order as originally written or modified in accordance with sub-paragraph 8.1, Amendments, these shall be gratuitous efforts on the part of Contractor for which Contractor shall have no claim whatsoever against County.

#### **4.0 TERM OF MASTER AGREEMENT**

- 4.1 This Master Agreement is effective upon the date of its execution by Coroner or his/her designee as authorized by the Board of Supervisors. This Master Agreement shall expire on \_\_\_\_\_ unless sooner extended or terminated, in whole or in part, as provided herein.
- 4.2 The County shall have the sole option to extend the Master Agreement term for up to two (2) additional one-year extensions, for a maximum total Master Agreement term of five (5) years. Each such option and extension shall be exercised at the sole discretion of the Coroner or his/her designee as authorized by the Board of Supervisors.

The County maintains databases that track/monitor contractor performance history. Information entered into such databases may

be used for a variety of purposes, including determining whether the County will exercise a Master Agreement term extension option.

- 4.3 Contractor shall notify the Department when this Master Agreement is within six (6) months from the expiration of the term as provided for hereinabove. Upon occurrence of this event, Contractor shall send written notification to the Department of Medical Examiner-Coroner at the address herein provided in Exhibit C.

## **5.0 CONTRACT SUM**

- 5.1 Contractor shall not be entitled to any payment by County under this Master Agreement except pursuant to validly executed and satisfactorily performed Work Orders. In each year of this Master Agreement, the total of all amounts actually expended by County hereunder ("maximum obligation) shall not exceed \_\_\_\_\_ (\$\_\_\_\_\_) and may not exceed amounts allocated to the Coroner by the County Board of Supervisors in their approved budgets. The County has sole discretion to expend some, all, or none of such budgeted amounts. The sum of such annual expenditures for the duration of the Master Agreement is the Contract Sum.

- 5.2 The Contractor shall not be entitled to payment or reimbursement for any tasks or services performed, nor for any incidental or administrative expenses whatsoever incurred in or incidental to performance hereunder, except as specified herein. Assumption or takeover of any of the Contractor's duties, responsibilities, or obligations, or performance of same by any entity other than the Contractor, whether through assignment, subcontract, delegation, merger, buyout, or any other mechanism, with or without consideration for any reason whatsoever, shall occur only with the County's express prior written approval.

### **5.3 No Payment for Services Provided Following Expiration/Termination of Master Agreement**

Contractor shall have no claim against County for payment of any money or reimbursement, of any kind whatsoever, for any service provided by Contractor after the expiration or other termination of this Master Agreement. Should Contractor receive any such payment it shall immediately notify County and shall immediately repay all such funds to County. Payment by County for services rendered after expiration/termination of this Master Agreement shall not constitute a waiver of County's right to recover such payment from Contractor. This provision shall survive the expiration or other termination of this Master Agreement.

### **5.4 Invoices and Payments**

- 5.4.1 For providing the tasks, deliverables, services, and other work authorized pursuant to this Master Agreement, Contractor shall separately invoice County in arrears for each Work Order monthly
- 5.4.2 Payment for all work shall be on a fixed price per case (per deliverable) basis as set forth in Exhibit B, Schedule of Fees, and subject to the Total Maximum Amount specified in each Work Order less any amounts assessed in accordance with sub-paragraph 8.25, Liquidated Damages.
- 5.4.3 County shall not pay Contractor for any overtime premiums, travel expenses, meals, lodging, holidays, vacation, sick leave, per diem, or miscellaneous expenses, etc.
- 5.4.4 All work performed by, and all invoices submitted by Contractor, pursuant to Work Orders issued hereunder, must receive the written approval of County's Project Director, who shall be responsible for evaluating all work performed by Contractor before approval of work and/or payment of invoices is permitted.
- 5.4.5 Invoices under this Master Agreement shall be submitted to the following address:

County of Los Angeles  
Department of Medical Examiner-Coroner  
Attn: Accounting Section  
1104 N. Mission Road  
Los Angeles, CA 90033

**5.4.6 Invoice Content**

The period of performance specified in Contractor's invoice(s) must coincide with the period of performance specified in the applicable Work Order. Each invoice submitted by Contractor shall specify:

- County numbers of the Work Order and Contractor's Master Agreement;
- Period of performance for work being invoiced;
- Coroner's Case Number(s)
- Type of work performed (i.e., Class A or B autopsy (include description of service i.e., homicide or non-homicide)
- Individual amount being billed (Per Case Fee)
- Total amount of the invoice.

#### **5.4.7 Payment**

Upon receipt of a complete and correct invoice, County shall pay Contractor within thirty (30) calendar days. Incorrect and/or discrepant billings, as determined by the County, will be returned to Contractor for correction before payment is made.

- 5.5 The Contractor shall maintain a system of record keeping that will allow the Contractor to determine when it has incurred seventy-five percent (75%) of the total contract authorization under this Master Agreement. Upon occurrence of this event, Contractor shall send written notification to the Department of Medical Examiner-Coroner at the address herein provided in Exhibit C, County's Administration.

### **6.0 ADMINISTRATION OF MASTER AGREEMENT - COUNTY**

A listing of all County Administration referenced in the following subparagraphs are designated in Exhibit C. The County shall notify the Contractor in writing of any change in the names or addresses shown.

#### **6.1 Coroner**

The Coroner has the authority to negotiate, recommend all changes to this Master Agreement, and resolve disputes between the Department of Medical Examiner-Coroner and Contractor.

#### **6.2 County's Project Director**

The County's Project Director, or designee, shall be the authority for County on administrative and operational matters relating to this Master Agreement that cannot be resolved by the County Project Manager.

#### **6.3 Intentionally omitted**

#### **6.4 County's Project Manager**

The County's Project Manager is County's chief contact person with respect to the day-to-day administration of this Master Agreement. The Project Manager shall prepare and issue Work Orders and any Amendments thereto, and generally be the first person for Contractor to contact with any questions.

The responsibilities of the Project Manager include:

- 6.4.1 Ensuring that the technical standards and task requirements articulated in the individual Work Order are satisfactorily complied with, and shall provide, on request, such information, coordination, documentation, and materials as may be reasonably required by Contractor to perform Work Orders;

- 6.4.2 Coordinating and monitoring the work of Contractor assigned to the Work Order, and for ensuring that this Master Agreement's objectives are met;
- 6.4.3 Monitoring, evaluating and reporting Contractor performance and progress on the Work Order;
- 6.4.4 Providing direction to Contractor in the areas relating to County policy, information requirements, and procedural requirements;
- 6.4.5 Acceptance of tasks, deliverables, goods, and services as required herein for payment to Contractor; and
- 6.4.6 County's Project Manager is not authorized to make any changes in Work Order rates, dollar totals or periods of performance, or in the terms and conditions of this Agreement, except through formally prepared Amendments, Paragraph 17.

## **7.0 ADMINISTRATION OF MASTER AGREEMENT - CONTRACTOR**

### **7.1 Contractor's Project Manager**

- 7.1.1 Contractor's Project Manager is designated in Exhibit D. The Contractor shall notify the County in writing of any change in the name or address of the Contractor's Project Manager.
- 7.1.2 Contractor's Project Manager shall be responsible for Contractor's day-to-day activities as related to this Master Agreement and shall coordinate with County's Project Manager on a regular basis with respect to all active Work Orders.

### **7.2 Contractor's Authorized Official(s)**

- 7.2.1 Contractor's Authorized Official(s) are designated in Exhibit D. Contractor shall promptly notify County in writing of any change in the name(s) or address(es) of Contractor's Authorized Official(s).
- 7.2.2 Contractor represents and warrants that all requirements of Contractor have been fulfilled to provide actual authority to such officials to execute documents under this Master Agreement on behalf of Contractor.

### **7.3 Approval of Contractor's Staff**

County has the absolute right to approve or disapprove all of Contractor's personnel performing work hereunder and any proposed changes in Contractor's personnel, including, but not limited to, Contractor's Project Manager. Contractor shall provide

County with a resume of each proposed substitute and an opportunity to interview such person prior to any staff substitution.

#### **7.4 Contractor's Staff Identification**

- 7.4.1 All of Contractor's personnel assigned to County facilities are required to have a County Identification (ID) badge on their person and visible at all times. Contractor bears all expense of the badging.
- 7.4.2 Contractor is responsible to ensure that its personnel have obtained a County ID badge before they are assigned to work in a County facility. Contractor personnel may be asked to leave a County facility by a County representative if they do not have the proper County ID badge on their person.
- 7.4.3 Contractor shall notify the County within one business day when personnel are/is terminated from working under this Master Agreement. Contractor shall retrieve and return an employee's ID badge to the County on the next business day after the personnel has terminated employment with the Contractor.
- 7.4.4 If County requests the removal of Contractor's personnel, Contractor shall retrieve and return an employee's ID badge to the County on the next business day after the employee has been removed from working on the County's Master Agreement.

#### **7.5 Background and Security Investigations**

- 7.5.1 Contractor and Contractor's personnel performing services under this Master Agreement who is in a designated sensitive position, as determined by County in County's sole discretion, shall undergo and pass a background investigation to the satisfaction of County as a condition of beginning and continuing to perform services under this Master Agreement. At any time, prior to and during the term of this Agreement, County shall use its discretion in determining the method of background clearance to be used, which may include but not be limited to fingerprinting submitted to the California Department of Justice to include State, local, and federal-level review, which may include, but shall not be limited to, criminal conviction information; verifying status of licenses, medical clearance(s) (in accordance with Title 22, California Code of Regulations requirements), credentials, certifications, claims history; and querying the National Data Bank and the State Medical Board. The fees associated with the background investigation shall be at the expense of the Contractor,

regardless if the member of Contractor's staff passes or fails the background investigation.

- 7.5.2 If Contractor or a member of Contractor's personnel does not pass the background investigation, County may request that Contractor and/or the member of Contractor's personnel be immediately removed from performing services under the Master Agreement at any time during the term of the Master Agreement. County will not provide to Contractor or to Contractor's personnel any information obtained through the County's background investigation.
- 7.5.3 County, in its sole discretion, may immediately deny or terminate facility access to Contractor or any member of Contractor's personnel that does not pass such investigation to the satisfaction of the County or whose background or conduct is incompatible with County facility access.
- 7.5.4 Disqualification of Contractor or of any member of Contractor's personnel pursuant to this Paragraph 7.5 shall not relieve Contractor of its obligation to complete all work in accordance with the terms and conditions of this Master Agreement. Notwithstanding the foregoing, in the event the County inadvertently utilizes Contractor's services absent the appropriate licenses, credential, or certifications, County shall have no obligation for payment to Contractor of any money or reimbursement, of any kind whatsoever.

## **7.6 Confidentiality**

- 7.6.1 Contractor shall maintain the confidentiality of all records and information in accordance with all applicable Federal, State and local laws, rules, regulations, ordinances, and Department of Medical Examiner-Coroner directives, guidelines, policies and procedures relating to confidentiality, including, without limitation, County policies concerning information technology security and the protection of confidential records and information. The Contractor shall comply with all confidentiality provisions of this Master Agreement.
- 7.6.2 Contractor shall indemnify, defend, and hold harmless County, its officers, employees, and agents, from and against any and all claims, demands, damages, liabilities, losses, costs and expenses, including, without limitation, defense costs and legal, accounting and other expert, consulting, or professional fees, arising from, connected with, or related to any failure by Contractor, its officers,



employees, agents, or subcontractors, to comply with this Paragraph 7.6, as determined by County in its sole judgment. Any legal defense pursuant to Contractor's indemnification obligations under this Paragraph 7.6 shall be conducted by Contractor and performed by counsel selected by Contractor and approved by County. Notwithstanding the preceding sentence, County shall have the right to participate in any such defense at its sole cost and expense, except that in the event Contractor fails to provide County with a full and adequate defense, as determined by County in its sole judgment, County shall be entitled to retain its own counsel, including, without limitation, County Counsel, and reimbursement from Contractor for all such costs and expenses incurred by County in doing so. Contractor shall not have the right to enter into any settlement, agree to any injunction, or make any admission, in each case, on behalf of County without County's prior written approval.

7.6.3 Contractor shall inform all of its officers, employees, agents and subcontractors, if any, providing services hereunder of the confidentiality provisions of this Master Agreement.

7.6.4 Contractor shall sign and adhere to the provisions of the "Contractor Acknowledgement and Confidentiality Agreement", within Exhibit H.

## **8.0 STANDARD TERMS AND CONDITIONS**

### **8.1 Amendments**

8.1.1 The County's Board of Supervisors or Chief Executive Officer or designee may require the addition and/or change of certain terms and conditions in the Master Agreement during the term of this Master Agreement. The County reserves the right to add and/or change such provisions as required by the County's Board of Supervisors or Chief Executive Officer. To implement such orders, an Amendment to the Master Agreement shall be prepared and executed by the Contractor and by the Coroner in the following manner:

8.1.2.1 The Coroner or his designee may, at his sole discretion, authorize changes which do not materially affect the scope of work, period of performance, payments or any other term or condition include under this Master Agreement, an amendment shall be prepared and signed by the Chief Medical Examiner-Coroner, Department of Medical Examiner-Coroner or his designee and Contractor.

- 8.1.2.2 For any revision, which materially affects the scope of work, period of performance, payments, or any term and condition included in this Master Agreement, a negotiated amendment to this Master Agreement shall be executed by the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors and Contractor.

As used herein, the term “materially” is defined as being a change of more than (25%) of the Master Agreement maximum obligation, a change of more than ninety (90) days to any period of performance or a change in the work required which in the sole discretion of the Coroner warrants execution by the Board of Supervisors

## **8.2 Assignment and Delegation**

- 8.2.1 The Contractor shall not assign its rights or delegate its duties under this Master Agreement, or both, whether in whole or in part, without the prior written consent of County, in its discretion, and any attempted assignment or delegation without such consent shall be null and void. For purposes of this sub-paragraph, County consent shall require a written amendment to the Master Agreement, which is formally approved and executed by the parties. Any payments by the County to any approved delegate or assignee on any claim under this Master Agreement shall be deductible, at County’s sole discretion, against the claims, which the Contractor may have against the County.
- 8.2.2 Shareholders, partners, members, or other equity holders of Contractor may transfer, sell, exchange, assign, or divest themselves of any interest they may have therein. However, in the event any such sale, transfer, exchange, assignment, or divestment is effected in such a way as to give majority control of Contractor to any person(s), corporation, partnership, or legal entity other than the majority controlling interest therein at the time of execution of the Master Agreement, such disposition is an assignment requiring the prior written consent of County in accordance with applicable provisions of this Master Agreement.
- 8.2.3 Any assumption, assignment, delegation, or takeover of any of the Contractor’s duties, responsibilities, obligations, or performance of same by any entity other than the Contractor, whether through assignment, subcontract, delegation, merger, buyout, or any other mechanism, with or without consideration for any reason whatsoever without County’s express prior written approval, shall be a material

breach of the Master Agreement which may result in the termination of this Master Agreement. In the event of such termination, County shall be entitled to pursue the same remedies against Contractor as it could pursue in the event of default by Contractor.

### **8.3 Authorization Warranty**

The Contractor represents and warrants that the person executing this Master Agreement for the Contractor is an authorized agent who has actual authority to bind the Contractor to each and every term, condition, and obligation of this Master Agreement and that all requirements of the Contractor have been fulfilled to provide such actual authority.

### **8.4 Complaints**

The Contractor shall develop, maintain and operate procedures for receiving, investigating and responding to complaints.

- 8.4.1 Within ten (10) business days after the Master Agreement effective date, the Contractor shall provide the County with the Contractor's policy for receiving, investigating and responding to user complaints.
- 8.4.2 The County will review the Contractor's policy and provide the Contractor with approval of said plan or with requested changes.
- 8.4.3 If the County requests changes in the Contractor's policy, the Contractor shall make such changes and resubmit the plan within five (5) business days for County approval.
- 8.4.4 If, at any time, the Contractor wishes to change the Contractor's policy, the Contractor shall submit proposed changes to the County for approval before implementation.
- 8.4.5 The Contractor shall preliminarily investigate all complaints and notify the County's Project Manager of the status of the investigation within five (5) business days of receiving the complaint.
- 8.4.6 When complaints cannot be resolved informally, a system of follow-through shall be instituted which adheres to formal plans for specific actions and strict time deadlines.
- 8.4.7 Copies of all written responses shall be sent to the County's Project Manager within three (3) business days of mailing to the complainant.

### **8.5 Compliance with Applicable Laws**

- 8.5.1 In the performance of this Master Agreement, Contractor shall comply with all applicable Federal, State and local

laws, rules, regulations, ordinances, directives, guidelines, policies and procedures, and all provisions required thereby to be included in this Master Agreement are hereby incorporated herein by reference.

- 8.5.2 Contractor shall indemnify, defend, and hold harmless County, its officers, employees, and agents, from and against any and all claims, demands, damages, liabilities, losses, costs, and expenses, including, without limitation, defense costs and legal, accounting and other expert, consulting or professional fees, arising from, connected with, or related to any failure by Contractor, its officers, employees, agents, or subcontractors, to comply with any such laws, rules, regulations, ordinances, directives, guidelines, policies, or procedures, as determined by County in its sole judgment. Any legal defense pursuant to Contractor's indemnification obligations under this Paragraph 8.5 shall be conducted by Contractor and performed by counsel selected by Contractor and approved by County. Notwithstanding the preceding sentence, County shall have the right to participate in any such defense at its sole cost and expense, except that in the event Contractor fails to provide County with a full and adequate defense, as determined by County in its sole judgment, County shall be entitled to retain its own counsel, including, without limitation, County Counsel, and reimbursement from Contractor for all such costs and expenses incurred by County in doing so. Contractor shall not have the right to enter into any settlement, agree to any injunction or other equitable relief, or make any admission, in each case, on behalf of County without County's prior written approval.

## **8.6 Compliance with Civil Rights Laws**

The Contractor hereby assures that it will comply with Subchapter VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, 42 USC Sections 2000 (e) (1) through 2000 (e) (17), to the end that no person shall, on the grounds of race, creed, color, sex, religion, ancestry, age, condition of physical handicap, marital status, political affiliation, or national origin, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be otherwise subjected to discrimination under this Master Agreement or under any project, program, or activity supported by this Master Agreement. The Contractor shall comply with Exhibit J - Contractor's EEO Certification.

## **8.7 Compliance with County's Jury Service Program**

8.7.1 Jury Service Program: This Master Agreement is subject to the provisions of the County's ordinance entitled Contractor Employee Jury Service ("Jury Service Program") as codified in Sections 2.203.010 through 2.203.090 of the Los Angeles County Code, a copy of which is attached as Exhibit D and incorporated by reference into and made part of this Master Agreement.

### **8.7.2 Written Employee Jury Service Policy**

1. Unless Contractor has demonstrated to the County's satisfaction either that Contractor is not a "Contractor" as defined under the Jury Service Program (Section 2.203.020 of the County Code) or that Contractor qualifies for an exception to the Jury Service Program (Section 2.203.070 of the County Code), Contractor shall have and adhere to a written policy that provides that its Employees shall receive from the Contractor, on an annual basis, no less than five days of regular pay for actual jury service. The policy may provide that Employees deposit any fees received for such jury service with the Contractor or that the Contractor deduct from the Employee's regular pay the fees received for jury service.
2. For purposes of this sub-paragraph, "Contractor" means a person, partnership, corporation or other entity which has a Master Agreement with the County or a subcontract with a County Contractor and has received or will receive an aggregate sum of \$50,000 or more in any 12-month period under one or more County Master Agreements or subcontracts. "Employee" means any California resident who is a full time employee of Contractor. "Full-time" means 40 hours or more worked per week, or a lesser number of hours if: 1) the lesser number is a recognized industry standard as determined by the County, or 2) Contractor has a long-standing practice that defines the lesser number of hours as full-time. Full-time employees providing short-term, temporary services of 90 days or less within a 12-month period are not considered full-time for purposes of the Jury Service Program. If Contractor uses any subcontractor to perform services for the County under the Master Agreement, the subcontractor shall also be subject to the provisions of this sub-paragraph. The provisions of this sub-paragraph shall be inserted into

any such subcontract agreement and a copy of the Jury Service Program shall be attached to the agreement.

3. If Contractor is not required to comply with the Jury Service Program when the Master Agreement commences, Contractor shall have a continuing obligation to review the applicability of its “exception status” from the Jury Service Program, and Contractor shall immediately notify County if Contractor at any time either comes within the Jury Service Program’s definition of “Contractor” or if Contractor no longer qualifies for an exception to the Jury Service Program. In either event, Contractor shall immediately implement a written policy consistent with the Jury Service Program. The County may also require, at any time during the Master Agreement and at its sole discretion, that Contractor demonstrate to the County’s satisfaction that Contractor either continues to remain outside of the Jury Service Program’s definition of “Contractor” and/or that Contractor continues to qualify for an exception to the Program.
4. Contractor’s violation of this sub-paragraph of the Master Agreement may constitute a material breach of the Master Agreement. In the event of such material breach, County may, in its sole discretion, terminate the Master Agreement and/or bar Contractor from the award of future County Master Agreements for a period of time consistent with the seriousness of the breach.

## **8.8 Conflict of Interest**

- 8.8.1 No County employee whose position with the County enables such employee to influence the award of this Master Agreement or any competing Master Agreement, and no spouse or economic dependent of such employee, shall be employed in any capacity by the Contractor or have any other direct or indirect financial interest in this Master Agreement. No officer or employee of the Contractor who may financially benefit from the performance of work hereunder shall in any way participate in the County’s approval, or ongoing evaluation, of such work, or in any way attempt to unlawfully influence the County’s approval or ongoing evaluation of such work.
- 8.8.2 The Contractor shall comply with all conflict of interest laws, ordinances, and regulations now in effect or hereafter to be enacted during the term of this Master Agreement. The Contractor warrants that it is not now aware of any facts that

create a conflict of interest. If the Contractor hereafter becomes aware of any facts that might reasonably be expected to create a conflict of interest, it shall immediately make full written disclosure of such facts to the County. Full written disclosure shall include, but is not limited to, identification of all persons implicated and a complete description of all relevant circumstances. Failure to comply with the provisions of this sub-paragraph 8.8 shall be a material breach of this Master Agreement.

#### **8.9 Consideration of Hiring County Employees Targeted for Layoff or Re-employment**

Should the Contractor require additional or replacement personnel after the effective date of this Master Agreement to perform the services set forth herein, the Contractor shall give first consideration for such employment openings to qualified, permanent County employees who are targeted for layoff or qualified, former County employees who are on a re-employment list during the life of this Master Agreement.

#### **8.10 Consideration of Hiring GAIN-GROW Participants**

8.10.1 Should the Contractor require additional or replacement personnel after the effective date of this Master Agreement, the Contractor shall give consideration for any such employment openings to participants in the County's Department of Public Social Services Greater Avenues for Independence (GAIN) Program or General Relief Opportunity for Work (GROW) Program who meet the Contractor's minimum qualifications for the open position. For this purpose, consideration shall mean that the Contractor will interview qualified candidates. The County will refer GAIN/GROW participants by job category to the Contractor. Contractors shall report all job openings with job requirements to: [GAINGROW@DPSS.LACOUNTY.GOV](mailto:GAINGROW@DPSS.LACOUNTY.GOV) and [BSERVICES@WDACS.LACOUNTY.GOV](mailto:BSERVICES@WDACS.LACOUNTY.GOV) and DPSS will refer qualified GAIN/GROW job candidates.

8.10.2 In the event that both laid-off County employees and GAIN/GROW participants are available for hiring, County employees shall be given first priority.

#### **8.11 Contractor Responsibility and Debarment**

##### **8.11.1 Responsible Contractor**

A responsible Contractor is a Contractor who has demonstrated the attribute of trustworthiness, as well as quality, fitness, capacity and experience to satisfactorily

perform the Master Agreement. It is the County's policy to conduct business only with responsible Contractors.

#### 8.11.2 Chapter 2.202 of the County Code

The Contractor is hereby notified that, in accordance with Chapter 2.202 of the County Code, if the County acquires information concerning the performance of the Contractor on this or other Master Agreements which indicates that the Contractor is not responsible, the County may, in addition to other remedies provided in this Master Agreement, debar the Contractor from bidding or proposing on, or being awarded, and/or performing work on County contracts for a specified period of time, which generally will not exceed five years but may exceed five years or be permanent if warranted by the circumstances, and terminate any or all existing Contracts the Contractor may have with the County.

#### 8.11.3 Non-responsible Contractor

The County may debar a Contractor if the Board of Supervisors finds, in its discretion, that the Contractor has done any of the following: (1) violated a term of a Master Agreement with the County or a nonprofit corporation created by the County, (2) committed an act or omission which negatively reflects on the Contractor's quality, fitness or capacity to perform a Master Agreement with the County, any other public entity, or a nonprofit corporation created by the County, or engaged in a pattern or practice which negatively reflects on same, (3) committed an act or offense which indicates a lack of business integrity or business honesty, or (4) made or submitted a false claim against the County or any other public entity.

#### 8.11.4 Contractor Hearing Board

1. If there is evidence that the Contractor may be subject to debarment, the Department will notify the Contractor in writing of the evidence which is the basis for the proposed debarment and will advise the Contractor of the scheduled date for a debarment hearing before the Contractor Hearing Board.
2. The Contractor Hearing Board will conduct a hearing where evidence on the proposed debarment is presented. The Contractor and/or the Contractor's representative shall be given an opportunity to submit evidence at that hearing. After the hearing, the Contractor Hearing Board shall prepare a tentative



proposed decision, which shall contain a recommendation regarding whether the Contractor should be debarred, and, if so, the appropriate length of time of the debarment. The Contractor and the Department shall be provided an opportunity to object to the tentative proposed decision prior to its presentation to the Board of Supervisors.

3. After consideration of any objections, or if no objections are submitted, a record of the hearing, the proposed decision, and any other recommendation of the Contractor Hearing Board shall be presented to the Board of Supervisors. The Board of Supervisors shall have the right to modify, deny, or adopt the proposed decision and recommendation of the Contractor Hearing Board.
4. If a Contractor has been debarred for a period longer than five (5) years, that Contractor may after the debarment has been in effect for at least five (5) years, submit a written request for review of the debarment determination to reduce the period of debarment or terminate the debarment. The County may, in its discretion, reduce the period of debarment or terminate the debarment if it finds that the Contractor has adequately demonstrated one or more of the following: (1) elimination of the grounds for which the debarment was imposed; (2) a bona fide change in ownership or management; (3) material evidence discovered after debarment was imposed; or (4) any other reason that is in the best interests of the County.
5. The Contractor Hearing Board will consider a request for review of a debarment determination only where (1) the Contractor has been debarred for a period longer than five (5) years; (2) the debarment has been in effect for at least five (5) years; and (3) the request is in writing, states one or more of the grounds for reduction of the debarment period or termination of the debarment, and includes supporting documentation. Upon receiving an appropriate request, the Contractor Hearing Board will provide notice of the hearing on the request. At the hearing, the Contractor Hearing Board shall conduct a hearing where evidence on the proposed reduction of debarment period or termination of debarment is presented. This hearing shall be conducted and the

request for review decided by the Contractor Hearing Board pursuant to the same procedures as for a debarment hearing.

6. The Contractor Hearing Board's proposed decision shall contain a recommendation on the request to reduce the period of debarment or terminate the debarment. The Contractor Hearing Board shall present its proposed decision and recommendation to the Board of Supervisors. The Board of Supervisors shall have the right to modify, deny, or adopt the proposed decision and recommendation of the Contractor Hearing Board.

#### **8.12 Contractor's Acknowledgement of County's Commitment to Safely Surrendered Baby Law**

The contractor acknowledges that the County places a high priority on the implementation of the Safely Surrendered Baby Law. The contractor understands that it is the County's policy to encourage all County contractors to voluntarily post the County's "Safely Surrendered Baby Law" poster, in Exhibit E, in a prominent position at the contractor's place of business. The contractor will also encourage its subcontractors, if any, to post this poster in a prominent position in the subcontractor's place of business. Information and posters for printing are available at [www.babysafela.org](http://www.babysafela.org).

#### **8.13 Contractor's Warranty of Adherence to County's Child Support Compliance Program**

8.13.1 The Contractor acknowledges that the County has established a goal of ensuring that all individuals who benefit financially from the County through Purchase Order or Master Agreement are in compliance with their court-ordered child, family and spousal support obligations in order to mitigate the economic burden otherwise imposed upon the County and its taxpayers.

8.13.2 As required by the County's Child Support Compliance Program (County Code Chapter 2.200) and without limiting the Contractor's duty under this Master Agreement to comply with all applicable provisions of law, the Contractor warrants that it is now in compliance and shall during the term of this Master Agreement maintain in compliance with employment and wage reporting requirements as required by the Federal Social Security Act (42 USC Section 653a) and California Unemployment Insurance Code Section 1088.5, and shall implement all lawfully served Wage and Earnings Withholding Orders or Child Support Services

Department Notices of Wage and Earnings Assignment for Child, Family or Spousal Support, pursuant to Code of Civil Procedure Section 706.031 and Family Code Section 5246(b).

#### **8.14 County's Quality Assurance Plan**

The County or its agent(s) will monitor the contractor's performance under this Master Agreement on not less than an annual basis. Such monitoring will include assessing the contractor's compliance with all Master Agreement terms and conditions and performance standards. Contractor deficiencies which the County determines are significant or continuing and that may place performance of the Master Agreement in jeopardy if not corrected will be reported to the Board of Supervisors and listed in the appropriate contractor performance database. The report to the Board will include improvement/corrective action measures taken by the County and the contractor. If improvement does not occur consistent with the corrective action measures, the County may terminate this Master Agreement or impose other penalties as specified in this Master Agreement.

#### **8.15 Damage to County Facilities, Buildings or Grounds**

- 8.15.1 Contractor shall repair, or cause to be repaired, at its own cost, any and all damage to County facilities, buildings, or grounds caused by Contractor or employees or agents of Contractor. Such repairs shall be made immediately after Contractor has become aware of such damage, but in no event later than thirty (30) days after the occurrence.
- 8.15.2 If Contractor fails to make timely repairs, County may make any necessary repairs. All costs incurred by County, as determined by County, for such repairs shall be repaid by Contractor by cash payment upon demand.

#### **8.16 Employment Eligibility Verification**

- 8.16.1 The Contractor warrants that it fully complies with all Federal and State statutes and regulations regarding the employment of aliens and others and that all its employees performing work under this Master Agreement meet the citizenship or alien status requirements set forth in Federal and State statutes and regulations. The Contractor shall obtain, from all employees performing work hereunder, all verification and other documentation of employment eligibility status required by Federal and State statutes and regulations including, but not limited to, the Immigration Reform and Control Act of 1986, (P.L. 99-603), or as they currently exist and as they may be hereafter amended. The Contractor shall retain all such documentation for all

covered employees for the period prescribed by law.

- 8.16.2 The Contractor shall indemnify, defend, and hold harmless, the County, its agents, officers, and employees from employer sanctions and any other liability which may be assessed against the Contractor or the County or both in connection with any alleged violation of any Federal or State statutes or regulations pertaining to the eligibility for employment of any persons performing work under this Master Agreement.

#### **8.17 Facsimile Representations**

The County and the Contractor hereby agree to regard facsimile representations of original signatures of authorized officers of each party, when appearing in appropriate places on the Amendments prepared pursuant to sub-paragraph 8.1, and received via communications facilities, as legally sufficient evidence that such original signatures have been affixed to Amendments to this Master Agreement, such that the parties need not follow up facsimile transmissions of such documents with subsequent (non-facsimile) transmission of "original" versions of such documents.

#### **8.18 Fair Labor Standards**

The Contractor shall comply with all applicable provisions of the Federal Fair Labor Standards Act and shall indemnify, defend, and hold harmless the County and its agents, officers, and employees from any and all liability, including, but not limited to, wages, overtime pay, liquidated damages, penalties, court costs, and attorneys' fees arising under any wage and hour law, including, but not limited to, the Federal Fair Labor Standards Act, for work performed by the Contractor's employees for which the County may be found jointly or solely liable.

#### **8.19 Force Majeure**

- 8.19.1 Neither party shall be liable for such party's failure to perform its obligations under and in accordance with this Master Agreement, if such failure arises out of fires, floods, epidemics, quarantine restrictions, other natural occurrences, strikes, lockouts (other than a lockout by such party or any of such party's subcontractors), freight embargoes, or other similar events to those described above, but in every such case the failure to perform must be totally beyond the control and without any fault or negligence of such party (such events are referred to in this sub-paragraph as "force majeure events").

- 8.19.2 Notwithstanding the foregoing, a default by a subcontractor of Contractor shall not constitute a force majeure event,

unless such default arises out of causes beyond the control of both Contractor and such subcontractor, and without any fault or negligence of either of them. In such case, Contractor shall not be liable for failure to perform, unless the goods or services to be furnished by the subcontractor were obtainable from other sources in sufficient time to permit Contractor to meet the required performance schedule. As used in this sub-paragraph, the term "subcontractor" and "subcontractors" mean subcontractors at any tier.

- 8.19.3 In the event Contractor's failure to perform arises out of a force majeure event, Contractor agrees to use commercially reasonable best efforts to obtain goods or services from other sources, if applicable, and to otherwise mitigate the damages and reduce the delay caused by such force majeure event.

## **8.20 Governing Law, Jurisdiction, and Venue**

This Master Agreement shall be governed by, and construed in accordance with, the laws of the State of California. The Contractor agrees and consents to the exclusive jurisdiction of the courts of the State of California for all purposes regarding this Master Agreement and further agrees and consents that venue of any action brought hereunder shall be exclusively in the County of Los Angeles.

## **8.21 Independent Contractor Status**

- 8.21.1 This Master Agreement is by and between the County and the Contractor and is not intended, and shall not be construed, to create the relationship of agent, servant, employee, partnership, joint venture, or association, as between the County and the Contractor. The employees and agents of one party shall not be, or be construed to be, the employees or agents of the other party for any purpose whatsoever.
- 8.21.2 The Contractor shall be solely liable and responsible for providing to, or on behalf of, all persons performing work pursuant to this Master Agreement all compensation and benefits. The County shall have no liability or responsibility for the payment of any salaries, wages, unemployment benefits, disability benefits, Federal, State, or local taxes, or other compensation, benefits, or taxes for any personnel provided by or on behalf of the Contractor.
- 8.21.3 The Contractor understands and agrees that all persons performing work pursuant to this Master Agreement are, for purposes of Workers' Compensation liability, solely

employees of the Contractor and not employees of the County. The Contractor shall be solely liable and responsible for furnishing any and all Workers' Compensation benefits to any person as a result of any injuries arising from or connected with any work performed by or on behalf of the Contractor pursuant to this Master Agreement.

- 8.21.4 The Contractor shall adhere to the provisions stated in subparagraph 7.6 – Confidentiality.

## **8.22 Indemnification**

### **8.22.1 County Professional Liability Indemnification**

8.22.1.1 County shall indemnify, defend, and hold harmless Contractor, its officers, and employees (for purposes of this Paragraph 8.22.1, hereinafter collectively referred to as "Contractor") from and against liability, including but not limited to demands, actions, fees, costs and expenses (including attorney and expert witness fees), and claims for damages to third parties resulting from or related to any act or omission in the rendering, or the failure to render, services arising out of Contractor's professional forensic services performed in good faith under this Master Agreement.

8.22.1.2 County's indemnification of Contractor under this Sub-Paragraph 8.22.1 is limited to Contractor's liability to a third party who is the next of kin of a decedent, or personal representative of the estate of a decedent, whose autopsy has been assigned to and performed by Contractor in good faith.

8.22.1.3 Contractor shall give prompt telephonic notice within twenty-four (24) hours to the County's Project Director and County's Project Manager of any incident, action, or claim to which this indemnification applies and shall fully cooperate with County and its claims representatives and/or its attorneys, in any defense, settlement, or other disposition of such incident, action, or claim. Such telephonic notice shall be immediately followed by written notice to County's Risk Manager. Failure of Contractor to provide prompt telephonic and written notice of an incident, action, or claim herein shall relieve County of its indemnification obligation under this Sub-Paragraph 8.22.

- 8.22.1.4 County reserves the right to investigate any incident, action, or claim. In such event, Contractor shall cooperate with County representatives, to include, but not limited to, access to the records and reports pertaining to the services provided and involved in such incident, action, or claim. Contractor shall also provide to County's representatives access to its employees and agents, if any, who provided services to the County involved in such incident, action, or claim. If Contractor fails to cooperate with County, County's indemnification obligation with respect to such action or claim shall immediately terminate and Contractor shall have no financial obligation to or on behalf of Contractor for liability, expenses, including legal defense fees and expenses, or payments of settlements, judgments, awards, or damages arising out of the incident.
- 8.22.1.5 County's agents, as designated by Coroner, will consult with Contractor regarding the disposition of any action or claim hereunder. However, County reserves the right to determine the final disposition of any action or claim. In the event Contractor does not agree with County's agents in any defense, settlement, or other disposition of such action or claim, Contractor may pursue defense, settlement, or other disposition of such action or claim independently, and County's indemnification obligation with respect to such action or claim shall immediately terminate and Contractor shall have no financial obligation to or on behalf of Contractor for liability, expenses, including legal defense fees and expenses, or payments of settlements, judgments, awards, or damages arising out of the incident.
- 8.22.1.6 County's indemnification to Contractor under this Sub-Paragraph 8.22.1 shall not include the payment of punitive damages, nor for legal fees and costs expended by third parties, arising from the willful or criminal misconduct of Contractor.
- 8.22.1.7 The provisions of this Sub-Paragraph 8.22.1 shall survive the expiration or earlier termination of this Agreement for actions or claims against Contractor.

#### **8.22.2 County's General Liability Indemnification**

In addition to County's indemnification of Contractor under Sub-Paragraph 8.22.1, County shall indemnify, defend, and save harmless Contractor, its officers, and employees (in this Paragraph hereafter collectively referred to as "Contractor") from general liability, expense, and claims for damages of third parties resulting from or directly related to the provision of services at the Coroner's premises covered under this Agreement, except that this indemnification shall not extend to Contractor's willful or criminal misconduct or to any Contractor actions which result in the imposition of punitive damages.

#### **8.22.3 Contractor's Indemnification**

8.22.3.1 Notwithstanding the County's indemnification under Sub-Paragraphs 8.22.1 and 8.22.2, Contractor shall indemnify, defend, and hold harmless the County, its Special Districts, elected and appointed officers, employees, agents and volunteers ("County Indemnities") from and against any and all liability, including but not limited to demands, claims, actions, fees, costs and expenses (including attorney and expert witness fees), arising from and/or relating to this Master Agreement, except for such loss or damage arising from the sole negligence or willful misconduct of the County Indemnities.

8.22.3.2 Contractor shall indemnify, defend, and hold harmless the County Indemnities from all demands, claims, actions, fees, costs and expenses arising from injuries to Contractor's employee(s) for which benefits are required to be provided under a policy of Workers Compensation insurance, as stated under Sub-Paragraph 8.24.3.

#### **8.23 General Provisions for all Insurance Coverage**

Without limiting Contractor's indemnification of County, and in the performance of this Master Agreement and until all of its obligations pursuant to this Master Agreement have been met, Contractor shall provide and maintain at its own expense insurance coverage satisfying the requirements specified in this Section and Section 8.24 of this Master Agreement. These minimum insurance coverage terms, types and limits (the "Required Insurance") also are in addition to and separate from any other contractual obligation imposed upon Contractor pursuant to this Master Agreement. The County in no way warrants that the Required Insurance is sufficient



to protect the Contractor for liabilities which may arise from or relate to this Master Agreement.

#### 8.23.1 Evidence of Coverage and Notice to County

- Certificate(s) of insurance coverage (Certificate) satisfactory to County, and a copy of an Additional Insured endorsement confirming County and its Agents (defined below) has been given Insured status under the Contractor's General Liability policy, shall be delivered to County at the address shown below and provided prior to commencing services under this Master Agreement.
- Renewal Certificates shall be provided to County not less than 10 days prior to Contractor's policy expiration dates. The County reserves the right to obtain complete, certified copies of any required Contractor and/or Sub-Contractor insurance policies at any time.
- Certificates shall identify all Required Insurance coverage types and limits specified herein, reference this Master Agreement by name or number, and be signed by an authorized representative of the insurer(s). The Insured party named on the Certificate shall match the name of the Contractor identified as the contracting party in this Master Agreement. Certificates shall provide the full name of each insurer providing coverage, its NAIC (National Association of Insurance Commissioners) identification number, its financial rating, the amounts of any policy deductibles or self-insured retentions exceeding fifty thousand (\$50,000.00) dollars, and list any County required endorsement forms.
- Neither the County's failure to obtain, nor the County's receipt of, or failure to object to a non-complying insurance certificate or endorsement, or any other insurance documentation or information provided by the Contractor, its insurance broker(s) and/or insurer(s), shall be construed as a waiver of any of the Required Insurance provisions.

Certificates and copies of any required endorsements shall be sent to:

County of Los Angeles  
Department of Medical Examiner-Coroner  
Contracts Section  
1104 N. Mission Road  
Los Angeles, California 90033  
Attention: Silvia Gonzalez

Contractor also shall promptly report, and within twenty-four (24) hours, to County any injury or property damage accident or incident, including any injury to a Contractor employee occurring on County property, and any loss, disappearance, destruction, misuse, or theft of County property, monies or securities entrusted to Contractor. An injury to a Contractor employee(s) occurring on County property shall be submitted on a County "Non-employee Injury Report" to the County Project Manager. Contractor also shall promptly notify County of any third party claim or suit filed against Contractor or any of its Sub-Contractors which arises from or relates to this Master Agreement, and could result in the filing of a claim or lawsuit against Contractor and/or County.

8.23.2 Additional Insured Status and Scope of Coverage

The County of Los Angeles, its Special Districts, Elected Officials, Officers, Agents, Employees and Volunteers (collectively County and its Agents) shall be provided additional insured status under Contractor's General Liability policy with respect to liability arising out of Contractor's ongoing and completed operations performed on behalf of the County. County and its Agents additional insured status shall apply with respect to liability and defense of suits arising out of the Contractor's acts or omissions, whether such liability is attributable to the Contractor or to the County. The full policy limits and scope of protection also shall apply to the County and its Agents as an additional insured, even if they exceed the County's minimum Required Insurance specifications herein. Use of an automatic additional insured endorsement form is acceptable providing it satisfies the Required Insurance provisions herein.

8.23.3 Cancellation of or Changes in Insurance

Contractor shall provide County with, or Contractor's insurance policies shall contain a provision that County shall receive, written notice of cancellation or any change in Required Insurance, including insurer, limits of coverage,

term of coverage or policy period. The written notice shall be provided to County at least thirty (30) days in advance of cancellation for non-payment of premium or in advance for any other cancellation or policy change. Failure to provide written notice of cancellation or any change in Required Insurance may constitute a material breach of the Master Agreement, in the sole discretion of the County, upon which the County may suspend or terminate this Master Agreement.

#### 8.23.4 Failure to Maintain Insurance

Contractor's failure to maintain or to provide acceptable evidence that it maintains the Required Insurance shall constitute a material breach of the Master Agreement, upon which County immediately may withhold payments due to Contractor, and/or suspend or terminate this Master Agreement. County, at its sole discretion, may obtain damages from Contractor resulting from said breach. Alternatively, the County may purchase the Required Insurance, and without further notice to Contractor, deduct the premium cost from sums due to Contractor or pursue Contractor full reimbursement.

#### 8.23.5 Insurer Financial Ratings

Coverage shall be placed with insurers acceptable to the County with A.M. Best ratings of not less than A:VII unless otherwise approved by County.

#### 8.23.6 Contractor's Insurance Shall Be Primary

Contractor's insurance policies, with respect to any claims related to this Master Agreement, shall be primary with respect to all other sources of coverage available to Contractor. Any County maintained insurance or self-insurance coverage shall be in excess of and not contribute to any Contractor coverage.

#### 8.23.7 Waivers of Subrogation

To the fullest extent permitted by law, the Contractor hereby waives its rights and its insurer(s)' rights of recovery against County under all the Required Insurance for any loss arising from or relating to this Master Agreement. The Contractor shall require its insurers to execute any waiver of subrogation endorsements which may be necessary to effect such waiver.

#### 8.23.8 Sub-Contractor Insurance Coverage Requirements

Contractor shall include all Sub-Contractors as insureds under Contractor's own policies, or shall provide County with each Sub-Contractor's separate evidence of insurance coverage. Contractor shall be responsible for verifying each Sub-Contractor complies with the Required Insurance provisions herein, and shall require that each Sub-Contractor name the County and Contractor as additional insureds on the Sub-Contractor's General Liability policy. Contractor shall obtain County's prior review and approval of any Sub-Contractor request for modification of the Required Insurance.

#### 8.23.9 Deductibles and Self-Insured Retentions (SIRs)

Contractor's policies shall not obligate the County to pay any portion of any Contractor deductible or SIR. The County retains the right to require Contractor to reduce or eliminate policy deductibles and SIRs as respects the County, or to provide a bond guaranteeing Contractor's payment of all deductibles and SIRs, including all related claims investigation, administration and defense expenses. Such bond shall be executed by a corporate surety licensed to transact business in the State of California.

#### 8.23.10 Claims Made Coverage

If any part of the Required Insurance is written on a claims made basis, any policy retroactive date shall precede the effective date of this Master Agreement. Contractor understands and agrees it shall maintain such coverage for a period of not less than three (3) years following Master Agreement expiration, termination or cancellation.

#### 8.23.11 Application of Excess Liability Coverage

Contractors may use a combination of primary, and excess insurance policies which provide coverage as broad as the underlying primary policies, to satisfy the Required Insurance provisions.

#### 8.23.12 Separation of Insureds

All liability policies shall provide cross-liability coverage as would be afforded by the standard ISO (Insurance Services Office, Inc.) separation of insureds provision with no insured versus insured exclusions or limitations.

#### 8.23.13 Alternative Risk Financing Programs

The County reserves the right to review, and then approve, Contractor use of self-insurance, risk retention groups, risk

purchasing groups, pooling arrangements and captive insurance to satisfy the Required Insurance provisions. The County and its Agents shall be designated as an Additional Covered Party under any approved program.

#### 8.23.14 County Review and Approval of Insurance Requirements

The County reserves the right to review and adjust the Required Insurance provisions, conditioned upon County's determination of changes in risk exposures.

### 8.24 Insurance Coverage

8.24.1 Commercial General Liability insurance (providing scope of coverage equivalent to ISO policy form CG 00 01), naming County and its Agents as an additional insured, with limits of not less than:

|                                          |             |
|------------------------------------------|-------------|
| General Aggregate:                       | \$2 million |
| Products/Completed Operations Aggregate: | \$1 million |
| Personal and Advertising Injury:         | \$1 million |
| Each Occurrence:                         | \$1 million |

8.24.2 Automobile Liability insurance (providing scope of coverage equivalent to ISO policy form CA 00 01) with limits of not less than \$1 million for bodily injury and property damage, in combined or equivalent split limits, for each single accident. Insurance shall cover liability arising out of Contractor's use of autos pursuant to this Master Agreement, including owned, leased, hired, and/or non-owned autos, as each may be applicable.

8.24.3 Workers Compensation and Employers' Liability insurance or qualified self- insurance satisfying statutory requirements, which includes Employers' Liability coverage with limits of not less than \$1 million per accident. If Contractor will provide leased employees, or, is an employee leasing or temporary staffing firm or a professional employer organization (PEO), coverage also shall include an Alternate Employer Endorsement (providing scope of coverage equivalent to ISO policy form WC 00 03 01 A) naming the County as the Alternate Employer. The written notice shall be provided to County at least ten (10) days in advance of cancellation for non-payment of premium and thirty (30) days in advance for any other cancellation or policy change. If applicable to Contractor's operations, coverage also shall be arranged to satisfy the requirements of any federal workers or workmen's compensation law or any federal occupational disease law.

#### 8.24.4 Unique Insurance Coverage

- Professional Liability/Errors and Omissions

Insurance covering Contractor's liability arising from or related to this Master Agreement, with limits of not less than \$1 million per claim and \$2 million aggregate. Further, Contractor understands and agrees it shall maintain such coverage for a period of not less than three (3) years following this Agreement's expiration, termination or cancellation.

#### 8.25 Liquidated Damages

8.25.1 If, in the judgment of the Coroner, the Contractor is deemed to be non-compliant with the terms and obligations assumed hereby, the Coroner, or his/her designee, at his/her option, in addition to, or in lieu of, other remedies provided herein, may withhold the entire monthly payment or deduct pro rata from the Contractor's invoice for work not performed. A description of the work not performed and the amount to be withheld or deducted from payments to the Contractor from the County, will be forwarded to the Contractor by the Coroner, or his/her designee, in a written notice describing the reasons for said action.

8.25.2 If the Coroner determines that there are deficiencies in the performance of this Master Agreement that the Coroner or his/her designee, deems are correctable by the Contractor over a certain time span, the Coroner or his/her designee, will provide a written notice to the Contractor to correct the deficiency within specified time frames. Should the Contractor fail to correct deficiencies within said time frame, the Director may:

(a) Deduct from the Contractor's payment, pro rata, those applicable portions of the Monthly Contract Sum; and/or (b) Deduct liquidated damages. The parties agree that it will be impracticable or extremely difficult to fix the extent of actual damages resulting from the failure of the Contractor to correct a deficiency within the specified time frame. The parties hereby agree that under the current circumstances a reasonable estimate of such damages is Two Hundred Fifty Dollars (\$250) per day per infraction, or as may be specified in any Performance Requirements Summary (PRS) Charts in future Work Orders, and that the Contractor shall be liable to the County for liquidated damages in said amount. Said amount shall be deducted from the County's payment to the Contractor; and/or

(c) Upon giving five (5) days notice to the Contractor for failure to correct the deficiencies, the County may correct any and all deficiencies and the total costs incurred by the County for completion of the work by an alternate source, whether it be County forces or separate private contractor, will be deducted and forfeited from the payment to the Contractor from the County, as determined by the County.

8.25.3 The action noted in sub-paragraph 8.25.2 shall not be construed as a penalty, but as adjustment of payment to the Contractor to recover the County cost due to the failure of the Contractor to complete or comply with the provisions of this Master Agreement.

8.25.4 This sub-paragraph shall not, in any manner, restrict or limit the County's right to damages for any breach of this Master Agreement provided by law or as specified in the PRS or sub-paragraph 8.25.2, and shall not, in any manner, restrict or limit the County's right to terminate this Master Agreement as agreed to herein.

#### **8.26 Most Favored Public Entity**

If the Contractor's prices decline, or should the Contractor at any time during the term of this Master Agreement provide the same goods or services under similar quantity and delivery conditions to the State of California or any county, municipality, or district of the State at prices below those set forth in this Master Agreement, then such lower prices shall be immediately extended to the County.

#### **8.27 Nondiscrimination and Affirmative Action**

8.27.1 The Contractor certifies and agrees that all persons employed by it, its affiliates, subsidiaries, or holding companies are and shall be treated equally without regard to or because of race, color, religion, ancestry, national origin, sex, age, physical or mental disability, marital status, or political affiliation, in compliance with all applicable Federal and State anti-discrimination laws and regulations.

8.27.2 The Contractor shall certify to, and comply with, the provisions of Exhibit J - Contractor's EEO Certification.

8.27.3 The Contractor shall take affirmative action to ensure that applicants are employed, and that employees are treated during employment, without regard to race, color, religion, ancestry, national origin, sex, age, physical or mental disability, marital status, or political affiliation, in compliance with all applicable Federal and State anti-discrimination laws and regulations. Such action shall include, but is not limited to: employment, upgrading, demotion, transfer, recruitment

or recruitment advertising, layoff or termination, rates of pay or other forms of compensation, and selection for training, including apprenticeship.

- 8.27.4 The Contractor certifies and agrees that it will deal with its subcontractors, bidders, or vendors without regard to or because of race, color, religion, ancestry, national origin, sex, age, physical or mental disability, marital status, or political affiliation.
- 8.27.5 The Contractor certifies and agrees that it, its affiliates, subsidiaries, or holding companies shall comply with all applicable Federal and State laws and regulations to the end that no person shall, on the grounds of race, color, religion, ancestry, national origin, sex, age, physical or mental disability, marital status, or political affiliation, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be otherwise subjected to discrimination under this Master Agreement or under any project, program, or activity supported by this Master Agreement.
- 8.27.6 The Contractor shall allow County representatives access to the Contractor's employment records during regular business hours to verify compliance with the provisions of this sub-paragraph 8.27 when so requested by the County.
- 8.27.7 If the County finds that any provisions of this sub-paragraph 8.27 have been violated, such violation shall constitute a material breach of this Master Agreement upon which the County may terminate or suspend this Master Agreement. While the County reserves the right to determine independently that the anti-discrimination provisions of this Master Agreement have been violated, in addition, a determination by the California Fair Employment and Housing Commission or the Federal Equal Employment Opportunity Commission that the Contractor has violated Federal or State anti-discrimination laws or regulations shall constitute a finding by the County that the Contractor has violated the anti-discrimination provisions of this Master Agreement.
- 8.27.8 The parties agree that in the event the Contractor violates any of the anti-discrimination provisions of this Master Agreement, the County shall, at its sole option, be entitled to the sum of Five Hundred Dollars (\$500) for each such violation pursuant to California Civil Code Section 1671 as liquidated damages in lieu of terminating or suspending this Master Agreement.



#### **8.28 Non Exclusivity**

Nothing herein is intended nor shall be construed as creating any exclusive arrangement with Contractor. This Master Agreement shall not restrict the Department from acquiring similar, equal or like goods and/or services from other entities or sources.

#### **8.29 Notice of Delays**

Except as otherwise provided under this Master Agreement, when either party has knowledge that any actual or potential situation is delaying or threatens to delay the timely performance of this Master Agreement, that party shall, within one (1) business day, give notice thereof, including all relevant information with respect thereto, to the other party.

#### **8.30 Notice of Disputes**

The Contractor shall bring to the attention of the County Project Manager and/or County Project Director any dispute between the County and the Contractor regarding the performance of services as stated in this Master Agreement. If the County Project Manager or County Project Director is not able to resolve the dispute, the Coroner, or designee shall resolve it.

#### **8.31 Notice to Employees Regarding the Federal Earned Income Credit**

The Contractor shall notify its employees, and shall require each subcontractor to notify its employees, that they may be eligible for the Federal Earned Income Credit under the federal income tax laws. Such notice shall be provided in accordance with the requirements set forth in Internal Revenue Service Notice No. 1015.

#### **8.32 Notice to Employees Regarding the Safely Surrendered Baby Law**

The contractor shall notify and provide to its employees, and shall require each subcontractor to notify and provide to its employees, information regarding the Safely Surrendered Baby Law, its implementation in Los Angeles County, and where and how to safely surrender a baby. The information is set forth in Exhibit E, Safely Surrendered Baby Law of this Master Agreement. Additional information is available at [www.babysafela.org](http://www.babysafela.org).

#### **8.33 Notices**

All notices or demands required or permitted to be given or made under this Master Agreement shall be in writing and shall be hand delivered with signed receipt or mailed by first-class registered or certified mail, postage prepaid, addressed to the parties as identified in Exhibits C, County's Administration, and D, Contractor's

Administration. Addresses may be changed by either party giving ten (10) days' prior written notice thereof to the other party. The Coroner or his/her designee shall have the authority to issue all notices or demands required or permitted by the County under this Master Agreement.

#### **8.34 Prohibition Against Inducement or Persuasion**

Notwithstanding the above, the Contractor and the County agree that, during the term of this Master Agreement and for a period of one year thereafter, neither party shall in any way intentionally induce or persuade any employee of one party to become an employee or agent of the other party. No bar exists against any hiring action initiated through a public announcement.

#### **8.35 Public Records Act**

8.35.1 Any documents submitted by Contractor; all information obtained in connection with the County's right to audit and inspect Contractor's documents, books, and accounting records pursuant to sub-paragraph 8.37 - Record Retention and Inspection/Audit Settlement of this Master Agreement; as well as those documents which were required to be submitted in response to the Request for Statement of Qualifications (RFSQ) used in the solicitation process for this Master Agreement, become the exclusive property of the County. All such documents become a matter of public record and shall be regarded as public records. Exceptions will be those elements in the California Government Code Section 6250 et seq. (Public Records Act) and which are marked "trade secret", "confidential", or "proprietary". The County shall not in any way be liable or responsible for the disclosure of any such records including, without limitation, those so marked, if disclosure is required by law, or by an order issued by a court of competent jurisdiction.

8.35.2 In the event the County is required to defend an action on a Public Records Act request for any of the aforementioned documents, information, books, records, and/or contents of an SOQ marked "trade secret", "confidential", or "proprietary", the Contractor agrees to defend and indemnify the County from all costs and expenses, including reasonable attorney's fees, in action or liability arising under the Public Records Act.

#### **8.36 Publicity**

8.36.1 The Contractor shall not disclose any details in connection with this Master Agreement to any person or entity except as may be otherwise provided hereunder or required by law.

However, in recognizing the Contractor's need to identify its services and related clients to sustain itself, the County shall not inhibit the Contractor from publishing its role under this Master Agreement within the following conditions:

- The Contractor shall develop all publicity material in a professional manner; and
- During the term of this Master Agreement, the Contractor shall not, and shall not authorize another to, publish or disseminate any commercial advertisements, press releases, feature articles, or other materials using the name of the County without the prior written consent of the County's Project Director. The County shall not unreasonably withhold written consent.

8.36.2 The Contractor may, without the prior written consent of County, indicate in its proposals and sales materials that it has been awarded this Master Agreement with the County of Los Angeles, provided that the requirements of this subparagraph 8.36 shall apply.

### **8.37 Record Retention and Inspection-Audit Settlement**

The Contractor shall maintain accurate and complete financial records of its activities and operations relating to this Master Agreement in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles. The Contractor shall also maintain accurate and complete employment and other records relating to its performance of this Master Agreement. The Contractor agrees that the County, or its authorized representatives, shall have access to and the right to examine, audit, excerpt, copy, or transcribe any pertinent transaction, activity, or record relating to this Master Agreement. All such material, including, but not limited to, all financial records, bank statements, cancelled checks or other proof of payment, timecards, sign-in/sign-out sheets and other time and employment records, and proprietary data and information, shall be kept and maintained by the Contractor and shall be made available to the County during the term of this Master Agreement and for a period of five (5) years thereafter unless the County's written permission is given to dispose of any such material prior to such time. All such material shall be maintained by the Contractor at a location in Los Angeles County, provided that if any such material is located outside Los Angeles County, then, at the County's option, the Contractor shall pay the County for travel, per diem, and other costs incurred by the County to examine, audit, excerpt, copy, or transcribe such material at such other location.

- 8.37.1 In the event that an audit of the Contractor is conducted specifically regarding this Master Agreement by any Federal or State auditor, or by any auditor or accountant employed by the Contractor or otherwise, then the Contractor shall file a copy of such audit report with the County's Auditor-Controller within thirty (30) days of the Contractor's receipt thereof, unless otherwise provided by applicable Federal or State law or under this Master Agreement. The County shall make a reasonable effort to maintain the confidentiality of such audit report(s).
- 8.37.2 Failure on the part of the Contractor to comply with any of the provisions of this sub-paragraph shall constitute a material breach of this Master Agreement upon which the County may terminate or suspend this Master Agreement.
- 8.37.3 If, at any time during the term of this Master Agreement or within five (5) years after the expiration or termination of this Master Agreement, representatives of the County may conduct an audit of the Contractor regarding the work performed under this Master Agreement, and if such audit finds that the County's dollar liability for any such work is less than payments made by the County to the Contractor, then the difference shall be either: a) repaid by the Contractor to the County by cash payment upon demand or b) at the sole option of the County's Auditor-Controller, deducted from any amounts due to the Contractor from the County, whether under this Master Agreement or otherwise. If such audit finds that the County's dollar liability for such work is more than the payments made by the County to the Contractor, then the difference shall be paid to the Contractor by the County by cash payment, provided that in no event shall the County's maximum obligation for this Master Agreement exceed the funds appropriated by the County for the purpose of this Master Agreement.

### **8.38 Recycled Bond Paper**

Consistent with the Board of Supervisors' policy to reduce the amount of solid waste deposited at the County landfills, the Contractor agrees to use recycled-content paper to the maximum extent possible on this Master Agreement.

### **8.39 Subcontracting**

The requirements of this Master Agreement shall not be subcontracted by the Contractor. Any subcontract shall be null and void and be deemed a material breach of this Master Agreement.

#### **8.40 Termination for Breach of Warranty to Maintain Compliance with County's Child Support Compliance Program**

Failure of the Contractor to maintain compliance with the requirements set forth in sub-paragraph 8.13 - Contractor's Warranty of Adherence to County's Child Support Compliance Program, shall constitute a default under this Master Agreement. Without limiting the rights and remedies available to the County under any other provision of this Master Agreement, failure of Contractor to cure such default within 90 calendar days of written notice shall be grounds upon which the County may terminate this Master Agreement pursuant to sub-paragraph 8.42 - Termination for Default and pursue debarment of Contractor, pursuant to County Code Chapter 2.202.

#### **8.41 Termination for Convenience**

- 8.41.1 County may terminate this Master Agreement, and any Work Order issued hereunder, in whole or in part, from time to time or permanently, when such action is deemed by the Coroner, in his/her sole discretion, to be in the best interest of the Department of Medical Examiner-Coroner. Termination of work hereunder shall be effected by notice of termination to Contractor specifying the extent to which performance of work is terminated and the date upon which such termination becomes effective. The date upon which such termination becomes effective shall be no less than ten (10) days after the notice is sent.
- 8.41.2 Notwithstanding any other provision of this Master Agreement, the Coroner may find Contractor out of compliance with this Master Agreement and immediately suspend Contractor's performance and/or terminate this Master Agreement if the Coroner determines, at his sole discretion, that Contractor has demonstrated a substandard work quality, or a consistent failure to adhere to Coroner's policies, procedures, and contractual requirements, as outlined in this Master Agreement and in the Coroner's policy manuals.
- 8.41.3 County, through the Coroner, may suspend or terminate this Agreement immediately if Contractor's license to practice medicine is suspended or revoked by the State of California (Medical Board of California).
- 8.41.4 Upon receipt of a notice of termination and except as otherwise directed by the County, the Contractor shall immediately:
  - Stop work under the Work Order or under this Master Agreement, as identified in such notice;

- Transfer title and deliver to County all completed work and work in process; and
  - Complete performance of such part of the work as shall not have been terminated by such notice.
- 8.41.5 All material including books, records, documents, or other evidence bearing on the costs and expenses of the Contractor under this Master Agreement or Work Order shall be maintained by the Contractor in accordance with sub-paragraph 8.37, Record Retention and Inspection/Audit Settlement.
- 8.41.6 County's failure to exercise any right of termination under this Paragraph 8.41 shall not constitute waiver of such right and the same may be exercised at any subsequent time.
- 8.41.7 In conjunction with any suspension or termination of this Master Agreement by County, Contractor understands and acknowledges that he/she shall have no right to any County administrative hearing or other County due process right under the Coroner's bylaws or other County administrative forum to challenge or appeal such suspension or termination.

#### **8.42 Termination for Default**

- 8.42.1 The County may, by written notice to the Contractor, terminate the whole or any part of this Master Agreement, if, in the judgment of the Coroner:
- Contractor has materially breached this Master Agreement;
  - Contractor fails to timely provide and/or satisfactorily perform any task, deliverable, service, or other work required either under this Master Agreement or any Work Order issued hereunder; or
  - Contractor fails to demonstrate a high probability of timely fulfillment of performance requirements of any Work Order issued under this Master Agreement, or of any obligations of this Master Agreement and in either case, fails to demonstrate convincing progress toward a cure within five (5) working days (or such longer period as the County may authorize in writing) after receipt of written notice from the County specifying such failure.
- 8.42.2 In the event that the County terminates this Master Agreement in whole or in part as provided in sub-paragraph 8.42.1, the County may procure, upon such terms and in such manner as the County may deem appropriate, goods

and services similar to those so terminated. The Contractor shall be liable to the County for any and all excess costs incurred by the County, as determined by the County, for such similar goods and services. The Contractor shall continue the performance of this Master Agreement to the extent not terminated under the provisions of this sub-paragraph.

- 8.42.3 Except with respect to defaults of any subcontractor, the Contractor shall not be liable for any such excess costs of the type identified in sub-paragraph 8.42.2 if its failure to perform this Master Agreement, including any Work Order issued hereunder, arises out of causes beyond the control and without the fault or negligence of the Contractor. Such causes may include, but are not limited to: acts of God or of the public enemy, acts of the County in either its sovereign or contractual capacity, acts of Federal or State governments in their sovereign capacities, fires, floods, epidemics, quarantine restrictions, strikes, freight embargoes, and unusually severe weather; but in every case, the failure to perform must be beyond the control and without the fault or negligence of the Contractor. If the failure to perform is caused by the default of a subcontractor, and if such default arises out of causes beyond the control of both the Contractor and subcontractor, and without the fault or negligence of either of them, the Contractor shall not be liable for any such excess costs for failure to perform, unless the goods or services to be furnished by the subcontractor were obtainable from other sources in sufficient time to permit the Contractor to meet the required performance schedule. As used in this sub-paragraph 8.42.3, the terms "subcontractor" and "subcontractors" mean subcontractor(s) at any tier.
- 8.42.4 If, after the County has given notice of termination under the provisions of this sub-paragraph 8.42, it is determined by the County that the Contractor was not in default under the provisions of this sub-paragraph 8.42, or that the default was excusable under the provisions of sub-paragraph 8.42.3, the rights and obligations of the parties shall be the same as if the notice of termination had been issued pursuant to sub-paragraph 8.41 - Termination for Convenience.
- 8.42.5 The rights and remedies of the County provided in this sub-paragraph 8.42 shall not be exclusive and are in addition to any other rights and remedies provided by law or under this Master Agreement.

#### **8.43 Termination for Improper Consideration**

- 8.43.1 The County may, by written notice to the Contractor, immediately terminate the right of the Contractor to proceed under this Master Agreement if it is found that consideration, in any form, was offered or given by the Contractor, either directly or through an intermediary, to any County officer, employee, or agent with the intent of securing this Master Agreement or securing favorable treatment with respect to the award, amendment, or extension of this Master Agreement or the making of any determinations with respect to the Contractor's performance pursuant to this Master Agreement. In the event of such termination, the County shall be entitled to pursue the same remedies against the Contractor as it could pursue in the event of default by the Contractor.
- 8.43.2 The Contractor shall immediately report any attempt by a County officer or employee to solicit such improper consideration. The report shall be made either to the County manager charged with the supervision of the employee or to the County Auditor-Controller's Employee Fraud Hotline at (800) 544-6861.
- 8.43.3 Among other items, such improper consideration may take the form of cash, discounts, services, the provision of travel or entertainment, or tangible gifts.

#### **8.44 Termination for Insolvency**

- 8.44.1 The County may terminate this Master Agreement forthwith in the event of the occurrence of any of the following:
- Insolvency of the Contractor. The Contractor shall be deemed to be insolvent if it has ceased to pay its debts for at least sixty (60) days in the ordinary course of business or cannot pay its debts as they become due, whether or not a petition has been filed under the Federal Bankruptcy Code and whether or not the Contractor is insolvent within the meaning of the Federal Bankruptcy Code;
  - The filing of a voluntary or involuntary petition regarding the Contractor under the Federal Bankruptcy Code;
  - The appointment of a Receiver or Trustee for the Contractor; or
  - The execution by the Contractor of a general assignment for the benefit of creditors.



8.44.2 The rights and remedies of the County provided in this sub-paragraph 8.44 shall not be exclusive and are in addition to any other rights and remedies provided by law or under this Master Agreement.

**8.45 Termination for Non-Adherence of County Lobbyist Ordinance**

The Contractor, and each County Lobbyist or County Lobbying firm as defined in County Code Section 2.160.010 retained by the Contractor, shall fully comply with the County's Lobbyist Ordinance, County Code Chapter 2.160. Failure on the part of the Contractor or any County Lobbyist or County Lobbying firm retained by the Contractor to fully comply with the County's Lobbyist Ordinance shall constitute a material breach of this Master Agreement, upon which the County may in its sole discretion, immediately terminate or suspend this Master Agreement.

**8.46 Termination for Non-Appropriation of Funds**

Notwithstanding any other provision of this Master Agreement, the County shall not be obligated for the Contractor's performance hereunder or by any provision of this Master Agreement during any of the County's future fiscal years unless and until the County's Board of Supervisors appropriates funds for this Master Agreement in the County's Budget for each such future fiscal year. In the event that funds are not appropriated for this Master Agreement, then this Master Agreement shall terminate as of June 30 of the last fiscal year for which funds were appropriated. The County shall notify the Contractor in writing of any such non-allocation of funds at the earliest possible date.

**8.47 Validity**

If any provision of this Master Agreement or the application thereof to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the remainder of this Master Agreement and the application of such provision to other persons or circumstances shall not be affected thereby.

**8.48 Waiver**

No waiver by the County of any breach of any provision of this Master Agreement shall constitute a waiver of any other breach or of such provision. Failure of the County to enforce at any time, or from time to time, any provision of this Master Agreement shall not be construed as a waiver thereof. The rights and remedies set forth in this sub-paragraph 8.48 shall not be exclusive and are in addition to any other rights and remedies provided by law or under this Master Agreement.

#### **8.49 Warranty Against Contingent Fees**

8.49.1 The Contractor warrants that no person or selling agency has been employed or retained to solicit or secure this Master Agreement upon any agreement or understanding for a commission, percentage, brokerage, or contingent fee, excepting bona fide employees or bona fide established commercial or selling agencies maintained by the Contractor for the purpose of securing business.

8.49.2 For breach of this warranty, the County shall have the right to terminate this Master Agreement and, at its sole discretion, deduct from the Master Agreement price or consideration, or otherwise recover, the full amount of such commission, percentage, brokerage, or contingent fee.

#### **8.50 Warranty of Compliance with County's Defaulted Property Tax Reduction Program**

Contractor acknowledges that County has established a goal of ensuring that all individuals and businesses that benefit financially from County through contract are current in paying their property tax obligations (secured and unsecured roll) in order to mitigate the economic burden otherwise imposed upon County and its taxpayers.

Unless Contractor qualifies for an exemption or exclusion, Contractor warrants and certifies that to the best of its knowledge it is now in compliance, and during the term of this Master Agreement will maintain compliance, with Los Angeles County Code Chapter 2.206.

#### **8.51 Termination for Breach of Warranty to Maintain Compliance with County's Defaulted Property tax Reduction Program**

Failure of Contractor to maintain compliance with the requirements set forth in Paragraph 8.50 "Warranty of Compliance with County's Defaulted Property Tax Reduction Program" shall constitute default under this Master Agreement. Without limiting the rights and remedies available to County under any other provision of this Master Agreement, failure of Contractor to cure such default within 10 days of notice shall be grounds upon which County may terminate this Master Agreement and/or pursue debarment of Contractor, pursuant to County Code Chapter 2.206.

#### **8.52 Time off For Voting**

The Contractor shall notify its employees, and shall require each subcontractor to notify and provide to its employees, information regarding the time off for voting law (Elections Code Section 14000). Not less than 10 days before every statewide election, every Contractor and subcontractors shall keep posted conspicuously at the place of work, if practicable, or elsewhere where it can be seen as employees come or go to their place of work, a notice setting forth the provisions of Section 14000.

#### **8.53 Compliance with County's Zero Tolerance Policy on Human Trafficking**

Contractor acknowledges that the County has established a Zero Tolerance Policy on Human Trafficking prohibiting contractors from engaging in human trafficking.

If a Contractor or member of Contractor's staff is convicted of a human trafficking offense, the County shall require that the Contractor or member of Contractor's staff be removed immediately from performing services under the Master Agreement. County will not be under any obligation to disclose confidential information regarding the offenses other than those required by law.

Disqualification of any member of Contractor's staff pursuant to this paragraph shall not relieve Contractor of its obligation to complete all work in accordance with the terms and conditions of this Master Agreement.

#### **8.54 Intentionally Omitted**

### **9.0 UNIQUE TERMS AND CONDITIONS**

#### **9.1 Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 (HIPAA)**

9.1.1 The County is subject to the Administrative Simplification requirements and prohibitions of the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996, Public Law 104-191 (HIPAA), and regulations promulgated thereunder, including the Privacy, Security, Breach Notification, and Enforcement Rules at 45 Code of Federal Regulations (C.F.R.) Parts 160 and 164 (collectively, the "HIPAA Rules"). Under this Agreement, the Contractor provides services to the County and the Contractor creates, has access to, receives, maintains, or transmits Protected Health Information as defined in Exhibit I in order to provide those services. The

County and the Contractor therefore agree to the terms of Exhibit I, "Business Associate Under Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 (HIPAA)

## **9.2 Budget Reductions**

In the event that the County's Board of Supervisors adopts, in any fiscal year, a County Budget which provides for reductions in the salaries and benefits paid to the majority of County employees and imposes similar reductions with respect to County contracts, the County reserves the right to reduce its payment obligation under this Master Agreement correspondingly for that fiscal year and any subsequent fiscal year during the term of this Master Agreement (including any extensions), and the services to be provided by the Contractor under this Master Agreement shall also be reduced correspondingly. The County's notice to the Contractor regarding said reduction in payment obligation shall be provided within thirty (30) calendar days of the Board's approval of such actions. Except as set forth in the preceding sentence, the Contractor shall continue to provide all of the services set forth in this Master Agreement.

## **9.3 Supplies**

9.3.1 The Coroner shall furnish to Contractor the physical facilities and supplies, including but not limited to protective clothing and breathing apparatus, as the Coroner deems necessary and consistent with Coroner policy, to perform the services covered by this Agreement.

## **9.4 Parking**

9.4.1 When Providing services hereunder at the Coroner, parking for Contractor's vehicle will be made available by Coroner.

## **9.5 Intentionally Omitted**

## **9.6 Intentionally Omitted**

## **9.7 Intentionally Omitted**

## **9.8 Intentionally Omitted**

AUTHORIZATION OF MASTER AGREEMENT FOR  
PART-TIME / INTERMITTENT PHYSICIAN  
FORENSIC PATHOLOGY SERVICES

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Board of Supervisors of the County of Los Angeles has caused this Master Agreement to be executed by the Chief Medical Examiner-Coroner, Department of Medical Examiner-Coroner or designee and approved by County Counsel, and Contractor has caused this Master Agreement to be executed in its behalf by its duly authorized officer, this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 201\_\_.

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

By \_\_\_\_\_  
JONATHAN LUCAS, M.D.  
Chief Medical Examiner-Coroner  
Department of Medical Examiner-Coroner

By \_\_\_\_\_  
Contractor

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

Printed: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

MARY C. WICKHAM  
County Counsel

By \_\_\_\_\_  
BRIAN T. CHU  
Principal Deputy County Counsel