

**COUNTY OF SISKIYOU  
CONTRACT FOR SERVICES**

This Contract is entered into on the date signed by all parties to it.

COUNTY: Siskiyou County Health and Human Services Agency  
Behavioral Health Division  
2060 Campus Drive  
Yreka, CA 96097  
(530) 841-4100 Phone  
(530) 841-4133 Fax

And

CONTRACTOR: Gary Ernst, a sole proprietor  
1526 E. Beech Drive  
Visalia, CA 93292  
(559) 679-2541 Cell  
[gcernst@sbcglobal.net](mailto:gcernst@sbcglobal.net)

**ARTICLE 1. TERM OF CONTRACT**

**1.01** Contract Term: This Contract shall become effective July 1, 2022 and shall terminate on June 30, 2023, unless terminated in accordance with the provisions of Article 7 of this Contract or as otherwise provided herein.

**ARTICLE 2. INDEPENDENT CONTRACTOR STATUS**

**2.01** Independent Contractor: It is the express intention of the parties that Contractor is an independent contractor and not an employee, agent, joint venture or partner of County. Nothing in this Contract shall be interpreted or construed as creating or establishing the relationship of employer and employee between County and Contractor or any employee or agent of Contractor. Both parties acknowledge that Contractor is not an employee for state or federal tax purposes. Contractor shall retain the right to perform services for others during the term of this Contract.

**ARTICLE 3. SERVICES**

**3.01** Scope of Services: Contractor agrees to furnish the following services:  
Contractor shall provide the services described in Exhibit "A" attached hereto.

No additional services shall be performed by Contractor unless approved in advance in writing by the County stating the dollar value of the services, the method of payment, and any adjustment in contract time or other contract terms. All such services are to be coordinated with County and the results of the work shall be monitored by the Health and Human Services Agency Director or his or her designee.

To the extent that Exhibit A contains terms in conflict with this Contract or to the extent that it seeks to supplement a provision regarding a subject already fully addressed in this Contract, including a clause similar to this seeking to render its language superior to conflicting

language in this Contract, such language is hereby expressly deemed null and void by all parties upon execution of this Contract.

- 3.02 Method of Performing Services: Contractor will determine the method, details, and means of performing the above-described services including measures to protect the safety of the traveling public and Contractor's employees. County shall not have the right to, and shall not, control the manner or determine the method of accomplishing Contractor's services.
- 3.03 Employment of Assistants: Contractor may, at the Contractor's own expense, employ such assistants as Contractor deems necessary to perform the services required of Contractor by this Contract. County may not control, direct, or supervise Contractor's assistants or employees in the performance of those services.

#### **ARTICLE 4. COMPENSATION**

- 4.01 Compensation: In consideration for the services to be performed by Contractor, County agrees to pay Contractor in proportion to services satisfactorily performed as specified in Exhibit "A", the not to exceed amount of Thirty Thousand and No/100 cents (\$30,000.00) for the term of the Contract.
- 4.02 Invoices: Contractor shall submit original detailed invoices for all services being rendered.
- 4.03 Date for Payment of Compensation: County shall pay within 30 days of receipt of invoices from the Contractor to the County, and approval and acceptance of the work by the County.
- 4.04 Expenses: Contractor shall be responsible for all costs and expenses incident to the performance of services for County, including but not limited to, all costs of materials, equipment, all fees, fines, licenses, bonds or taxes required of or imposed against Contractor and all other of Contractor's costs of doing business. County shall not be responsible for any expense incurred by Contractor in performing services for County.

#### **ARTICLE 5. OBLIGATIONS OF CONTRACTOR**

- 5.01 Contractor Qualifications: Contractor warrants that Contractor has the necessary licenses, experience and technical skills to provide services under this Contract.
- 5.02 Contract Management: Contractor shall report to the Health and Human Services Agency Director (or his or her designee) who will review the activities and performance of the Contractor and administer this Contract.
- 5.03 Tools and Instrumentalities: Contractor will supply all tools and instrumentalities required to perform the services under this Contract. Contractor is not required to purchase or rent any tools, equipment or services from County.
- 5.04 Workers' Compensation: Contractor shall maintain a workers' compensation plan covering all of its employees as required by California Labor Code Section 3700, either through worker's compensation insurance issued by an insurance company or through a plan of self-insurance certified by the State Director of Industrial Relations. If Contractor elects to be self-insured, the certificate of insurance otherwise required by this Contract shall be replaced with a consent to self-insure issued by the State Director of Industrial Relations. Proof of

such insurance shall be provided before any work is commenced under this contract. No payment shall be made unless such proof of insurance is provided.

**5.05** Indemnification: Contractor shall indemnify and hold County harmless against any and all liability imposed or claimed, including attorney's fees and other legal expenses, arising directly or indirectly from any act or failure of Contractor or Contractor's assistants, employees or agents, including all claims relating to the injury or death of any person or damage to any property. Contractor agrees to maintain a policy of liability insurance in the minimum amount of (\$1,000,000) One Million Dollars, to cover such claims or in an amount determined appropriate by the County Risk Manager. If the amount of insurance is reduced by the County Risk Manager such reduction must be in writing. Contractor shall furnish a certificate of insurance evidencing such insurance and naming the County as an additional insured for the above-cited liability coverage prior to commencing work. It is understood that the duty of Contractor to indemnify and hold harmless includes the duty to defend as set forth in Section 2778 of the California Civil Code. Acceptance by County of insurance certificates and endorsements required under this Contract does not relieve Contractor from liability or limit Contractor's liability under this indemnification and hold harmless clause. This indemnification and hold harmless clause shall apply to any damages or claims for damages whether or not such insurance policies shall have been determined to apply. By execution of this Contract, Contractor acknowledges and agrees to the provisions of this Section and that it is a material element of consideration.

**5.06** General Liability and Automobile Insurance: During the term of this Contract Contractor shall obtain and keep in full force and effect a commercial, general liability and automobile policy or policies of at least (\$1,000,000) One Million Dollars, combined limit for bodily injury and property damage; the County, its officers, employees, volunteers and agents are to be named additional insured under the policies, and the policies shall stipulate that this insurance will operate as primary insurance for work performed by Contractor and its sub-contractors, and that no other insurance effected by County or other named insured will be called on to cover a loss covered thereunder. All insurance required herein shall be provided by a company authorized to do business in the State of California and possess at least a Best A:VII rating or as many otherwise be acceptable to County. The General Liability insurance shall be provided by an ISO Commercial General Liability policy, with edition dates of 1985, 1988, or 1990 or other form satisfactory to County. The County will be named as an additional insured using ISO form CG 2010 1185 or the same form with an edition date no later than 1990, or in other form satisfactory to County.

**5.07** Certificate of Insurance and Endorsements: Contractor shall obtain and file with the County prior to engaging in any operation or activity set forth in this Contract, certificates of insurance evidencing additional insured coverage as set forth in paragraphs 5.04 and 5.10 above and which shall provide that no cancellation, reduction in coverage or expiration by the insurance company will be made during the term of this Contract, without thirty (30) days written notice to County prior to the effective date of such cancellation. **Naming the County as a "Certificate Holder" or other similar language is NOT sufficient satisfaction of the requirement.** Prior to commencement of performance of services by contractor and prior to any obligations of County, contractor shall file certificates of insurance with County showing that contractor has in effect the insurance required by this Contract. Contractor shall file a new or amended certificate on the certificate then on file. **If changes are made during the term of this Contract, no work shall be performed under this agreement, and no payment may be made until such certificate of insurance evidencing the**

**coverage in paragraphs 5.05, the general liability policy set forth in 5.06 and 5.10 are provided to County.**

- 5.08** Public Employees Retirement System (CalPERS): In the event that Contractor or any employee, agent, or subcontractor of Contractor providing services under this Contract is determined by a court of competent jurisdiction or the Public Employees Retirement System (CalPERS) to be eligible for enrollment in CalPERS as an employee of the County, Contractor shall indemnify, defend, and hold harmless County for the payment of any employee and/or employer contributions for CalPERS benefits on behalf of Contractor or its employees, agents, or subcontractors, as well as for the payment of any penalties and interest on such contributions, which would otherwise be the responsibility of County. Contractor understands and agrees that his personnel are not, and will not be, eligible for membership in, or any benefits from, any County group plan for hospital, surgical or medical insurance, or for membership in any County retirement program, or for paid vacation, paid sick leave, or other leave, with or without pay, or for any other benefit which accrues to a County employee.
- 5.09** IRS/FTB Indemnity Assignment: Contractor shall defend, indemnify, and hold harmless the County, its officers, agents, and employees, from and against any adverse determination made by the Internal Revenue Service of the State Franchise Tax Board with respect to Contractor's "independent contractor" status that would establish a liability for failure to make social security and income tax withholding payments.
- 5.10** Professional Liability: If Contractor or any of its officers, agents, employees, volunteers, contractors or subcontractors are required to be professionally licensed or certified by any agency of the State of California in order to perform any of the work or services identified herein, Contractor shall procure and maintain in force throughout the duration of this Contract a professional liability insurance policy with a minimum coverage level of One Million and No/100 Dollars (\$1,000,000.00), or as determined in writing by County's Risk Management Department.
- 5.11** State and Federal Taxes: As Contractor is not County's employee, Contractor is responsible for paying all required state and federal taxes. In particular:
- a. County will not withhold FICA (Social Security) from Contractor's payments;
  - b. County will not make state or federal unemployment insurance contributions on behalf of Contractor;
  - c. County will not withhold state or federal income tax from payment to Contractor;
  - d. County will not make disability insurance contributions on behalf of Contractor;
  - e. County will not obtain workers' compensation insurance on behalf of Contractor.
- 5.12** Records: All reports and other materials collected or produced by the contractor or any subcontractor of Contractor shall, after completion and acceptance of the Contract, become the property of County, and shall not be subject to any copyright claimed by the Contractor, subcontractor, or their agents or employees. Contractor may retain copies of all such materials exclusively for administration purposes. Any use of completed or uncompleted documents for other projects by Contractor, any subcontractor, or any of their agents or employees, without the prior written consent of County is prohibited. It is further understood and agreed that all plans, studies, specifications, data magnetically or otherwise recorded on computer or computer diskettes, records, files, reports, etc., in possession of the Contractor

relating to the matters covered by this Contract shall be the property of the County, and Contractor hereby agrees to deliver the same to the County upon request. It is also understood and agreed that the documents and other materials including but not limited to those set forth hereinabove, prepared pursuant to this Contract are prepared specifically for the County and are not necessarily suitable for any future or other use.

- 5.13** Contractor's Books and Records: Contractor shall maintain any and all ledgers, books of account, invoices, vouchers, canceled checks, and other records or documents evidencing or relating to charges for services or expenditures and disbursements charged to the County for a minimum of five (5) years, or for any longer period required by law, from the date of final payment to the Contractor under this Contract. Any records or documents required to be maintained shall be made available for inspection, audit and/or copying at any time during regular business hours, upon oral or written request of the County.
- 5.14** Assignability of Contract: It is understood and agreed that this Contract contemplates personal performance by the Contractor and is based upon a determination of its unique personal competence and experience and upon its specialized personal knowledge. Assignments of any or all rights, duties or obligations of the Contractor under this Contract will be permitted only with the express written consent of the County.
- 5.15** Warranty of Contractor: Contractor warrants that it, and each of its personnel, where necessary, are properly certified and licensed under the laws and regulations of the State of California to provide the special services agreed to.
- 5.16** Withholding for Non-Resident Contractor: Pursuant to California Revenue and Taxation Code Section 18662, payments made to nonresident independent contractors, including corporations and partnerships that do not have a permanent place of business in this state, are subject to 7 percent state income tax withholding. Withholding is required if the total yearly payments made under this contract exceed \$1,500.00.
- Unless the Franchise Tax Board has authorized a reduced rate or waiver of withholding and County is provided evidence of such reduction/waiver, all nonresident contractors will be subject to the withholding. It is the responsibility of the Contractor to submit the Waiver Request (Form 588) to the Franchise Tax Board as soon as possible in order to allow time for the Franchise Tax Board to review the request.
- 5.17** Compliance with Child, Family and Spousal Support Reporting Obligations: Contractor's failure to comply with state and federal child, family and spousal support reporting requirements regarding Contractor's employees or failure to implement lawfully served wage and earnings assignment orders or notices of assignment relating to child, family and spousal support obligations shall constitute a default under this Contract. Contractor's failure to cure such default within ninety (90) days of notice by County shall be grounds for termination of this Contract.
- 5.18** Conflict of Interest: Contractor covenants that it presently has no interest and shall not acquire an interest, direct or indirect, financial or otherwise, which would conflict in any manner or degree with the performance of the services hereunder. Contractor further covenants that, in the performance of this Contract, no subcontractor or person having such an interest shall be used or employed. Contractor certifies that no one who has or will have any financial interest under this Contract is an officer or employee of County.

- 5.19** Compliance with Applicable Laws: Contractor shall comply with all applicable federal, state and local laws now or hereafter in force, and with any applicable regulations, in performing the work and providing the services specified in this Contract. This obligation includes, without limitations, the acquisition and maintenance of any permits, licenses, or other entitlements necessary to perform the duties imposed expressly or impliedly under this Contract.
- 5.20** Bankruptcy: Contractor shall immediately notify County in the event that Contractor ceases conducting business in the normal manner, becomes insolvent, makes a general assignment for the benefit of creditors, suffer or permits the appointment of a receiver for its business or assets, or avails itself of, or becomes subject to, any proceeding under the Federal Bankruptcy Act or any other statute of any state relating to insolvency or protection of the rights of creditors.
- 5.21** Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA): Contractor agrees to the terms and conditions set forth in the "Business Associates Agreement" attached hereto as Exhibit "C" and those terms and conditions are hereby incorporated into the Contract by reference. Additionally, Contractor shall comply with, and assist SCHHSA in complying with, the privacy and security requirements of the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA), as follows.

- A.** Use or Disclosure of Protected Health Information: Contractor may use or disclose protected health information (PHI) to perform its obligations under the Contract, provided that such use or disclosure does not violate this Agreement, is not prohibited by the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) including, but not limited to, the provisions of Title 42, United States Code, Section 1320d et seq. and Title 45, Code of Federal Regulations (C.F.R.), Parts 142, 160, 162 and 164, or does not exceed the scope of how County could use or disclose the information.

Contractor shall not use, disclose or allow the disclosure of PHI except as permitted herein or as required or authorized by law. Contractor shall implement appropriate safeguards to prevent use or disclosure of PHI other than as provided herein. At the request of and in the time and manner designated by County, Contractor shall provide access to PHI in a designated record set as required by 45 C.F.R. Section 164.524. Contractor shall report to County any use or disclosure of PHI not provided for herein or HIPAA regulations.

If Contractor provides PHI to a third party, including officers, agents, employees, volunteers, contractors and subcontractors, pursuant to the terms of the Contract, Contractor shall ensure that the third party complies with all HIPAA regulations and the terms set forth herein.

- B.** Documentation and Accounting of Uses and Disclosures: Contractor shall document any disclosures of PHI in a manner that would allow County to respond to a request for an accounting of disclosures of PHI in accordance with 45 C.F.R. Section 164.528. Contractor shall provide County, in a time and manner designated by County, all information necessary to respond to a request for an accounting of disclosures of PHI.
- C.** Amendments to Designated Record Sets: In accordance with 45 C.F.R. Section 164.526, Contractor agrees to amend PHI in its possession as requested by an individual or as directed by County, in a time and manner designated by County.

- D. Access to Records: Contractor shall make available to County or the Secretary of the United States Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), in the time and manner designated by County or HHS, any records related to the use, disclosure and privacy protections of PHI for the purpose of investigating or auditing County's compliance with HIPAA regulations.
  - E. Termination of Agreement: Upon County's knowledge of a material breach of these provisions or HIPAA regulations, County shall, at its option, either provide Contractor with an opportunity to cure the breach or immediately terminate this Contract. If Contractor is given an opportunity to cure the breach but fails to do so within the time specified by County, County may terminate the Contract without further notice.
  - F. Destruction of PHI: Upon termination of this Contract, Contractor shall return to County all PHI required to be retained and return or destroy all other PHI to comply with HIPAA regulations. This provision shall apply to PHI in the possession of Contractor's officers, agents, employees, volunteers, contractors and subcontractors who shall retain no copies of the PHI. If Contractor determines that returning or destroying the PHI is not feasible, Contractor shall provide County with notice specifying the conditions that make return or destruction not feasible. If County agrees that return of the PHI is not feasible, Contractor shall continue to extend the protections of this provision to the PHI for so long as Contractor or its officers, agents, employees, volunteers, contractors or subcontractors maintain such PHI.
- 5.22 Nondiscrimination: Contractor agrees to the terms and conditions set forth in the "Nondiscrimination in State and Federally-Assisted Programs" addendum, attached hereto as Exhibit "B" and those terms and conditions are hereby incorporated into the Contract by reference.
- 5.23 Grievance Procedure: If Contractor is required by ordinance, regulation, policy, the California Department of Social Services, County or other authority to have a procedure for filing and considering grievances, Contractor shall provide County with a copy of Contractor's grievance procedure prior to providing services under this Contract.
- 5.24 Child Abuse and Neglect Reporting: Contractor shall comply with all state and federal laws pertaining to the reporting of child abuse and/or neglect. Contractor's officers, employees, agents and volunteers shall report all known or suspected instances of child abuse and/or neglect to the Child Protective Services agency or other agency as required by Penal Code Section 11164 et seq.
- 5.25 Confidentiality: All information and records obtained in the course of providing services under this Agreement shall be confidential pursuant to Section 5328 of the Welfare and Institutions Code in accordance with applicable State and Federal law.
- 5.26 Patients' Rights: Contractor shall give the patients notice of their rights pursuant to and in compliance with: California Welfare and Institutions Code Section 5323; California Administrative Code, Title 9, Chapter 1, Subchapter 4, Article 6. In addition, in all facilities providing the services described herein, the Contractor shall have prominently posted in the predominant languages of the community a list of the patient's rights.

## ARTICLE 6. OBLIGATIONS OF COUNTY

- 6.01** Cooperation of County: County agrees to comply with all reasonable requests of Contractor (to provide reasonable access to documents and information as permitted by law) necessary to the performance of Contractor's duties under this Contract.

## **ARTICLE 7. TERMINATION**

- 7.01** Termination on Occurrence of Stated Events: This Contract shall terminate automatically on the occurrence of any of the following events:
1. Bankruptcy or insolvency of Contractor;
  2. Death of Contractor.
- 7.02** Termination by County for Default of Contractor: Should Contractor default in the performance of this Contract or materially breach any of its provisions, County, at County's option, may terminate this Contract by giving written notification to Contractor.
- 7.03** Termination for Convenience of County: County may terminate this Contract at any time by providing a notice in writing to Contractor that the Contract is terminated. Said Contract shall then be deemed terminated and no further work shall be performed by Contractor. If the Contract is so terminated, the Contractor shall be paid for that percentage of the phase of work actually completed, based on a pro rata portion of the compensation for said phase satisfactorily completed at the time the notice of termination is received.
- 7.04** Termination of Funding: County may terminate this Contract in any fiscal year in that it is determined there is not sufficient funding. California Constitution Article XVI Section 18.

## **ARTICLE 8. GENERAL PROVISIONS**

- 8.01** Notices: Any notices to be given hereunder by either party to the other may be effected either by personal delivery in writing or by mail, registered or certified, postage prepaid and return receipt requested. Mailed notices shall be addressed to the parties at the addresses appearing in the introductory paragraph of this Contract, but each party may change the address by written notice in accordance with this paragraph. Notices delivered personally will be deemed communicated as of actual receipt; mailed notices will be deemed communicated as of two (2) days after mailing.
- 8.02** Entire Agreement of the Parties: This Contract supersedes any and all contracts, either oral or written, between the Parties hereto with respect to the rendering of services by Contractor for County and contains all the covenants and contracts between the Parties with respect to the rendering of such services in any manner whatsoever. Each Party to this Contract acknowledges that no representations, inducements, promises, or contracts, orally or otherwise, have been made by any Party, or anyone acting on behalf of any Party, which are not embodied herein, and that no other contract, statement, or promise not contained in this Contract shall be valid or binding. Any modification of this Contract will be effective only if it is in writing signed by the Party to be charged and approved by the County as provided herein or as otherwise required by law.
- 8.03** Partial Invalidity: If any provision in this Contract is held by a court of competent jurisdiction



to be invalid, void, or unenforceable, the remaining provisions will nevertheless continue in full force without being impaired or invalidated in any way.

- 8.04** Attorney's Fees: If any action at law or in equity, including an action for declaratory relief, is brought to enforce or interpret the provisions of this Contract, the prevailing Party will be entitled to reasonable attorney's fees, which may be set by the court in the same action or in a separate action brought for that purpose, in addition to any other relief to which that Party may be entitled.
- 8.05** Conformance to Applicable Laws: Contractor shall comply with the standard of care regarding all applicable federal, state and county laws, rules and ordinances. Contractor shall not discriminate in the employment of persons who work under this contract because of race, the color, national origin, ancestry, disability, sex or religion of such person.
- 8.06** Waiver: In the event that either County or Contractor shall at any time or times waive any breach of this Contract by the other, such waiver shall not constitute a waiver of any other or succeeding breach of this Contract, whether of the same or any other covenant, condition or obligation.
- 8.07** Governing Law: This Contract and all matters relating to it shall be governed by the laws of the State of California and the County of Siskiyou and any action brought relating to this Contract shall be brought exclusively in a state court in the County of Siskiyou.
- 8.08** Reduction of Consideration: Contractor agrees that County shall have the right to deduct from any payments contracted for under this Contract any amount owed to County by Contractor as a result of any obligation arising prior or subsequent to the execution of this contract. For purposes of this paragraph, obligations arising prior to the execution of this contract may include, but are not limited to any property tax, secured or unsecured, which tax is in arrears. If County exercises the right to reduce the consideration specified in this Contract, County shall give Contractor notice of the amount of any off-set and the reason for the deduction.
- 8.09** Negotiated Contract: This Contract has been arrived at through negotiation between the parties. Neither party is to be deemed the party which prepared this Contract within the meaning of California Civil Code Section 1654. Each party hereby represents and warrants that in executing this Contract it does so with full knowledge of the rights and duties it may have with respect to the other. Each party also represents and warrants that it has received independent legal advice from its attorney with respect to the matters set forth in this Contract and the rights and duties arising out of this Contract, or that such party willingly foregoes any such consultation.
- 8.10** Time is of the Essence: Time is of the essence in the performance of this Contract.
- 8.11** Materiality: The parties consider each and every term, covenant, and provision of this Contract to be material and reasonable.
- 8.12** Authority and Capacity: Contractor and Contractor's signatory each warrant and represent that each has full authority and capacity to enter into this contract.
- 8.13** Binding on Successors: All of the conditions, covenants and terms herein contained shall apply to, and bind, the heirs, successors, executors, administrators and assigns of

Contractor. Contractor and all of contractor's heirs, successors, executors, administrators, and assigns shall be jointly and severally liable under this Contract.

- 8.14** Cumulation of Remedies: All of the various rights, options, elections, powers and remedies of the parties shall be construed as cumulative, and no one of them exclusive of any other or of any other legal or equitable remedy which a party might otherwise have in the event of a breach or default of any condition, covenant or term by the other party. The exercise of any single right, option, election, power or remedy shall not, in any way, impair any other right, option, election, power or remedy until all duties and obligations imposed shall have been fully performed.
- 8.15** No Reliance On Representations: Each party hereby represents and warrants that it is not relying, and has not relied, upon any representation or statement made by the other party with respect to the facts involved or its rights or duties. Each party understands and agrees that the facts relevant, or believed to be relevant to this Contract, may hereunder turn out to be other than, or different from the facts now known to such party as true, or believed by such party to be true. The parties expressly assume the risk of the facts turning out to be different and agree that this Contract shall be effective in all respects and shall not be subject to rescission by reason of any such difference in facts.

**(SIGNATURES ON FOLLOWING PAGE)**

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, County and Contractor have executed this agreement on the dates set forth below, each signatory represents that he/she has the authority to execute this agreement and to bind the Party on whose behalf his/her execution is made.

Date: 7/21/2022

CONTRACTOR: Gary Ernst, a sole proprietor

DocuSigned by:  
Gary Ernst  
48C785588D547C  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Gary Ernst, Consultant

License No.: A0122274  
(Licensed in accordance with an act providing for the registration of contractors)

Note to Contractor: For corporations, the contract must be signed by two officers. The first signature must be that of the chairman of the board, president or vice-president; the second signature must be that of the secretary, assistant secretary, chief financial officer or assistant treasurer. (Civ. Code, Sec. 1189 & 1190 and Corps. Code, Sec. 313.)

TAXPAYER I.D. On File

COUNTY OF SISKIYOU:

DocuSigned by:  
Angela Davis  
6282FC48865C41D  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Angela Davis, County Administrator (Date)

7/29/2022

APPROVED AS TO LEGAL FORM:

DocuSigned by:  
Dana Barton  
8D78D7D489C1884  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Edward J. Kiernan, County Counsel (Date) 7/21/2022

APPROVED AS TO ACCOUNTING FORM:

Fund	Org	Account	FY22/23
2122	401030	723000	\$30,000.00

If not to exceed, include amount not to exceed: \$30,000.00

DocuSigned by:  
Diane L. Olson  
7E5E4D72668C41D  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Diane Olson, Auditor-Controller (Date) 7/25/2022

APPROVED AS TO INSURANCE REQUIREMENTS:

DocuSigned by:  
Melissa Cummins  
6282FC48865C41D  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Melissa Cummins, Risk Management (Date) 7/29/2022

## **Exhibit "A"**

### **I. Scope of Services**

On behalf of the Siskiyou County Human Services Agency, Behavioral Health Division, the Contractor agrees to provide administrative and fiscal review and prepare and submit the following:

1. Prepare the County's required Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) Annual Cost Report (CR) and Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) Annual Revenue and Expense Reports (RER).
2. Submit Cost Reports to County for review 30 days prior to submission dates, dates are determined by DHCS. Include in submission all supporting documents and work papers. Ensure costs are clearly supported by County's accounting system (Banner) ledgers. After Cost Reports are completed prepare Organizational Providers cost settlements.
3. Provide budget information for the preparation of the annual MHSA Plan updates and assist staff in implementing processes to document and accumulate MHSA costs for periodic fiscal and RER reporting.
4. Provide consultation on the DHCS's annual CR fiscal audits; and respond to State and Local Auditor's questions and requests for CR reporting documents.
5. Review and recommend fiscal procedures, including rate setting.
6. Report findings and recommendations for correction to the Behavioral Health Division and when requested, provide staff training and/or modification of policies/procedures that would keep the County in compliance with regulations.
7. Facilitate and participate in implementation of solutions with regard to items above, in collaboration with the Health and Human Services Agency Department Administrative Services Manager.

### **II. Compensation**

1. County shall pay Contractor for services rendered at the rate of ONE HUNDRED TWENTY-FIVE DOLLARS AND NO/CENTS (\$125.00) per hour. The total not to exceed amount of THIRTY THOUSAND AND NO/100 DOLLARS (\$30,000.00) for the term of the contract, July 1, 2022 – June 30, 2023.
2. Contractor will be compensated for one way travel at the rate of ONE HUNDRED TWENTY-FIVE DOLLARS AND NO/CENTS (\$125.00) per hour to County's site.
3. Contractor shall bill County on a fee-for-service basis, one month in arrears. Billing shall be submitted to the County monthly with documentation as to dates, hours, and type of services rendered.

**Exhibit "B"**

**ASSURANCE OF COMPLIANCE WITH THE SISKIYOU COUNTY HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES AGENCY – BEHAVIORAL HEALTH DIVISION NONDISCRIMINATION IN STATE AND FEDERALLY – ASSISTED PROGRAMS**

---

CONTRACTOR HEREBY AGREES THAT it will comply with the nondiscrimination provisions of this contract as further described below and referenced in the California Department of Health Care Services Specialty Mental Health Services Agreement Exhibit E, Section 3 -

1) Consistent with the requirements of applicable federal law such as 42 C.F.R. §§ 438.6(d)(3) and (4) or state law, the Contractor shall not engage in any unlawful discriminatory practices in the admission of beneficiaries, assignments of accommodations, treatment, evaluation, employment of personnel, or in any other respect on the basis of race, color, gender, religion, marital status, national origin, age, sexual preference or mental or physical handicap. The Contractor will not discriminate against beneficiaries on the basis of health status or need for health care services, pursuant to 42 C.F.R. § 438.6(d)(3).

2) The Contractor shall comply with the provisions of Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended, pertaining to the prohibition of discrimination against qualified handicapped persons in all federally assisted programs or activities, as detailed in regulations signed by the Secretary of Health and Human Services, effective June 2, 1977, and found in the Federal Register, Volume 42, No. 86, dated May 4, 1977.

Contractor agrees this assurance is binding on the vendor/recipient directly or through contract, license, or other provider services, as long as it received federal or state assistance.

## Exhibit "C"

### BUSINESS ASSOCIATES AGREEMENT UNDER THE HEALTH INSURANCE PORTABILITY AND ACCOUNTABILITY ACT OF 1996 (HIPAA)

Siskiyou County Health and Human Services Agency, Behavioral Health Division ("County") is a Covered Entity as defined by, and subject to the requirements and prohibitions of, the Administrative Simplification provisions 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").

Contractor performs or provides functions, activities or services to County that require Contractor, in order to provide such functions, activities or services, to create, access, receive, maintain, and/or transmit information that includes or that may include Protected Health Information, as defined by the HIPAA Rules. As such, Contractor is a Business Associate as defined by the HIPAA Rules, and is therefore subject to those provisions of the HIPAA Rules that are applicable to Business Associates.

The HIPAA Rules require a written agreement ("Business Associate Agreement") between County and Contractor in order to mandate certain protections for the privacy and security of Protected Health Information, and these HIPAA Rules prohibit the disclosure to or use of Protected Health Information by Contractor if such an agreement is not in place.

This Business Associate Agreement and its provisions are intended to protect the privacy and provide for the security of Protected Health Information disclosed to or used by Contractor in compliance with the HIPAA Rules.

Therefore, the parties agree as follows:

#### 1. **DEFINITIONS**

- 1.1 "Breach" has the same meaning as the term "breach" at 45 C.F.R. § 164.402.
- 1.2 "Business Associate" has the same meaning as the term "business associate" at 45 C.F.R. § 160.103. For the convenience of the parties, a "business associate" is a person or entity, other than a member of the workforce of covered entity, who performs functions or activities on behalf of, or provides certain services to, a covered entity that involve access by the business associate to Protected Health Information. A "business associate" also is a subcontractor that creates, receives, maintains, or transmits Protected Health Information on behalf of another business associate. And in reference to the party to this Business Associate Agreement "Business Associate" shall mean Contractor.
- 1.3 "Covered Entity" has the same meaning as the term "covered entity" at 45 C.F.R. § 160.103, and in reference to the party to this Business Associate Agreement, "Covered Entity" shall mean Siskiyou County Health and Human Services Agency, Behavioral Health Division.
- 1.4 "Data Aggregation" has the same meaning as the term "data aggregation" at 45 C.F.R. § 164.501.

- 1.5 "De-identification" refers to the de-identification standard at 45 C.F.R. § 164.514.
- 1.6 "Designated Record Set" has the same meaning as the term "designated record set" at 45 C.F.R. § 164.501.
- 1.7 "Disclose" and "Disclosure" mean, with respect to Protected Health Information, the release, transfer, provision of access to, or divulging in any other manner of Protected Health Information outside Business Associate's internal operations or to other than its workforce. (See 45 C.F.R. § 160.103.)
- 1.8 "Electronic Health Record" means an electronic record of health-related information on an individual that is created, gathered, managed, and consulted by authorized health care clinicians and staff. (See 42 U.S. C. § 17921.)
- 1.9 "Electronic Media" has the same meaning as the term "electronic media" at 45 C.F.R. § 160.103. For the convenience of the parties, electronic media means (1) Electronic storage material on which data is or may be recorded electronically, including, for example, devices in computers (hard drives) and any removable/transportable digital memory medium, such as magnetic tape or disk, optical disk, or digital memory card; (2) Transmission media used to exchange information already in electronic storage media. Transmission media include, for example, the Internet, extranet or intranet, leased lines, dial-up lines, private networks, and the physical movement of removable/transportable electronic storage media. Certain transmissions, including of paper, via facsimile, and of voice, via telephone, are not considered to be transmissions via electronic media if the information being exchanged did not exist in electronic form immediately before the transmission.
- 1.10 "Electronic Protected Health Information" has the same meaning as the term "electronic protected health information" at 45 C.F.R. § 160.103, limited to Protected Health Information created or received by Business Associate from or on behalf of Covered Entity. For the convenience of the parties, Electronic Protected Health Information means Protected Health Information that is (i) transmitted by electronic media; (ii) maintained in electronic media.
- 1.11 "Health Care Operations" has the same meaning as the term "health care operations" at 45 C.F.R. § 164.501.
- 1.12 "Individual" has the same meaning as the term "individual" at 45 C.F.R. § 160.103. For the convenience of the parties, Individual means the person who is the subject of Protected Health Information and shall include a person who qualifies as a personal representative in accordance with 45 C.F.R. § 164.502 (g).
- 1.13 "Law Enforcement Official" has the same meaning as the term "law enforcement official" at 45 C.F.R. § 164.103.
- 1.14 "Minimum Necessary" refers to the minimum necessary standard at 45 C.F.R. § 162.502 (b).
- 1.15 "Protected Health Information" has the same meaning as the term "protected health information" at 45 C.F.R. § 160.103, limited to the information created or received by Business Associate from or on behalf of Covered Entity. For the convenience of the parties, Protected Health Information includes information that (i) relates to the past,

present or future physical or mental health or condition of an Individual; the provision of health care to an Individual, or the past, present or future payment for the provision of health care to an Individual; (ii) identifies the Individual (or for which there is a reasonable basis for believing that the information can be used to identify the Individual); and (iii) is created, received, maintained, or transmitted by Business Associate from or on behalf of Covered Entity, and includes Protected Health Information that is made accessible to Business Associate by Covered Entity. "Protected Health Information" includes Electronic Protected Health Information.

- 1.16 "Required by Law" " has the same meaning as the term "required by law" at 45 C.F.R. § 164.103.
- 1.17 "Secretary" has the same meaning as the term "secretary" at 45 C.F.R. § 160.103
- 1.18 "Security Incident" has the same meaning as the term "security incident" at 45 C.F.R. § 164.304.
- 1.19 "Services" means, unless otherwise specified, those functions, activities, or services in the applicable underlying Agreement, Contract, Master Agreement, Work Order, or Purchase Order or other service arrangement, with or without payment, that gives rise to Contractor's status as a Business Associate.
- 1.20 "Subcontractor" has the same meaning as the term "subcontractor" at 45 C.F.R. § 160.103.
- 1.21 "Unsecured Protected Health Information" has the same meaning as the term "unsecured protected health information" at 45 C.F.R. § 164.402.
- 1.22 "Use" or "Uses" means, with respect to Protected Health Information, the sharing, employment, application, utilization, examination or analysis of such Information within Business Associate's internal operations. (See 45 C.F.R § 164.103.)
- 1.23 Terms used, but not otherwise defined in this Business Associate Agreement, have the same meaning as those terms in the HIPAA Rules.

**2. PERMITTED AND REQUIRED USES AND DISCLOSURES OF PROTECTED HEALTH INFORMATION**

- 2.1 Business Associate may only Use and/or Disclose Protected Health Information as necessary to perform Services, and/or as necessary to comply with the obligations of this Business Associate Agreement.
- 2.2 Business Associate may Use Protected Health Information for de-identification of the information if de-identification of the information is required to provide Services.
- 2.3 Business Associate may Use or Disclose Protected Health Information as Required by Law.
- 2.4 Business Associate shall make Uses and Disclosures and requests for Protected Health Information consistent with the Covered Entity's applicable Minimum Necessary policies and procedures.



- 2.5 Business Associate may Use Protected Health Information as necessary for the proper management and administration of its business or to carry out its legal responsibilities.
- 2.6 Business Associate may Disclose Protected Health Information as necessary for the proper management and administration of its business or to carry out its legal responsibilities, provided the Disclosure is Required by Law or Business Associate obtains reasonable assurances from the person to whom the Protected Health Information is disclosed (i.e., the recipient) that it will be held confidentially and Used or further Disclosed only as Required by Law or for the purposes for which it was disclosed to the recipient and the recipient notifies Business Associate of any instances of which it is aware in which the confidentiality of the Protected Health Information has been breached.
- 2.7 Business Associate may provide Data Aggregation services relating to Covered Entity's Health Care Operations if such Data Aggregation services are necessary in order to provide Services.

**3. PROHIBITED USES AND DISCLOSURES OF PROTECTED HEALTH INFORMATION**

- 3.1 Business Associate shall not Use or Disclose Protected Health Information other than as permitted or required by this Business Associate Agreement or as Required by Law.
- 3.2 Business Associate shall not Use or Disclose Protected Health Information in a manner that would violate Subpart E of 45 C.F.R. Part 164 if done by Covered Entity, except for the specific Uses and Disclosures set forth in Sections 2.5 and 2.6.
- 3.3 Business Associate shall not Use or Disclose Protected Health Information for de-identification of the information except as set forth in section 2.2.

**4. OBLIGATIONS TO SAFEGUARD PROTECTED HEALTH INFORMATION**

- 4.1 Business Associate shall implement, use, and maintain appropriate safeguards to prevent the Use or Disclosure of Protected Health Information other than as provided for by this Business Associate Agreement.
- 4.2 Business Associate shall comply with Subpart C of 45 C.F.R Part 164 with respect to Electronic Protected Health Information, to prevent the Use or Disclosure of such information other than as provided for by this Business Associate Agreement.

**5. REPORTING NON-PERMITTED USES OR DISCLOSURES, SECURITY INCIDENTS, AND BREACHES OF UNSECURED PROTECTED HEALTH INFORMATION**

- 5.1 Business Associate shall report to Covered Entity any Use or Disclosure of Protected Health Information not permitted by this Business Associate Agreement, any Security Incident, and/ or any Breach of Unsecured Protected Health Information as further described in Sections 5.1.1, 5.1.2, and 5.1.3.
  - 5.1.1 Business Associate shall report to Covered Entity any Use or Disclosure of Protected Health Information by Business Associate, its employees, representatives, agents or Subcontractors not provided for by this Agreement of which Business Associate becomes aware.

- 5.1.2 Business Associate shall report to Covered Entity any Security Incident of which Business Associate becomes aware.
  - 5.1.3. Business Associate shall report to Covered Entity any Breach by Business Associate, its employees, representatives, agents, workforce members, or Subcontractors of Unsecured Protected Health Information that is known to Business Associate or, by exercising reasonable diligence, would have been known to Business Associate. Business Associate shall be deemed to have knowledge of a Breach of Unsecured Protected Health Information if the Breach is known, or by exercising reasonable diligence would have been known, to any person, other than the person committing the Breach, who is an employee, officer, or other agent of Business Associate, including a Subcontractor, as determined in accordance with the federal common law of agency.
- 5.2 Except as provided in Section 5.3, for any reporting required by Section 5.1, Business Associate shall provide, to the extent available, all information required by, and within the times frames specified in, Sections 5.2.1 and 5.2.2.
- 5.2.1 Business Associate shall make an immediate telephonic report upon discovery of the non-permitted Use or Disclosure of Protected Health Information, Security Incident or Breach of Unsecured Protected Health Information to **(562) 940-3335** that minimally includes:
    - (a) A brief description of what happened, including the date of the non-permitted Use or Disclosure, Security Incident, or Breach and the date of Discovery of the non-permitted Use or Disclosure, Security Incident, or Breach, if known;
    - (b) The number of Individuals whose Protected Health Information is involved;
    - (c) A description of the specific type of Protected Health Information involved in the non-permitted Use or Disclosure, Security Incident, or Breach (such as whether full name, social security number, date of birth, home address, account number, diagnosis, disability code or other types of information were involved);
    - (d) The name and contact information for a person highly knowledge of the facts and circumstances of the non-permitted Use or Disclosure of PHI, Security Incident, or Breach
  - 5.2.2 Business Associate shall make a written report without unreasonable delay and in no event later than three (3) business days from the date of discovery by Business Associate of the non-permitted Use or Disclosure of Protected Health Information, Security Incident, or Breach of Unsecured Protected Health Information and to the **Health and Human Services Agency Privacy Officer at: Dee Barton, Privacy Officer, Siskiyou County Health and Human Services Agency, 2060 Campus Drive, Yreka, CA 96097, [dbarton1@co.siskiyou.ca.us](mailto:dbarton1@co.siskiyou.ca.us), Phone: (530) 841-4805, Fax: (530) 841-4133**, that includes, to the extent possible:

- (a) A brief description of what happened, including the date of the non-permitted Use or Disclosure, Security Incident, or Breach and the date of Discovery of the non-permitted Use or Disclosure, Security Incident, or Breach, if known;
- (b) The number of Individuals whose Protected Health Information is involved;
- (c) A description of the specific type of Protected Health Information involved in the non-permitted Use or Disclosure, Security Incident, or Breach (such as whether full name, social security number, date of birth, home address, account number, diagnosis, disability code or other types of information were involved);
- (d) The identification of each Individual whose Unsecured Protected Health Information has been, or is reasonably believed by Business Associate to have been, accessed, acquired, Used, or Disclosed;
- (e) Any other information necessary to conduct an assessment of whether notification to the Individual(s) under 45 C.F.R. § 164.404 is required;
- (f) Any steps Business Associate believes that the Individual(s) could take to protect him or herself from potential harm from the non-permitted Use or Disclosure, Security Incident, or Breach;
- (g) A brief description of what Business Associate is doing to investigate, to mitigate harm to the Individual(s), and to protect against any further similar occurrences; and
- (h) The name and contact information for a person highly knowledgeable of the facts and circumstances of the non-permitted Use or Disclosure of PHI, Security Incident, or Breach.

5.2.3 If Business Associate is not able to provide the information specified in Section 5.2.1 or 5.2.2 at the time of the required report, Business Associate shall provide such information promptly thereafter as such information becomes available.

5.3 Business Associate may delay the notification required by Section 5.1.3, if a law enforcement official states to Business Associate that notification would impede a criminal investigation or cause damage to national security.

5.3.1 If the law enforcement official's statement is in writing and specifies the time for which a delay is required, Business Associate shall delay its reporting and/or notification obligation(s) for the time period specified by the official.

5.3.2 If the statement is made orally, Business Associate shall document the statement, including the identity of the official making the statement, and delay its reporting and/or notification obligation(s) temporarily and no longer than 30 days from the date of the oral statement, unless a written statement as described in Section 5.3.1 is submitted during that time.

## **6. WRITTEN ASSURANCES OF SUBCONTRACTORS**

- 6.1 In accordance with 45 C.F.R. § 164.502 (e)(1)(ii) and § 164.308 (b)(2), if applicable, Business Associate shall ensure that any Subcontractor that creates, receives, maintains, or transmits Protected Health Information on behalf of Business Associate is made aware of its status as a Business Associate with respect to such information and that Subcontractor agrees in writing to the same restrictions, conditions, and requirements that apply to Business Associate with respect to such information.
- 6.2 Business Associate shall take reasonable steps to cure any material breach or violation by Subcontractor of the agreement required by Section 6.1.
- 6.3 If the steps required by Section 6.2 do not cure the breach or end the violation, Contractor shall terminate, if feasible, any arrangement with Subcontractor by which Subcontractor creates, receives, maintains, or transmits Protected Health Information on behalf of Business Associate.
- 6.4 If neither cure nor termination as set forth in Sections 6.2 and 6.3 is feasible, Business Associate shall immediately notify CalMHSA.
- 6.5 Without limiting the requirements of Section 6.1, the agreement required by Section 6.1 (Subcontractor Business Associate Agreement) shall require Subcontractor to contemporaneously notify Covered Entity in the event of a Breach of Unsecured Protected Health Information.
- 6.6 Without limiting the requirements of Section 6.1, agreement required by Section 6.1 (Subcontractor Business Associate Agreement) shall include a provision requiring Subcontractor to destroy, or in the alternative to return to Business Associate, any Protected Health Information created, received, maintained, or transmitted by Subcontractor on behalf of Business Associate so as to enable Business Associate to comply with the provisions of Section 18.4.
- 6.7 Business Associate shall provide to Covered Entity, at Covered Entity's request, a copy of any and all Subcontractor Business Associate Agreements required by Section 6.1.
- 6.8 Sections 6.1 and 6.7 are not intended by the parties to limit in any way the scope of Business Associate's obligations related to Subcontracts or Subcontracting in the applicable underlying Agreement, Contract, Master Agreement, Work Order, Purchase Order, or other services arrangement, with or without payment, that gives rise to Contractor's status as a Business Associate.

## **7. ACCESS TO PROTECTED HEALTH INFORMATION**

- 7.1 To the extent Covered Entity determines that Protected Health Information is maintained by Business Associate or its agents or Subcontractors in a Designated Record Set, Business Associate shall, within two (2) business days after receipt of a request from Covered Entity, make the Protected Health Information specified by Covered Entity available to the Individual(s) identified by Covered Entity as being entitled to access and shall provide such Individuals(s) or other person(s) designated by Covered Entity with a copy the specified Protected Health Information, in order for Covered Entity to meet the requirements of 45 C.F.R. § 164.524.
- 7.2 If any Individual requests access to Protected Health Information directly from Business Associate or its agents or Subcontractors, Business Associate shall notify Covered Entity

in writing within two (2) days of the receipt of the request. Whether access shall be provided or denied shall be determined by Covered Entity.

- 7.3 To the extent that Business Associate maintains Protected Health Information that is subject to access as set forth above in one or more Designated Record Sets electronically and if the Individual requests an electronic copy of such information, Business Associate shall provide the Individual with access to the Protected Health Information in the electronic form and format requested by the Individual, if it is readily producible in such form and format; or, if not, in a readable electronic form and format as agreed to by Covered Entity and the Individual.

## **8. AMENDMENT OF PROTECTED HEALTH INFORMATION**

- 8.1 To the extent Covered Entity determines that any Protected Health Information is maintained by Business Associate or its agents or Subcontractors in a Designated Record Set, Business Associate shall, within ten (10) business days after receipt of a written request from Covered Entity, make any amendments to such Protected Health Information that are requested by Covered Entity, in order for Covered Entity to meet the requirements of 45 C.F.R. § 164.526.
- 8.2 If any Individual requests an amendment to Protected Health Information directly from Business Associate or its agents or Subcontractors, Business Associate shall notify Covered Entity in writing within five (5) days of the receipt of the request. Whether an amendment shall be granted or denied shall be determined by Covered Entity.

## **9. ACCOUNTING OF DISCLOSURES OF PROTECTED HEALTH INFORMATION**

- 9.1 Business Associate shall maintain an accounting of each Disclosure of Protected Health Information made by Business Associate or its employees, agents, representatives or Subcontractors, as is determined by Covered Entity to be necessary in order to permit Covered Entity to respond to a request by an Individual for an accounting of disclosures of Protected Health Information in accordance with 45 C.F.R. § 164.528.
- 9.1.1 Any accounting of disclosures provided by Business Associate under Section 9.1 shall include:
- (a) The date of the Disclosure;
  - (b) The name, and address if known, of the entity or person who received the Protected Health Information;
  - (c) A brief description of the Protected Health Information Disclosed; and
  - (d) A brief statement of the purpose of the Disclosure.
- 9.1.2 For each Disclosure that could require an accounting under Section 9.1, Business Associate shall document the information specified in Section 9.1.1, and shall maintain the information for six (6) years from the date of the Disclosure.
- 9.2 Business Associate shall provide to Covered Entity, within ten (10) business days after receipt of a written request from Covered Entity, information collected in accordance with

Section 9.1.1 to permit Covered Entity to respond to a request by an Individual for an accounting of disclosures of Protected Health Information in accordance with 45 C.F.R. § 164.528

- 9.3 If any Individual requests an accounting of disclosures directly from Business Associate or its agents or Subcontractors, Business Associate shall notify Covered Entity in writing within five (5) days of the receipt of the request, and shall provide the requested accounting of disclosures to the Individual(s) within 30 days. The information provided in the accounting shall be in accordance with 45 C.F.R. § 164.528.

## **10. COMPLIANCE WITH APPLICABLE HIPAA RULES**

- 10.1 To the extent Business Associate is to carry out one or more of Covered Entity's obligation(s) under Subpart E of 45 C.F.R. Part 164, Business Associate shall comply with the requirements of Subpart E that apply to Covered Entity's performance of such obligation(s).
- 10.2 Business Associate shall comply with all HIPAA Rules applicable to Business Associate in the performance of Services.

## **11. AVAILABILITY OF RECORDS**

- 11.1 Business Associate shall make its internal practices, books, and records relating to the Use and Disclosure of Protected Health Information received from, or created or received by Business Associate on behalf of Covered Entity available to the Secretary for purposes of determining Covered Entity's compliance with the Privacy and Security Regulations.
- 11.2 Unless prohibited by the Secretary, Business Associate shall immediately notify Covered Entity of any requests made by the Secretary and provide Covered Entity with copies of any documents produced in response to such request.

## **12. MITIGATION OF HARMFUL EFFECTS**

- 12.1 Business Associate shall mitigate, to the extent practicable, any harmful effect of a Use or Disclosure of Protected Health Information by Business Associate in violation of the requirements of this Business Associate Agreement that is known to Business Associate.

## **13. BREACH NOTIFICATION TO INDIVIDUALS**

- 13.1 Business Associate shall, to the extent Covered Entity determines that there has been a Breach of Unsecured Protected Health Information by Business Associate, its employees, representatives, agents or Subcontractors, provide breach notification to the Individual in a manner that permits Covered Entity to comply with its obligations under 45 C.F.R. § 164.404.
- 13.1.1 Business Associate shall notify, subject to the review and approval of Covered Entity, each Individual whose Unsecured Protected Health Information has been, or is reasonably believed to have been, accessed, acquired, Used, or Disclosed as a result of any such Breach.

13.1.2 The notification provided by Business Associate shall be written in plain language, shall be subject to review and approval by Covered Entity, and shall include, to the extent possible:

- (a) A brief description of what happened, including the date of the Breach and the date of the Discovery of the Breach, if known;
- (b) A description of the types of Unsecured Protected Health Information that were involved in the Breach (such as whether full name, social security number, date of birth, home address, account number, diagnosis, disability code, or other types of information were involved);
- (c) Any steps the Individual should take to protect him or herself from potential harm resulting from the Breach;
- (d) A brief description of what Business Associate is doing to investigate the Breach, to mitigate harm to Individual(s), and to protect against any further Breaches; and
- (e) Contact procedures for Individual(s) to ask questions or learn additional information, which shall include a toll-free telephone number, an e-mail address, Web site, or postal address.

13.2 Covered Entity, in its sole discretion, may elect to provide the notification required by Section 13.1 and/or to establish the contact procedures described in Section 13.1.2.

13.3 Business Associate shall reimburse Covered Entity any and all costs incurred by Covered Entity, in complying with Subpart D of 45 C.F.R. Part 164, including but not limited to costs of notification, internet posting, or media publication, as a result of Business Associate's Breach of Unsecured Protected Health Information; Covered Entity shall not be responsible for any costs incurred by Business Associate in providing the notification required by 13.1 or in establishing the contact procedures required by Section 13.1.2.

#### **14. INDEMNIFICATION**

14.1 Business Associate shall indemnify, defend, and hold harmless Covered Entity, its Special Districts, elected and appointed officers, employees, and agents from and against any and all liability, including but not limited to demands, claims, actions, fees, costs, expenses (including attorney and expert witness fees), and penalties and/or fines (including regulatory penalties and/or fines), arising from or connected with Business Associate's acts and/or omissions arising from and/or relating to this Business Associate Agreement, including, but not limited to, compliance and/or enforcement actions and/or activities, whether formal or informal, by the Secretary or by the Attorney General of the State of California.

14.2 Section 14.1 is not intended by the parties to limit in any way the scope of Business Associate's obligations related to Insurance and/or Indemnification in the applicable underlying Agreement, Contract, Master Agreement, Work Order, Purchase Order, or other services arrangement, with or without payment, that gives rise to Contractor's status as a Business Associate.

**15. OBLIGATIONS OF COVERED ENTITY**

- 15.1 Covered Entity shall notify Business Associate of any current or future restrictions or limitations on the Use or Disclosure of Protected Health Information that would affect Business Associate's performance of the Services, and Business Associate shall thereafter restrict or limit its own Uses and Disclosures accordingly.
- 15.2 Covered Entity shall not request Business Associate to Use or Disclose Protected Health Information in any manner that would not be permissible under Subpart E of 45 C.F.R. Part 164 if done by Covered Entity, except to the extent that Business Associate may Use or Disclose Protected Health Information as provided in Sections 2.3, 2.5, and 2.6.

**16. TERM**

- 16.1 Unless sooner terminated as set forth in Section 17, the term of this Business Associate Agreement shall be the same as the term of the applicable underlying Agreement, Contract, Participation Agreement, Master Agreement, Work Order, Purchase Order, or other service arrangement, with or without payment, that gives rise to Contractor's status as a Business Associate.
- 16.2 Notwithstanding Section 16.1, Business Associate's obligations under Sections 11, 14, and 18 shall survive the termination or expiration of this Business Associate Agreement.

**17. TERMINATION FOR CAUSE**

- 17.1 In addition to and notwithstanding the termination provisions set forth in the applicable underlying Agreement, Contract, Participation Agreement, Master Agreement, Work Order, Purchase Order, or other services arrangement, with or without payment, that gives rise to Contractor's status as a Business Associate, if either party determines that the other party has violated a material term of this Business Associate Agreement, and the breaching party has not cured the breach or ended the violation within the time specified by the non-breaching party, which shall be reasonable given the nature of the breach and/or violation, the non-breaching party may terminate this Business Associate Agreement.
- 17.2 In addition to and notwithstanding the termination provisions set forth in the applicable underlying Agreement, Contract, Participation Agreement, Master Agreement, Work Order, Purchase Order, or other services arrangement, with or without payment, that gives rise to Contractor's status as a Business Associate, if either party determines that the other party has violated a material term of this Business Associate Agreement, and cure is not feasible, the non-breaching party may terminate this Business Associate Agreement immediately.

**18. DISPOSITION OF PROTECTED HEALTH INFORMATION UPON TERMINATION OR EXPIRATION**

- 18.1 Except as provided in Section 18.3, upon termination for any reason or expiration of this Business Associate Agreement, Business Associate shall return or, if agreed to by Covered entity, shall destroy as provided for in Section 18.2, all Protected Health Information received from Covered Entity, or created, maintained, or received by



Business Associate on behalf of Covered Entity, that Business Associate, including any Subcontractor, still maintains in any form. Business Associate shall retain no copies of the Protected Health Information.

- 18.2 Destruction for purposes of Section 18.2 and Section 6.6 shall mean that media on which the Protected Health Information is stored or recorded has been destroyed and/or electronic media have been cleared, purged, or destroyed in accordance with the use of a technology or methodology specified by the Secretary in guidance for rendering Protected Health Information unusable, unreadable, or indecipherable to unauthorized individuals.
- 18.3 Notwithstanding Section 18.1, in the event that return or destruction of Protected Health Information is not feasible or Business Associate determines that any such Protected Health Information is necessary for Business Associate to continue its proper management and administration or to carry out its legal responsibilities, Business Associate may retain that Protected Health Information for which destruction or return is infeasible or that Protected Health Information which is necessary for Business Associate to continue its proper management and administration or to carry out its legal responsibilities and shall return or destroy all other Protected Health Information.
- 18.3.1 Business Associate shall extend the protections of this Business Associate Agreement to such Protected Health Information, including continuing to use appropriate safeguards and continuing to comply with Subpart C of 45 C.F.R Part 164 with respect to Electronic Protected Health Information, to prevent the Use or Disclosure of such information other than as provided for in Sections 2.5 and 2.6 for so long as such Protected Health Information is retained, and Business Associate shall not Use or Disclose such Protected Health Information other than for the purposes for which such Protected Health Information was retained.
- 18.3.2 Business Associate shall return or, if agreed to by Covered entity, destroy the Protected Health Information retained by Business Associate when it is no longer needed by Business Associate for Business Associate's proper management and administration or to carry out its legal responsibilities.
- 18.4 Business Associate shall ensure that all Protected Health Information created, maintained, or received by Subcontractors is returned or, if agreed to by Covered entity, destroyed as provided for in Section 18.2.

## **19. AUDIT, INSPECTION, AND EXAMINATION**

- 19.1 Covered Entity reserves the right to conduct a reasonable inspection of the facilities, systems, information systems, books, records, agreements, and policies and procedures relating to the Use or Disclosure of Protected Health Information for the purpose determining whether Business Associate is in compliance with the terms of this Business Associate Agreement and any non-compliance may be a basis for termination of this Business Associate Agreement and the applicable underlying Agreement, Contract, Master Agreement, Work Order, Purchase Order or other services arrangement, with or without payment, that gives rise to Contractor's status as a Business Associate, as provided for in section 17.

- 19.2 Covered Entity and Business Associate shall mutually agree in advance upon the scope, timing, and location of any such inspection.
- 19.3 At Business Associate's request, and to the extent permitted by law, Covered Entity shall execute a nondisclosure agreement, upon terms and conditions mutually agreed to by the parties.
- 19.4 That Covered Entity inspects, fails to inspect, or has the right to inspect as provided for in Section 19.1 does not relieve Business Associate of its responsibility to comply with this Business Associate Agreement and/or the HIPAA Rules or impose on Covered Entity any responsibility for Business Associate's compliance with any applicable HIPAA Rules.
- 19.5 Covered Entity's failure to detect, its detection but failure to notify Business Associate, or its detection but failure to require remediation by Business Associate of an unsatisfactory practice by Business Associate, shall not constitute acceptance of such practice or a waiver of Covered Entity's enforcement rights under this Business Associate Agreement or the applicable underlying Agreement, Contract, Master Agreement, Work Order, Purchase Order or other services arrangement, with or without payment, that gives rise to Contractor's status as a Business Associate.
- 19.6 Section 19.1 is not intended by the parties to limit in any way the scope of Business Associate's obligations related to Inspection and/or Audit and/or similar review in the applicable underlying Agreement, Contract, Participation Agreement, Master Agreement, Work Order, Purchase Order, or other services arrangement, with or without payment, that gives rise to Contractor's status as a Business Associate.

## **20. MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS**

- 20.1 Disclaimer. Covered Entity makes no warranty or representation that compliance by Business Associate with the terms and conditions of this Business Associate Agreement will be adequate or satisfactory to meet the business needs or legal obligations of Business Associate.
- 20.2 HIPAA Requirements. The Parties agree that the provisions under HIPAA Rules that are required by law to be incorporated into this Amendment are hereby incorporated into this Agreement.
- 20.3 No Third Party Beneficiaries. Nothing in this Business Associate Agreement shall confer upon any person other than the parties and their respective successors or assigns, any rights, remedies, obligations, or liabilities whatsoever.
- 20.4 Construction. In the event that a provision of this Business Associate Agreement is contrary to a provision of the applicable underlying Agreement, Contract, Master Agreement, Work Order, Purchase Order, or other services arrangement, with or without payment, that gives rise to Contractor's status as a Business Associate, the provision of this Business Associate Agreement shall control. Otherwise, this Business Associate Agreement shall be construed under, and in accordance with, the terms of the applicable underlying Agreement, Contract, Master Agreement, Work Order, Purchase Order or other services arrangement, with or without payment, that gives rise to Contractor's status as a Business Associate.

- 20.5 Regulatory References. A reference in this Business Associate Agreement to a section in the HIPAA Rules means the section as in effect or as amended.
- 20.6 Interpretation. Any ambiguity in this Business Associate Agreement shall be resolved in favor of a meaning that permits the parties to comply with the HIPAA Rules.
- 20.7 Amendment. The parties agree to take such action as is necessary to amend this Business Associate Agreement from time to time as is necessary for Covered Entity or Business Associate to comply with the requirements of the HIPAA Rules and any other privacy laws governing Protected Health Information.



Mercer Consumer, a service of  
Mercer Health & Benefits Administration LLC  
P.O. Box 14576  
Des Moines, IA 50306-3576  
www.proliability.com

May 25, 2022

Gary C Ernst  
1526 East Beech Drive  
Visalia, CA 93292

Re: Allied Health Professional Liability  
Customer Number: **648063**  
Policy Number: **AHY-633100011**  
Expiration Date: **06/23/2023**

Dear **Gary C Ernst**,

I am pleased to enclose your insurance policy through the Liberty Insurance Underwriters Inc. Please review the material carefully and take specific notice of any endorsements to the policy. These policy documents should be kept with your important papers.

Please note the important information below:

Address or Mid-Term Changes: Any change of address or request for mid-term change should be sent to the following address to assure timely receipt of future notices. All requests must be signed and dated by the policy holder. Also note that requests for mid-term changes to your coverage must be approved by an underwriter prior to binding coverage.

Mercer Consumer, a service of  
Mercer Health & Benefits Administration LLC  
P.O. Box 14576  
Des Moines, IA 50306-3576  
Fax: 212-948-1509  
Phone: 1-800-375-2764

If you have any questions, please contact our office Monday through Friday from 8:15 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. (CT). Thank you for the opportunity to serve your insurance needs.

Sincerely,

Mark Brostowitz  
Principal  
Mercer Consumer

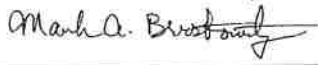
Enclosure

Health Info Prof Self Employed  
Renewal Submission

Client # 648063



MEMORANDUM OF INSURANCE				Date Issued 05/25/2022	
<b>Producer</b> Mercer Consumer, a service of Mercer Health & Benefits Administration LLC P.O. Box 14576 Des Moines, IA 50306-3576 1-800-375-2764		This memorandum is issued as a matter of information only and confers no rights upon the holder. This memorandum does not amend, extend or alter <del>the</del> coverages afforded by the Certificate listed below.			
<b>Insured</b> Gary C Ernst 1526 East Beech Drive Visalia, CA 93292		<b>Company Affording Coverage</b> Liberty Insurance Underwriters Inc.			
<p>This is to certify that the Certificate listed below has been issued to the insured named above for the policy period indicated, not withstanding any requirement, term or condition of any contract or other document with respect to which this memorandum may be issued or may pertain, the insurance afforded by the Certificate described herein is subject to all the terms, exclusions and conditions of such Certificate. The limits shown may have been reduced by paid claims.</p> <p>The Memorandum of Insurance and verification of payment are your evidence of coverage. No coverage is afforded unless the premium is successfully paid in full.</p>					
Type of Insurance	Certificate Number	Effective Date	Expiration Date	Limits	
Professional Liability HealthInfo SE Health Information Mgmt	AHY-633100011	06/23/2022	06/23/2023	Per Incident/ Occurrence	\$2,000,000
				Annual Aggregate	\$4,000,000
<b>PROOF OF INSURANCE</b>					
<b>Memorandum Holder:</b> <b>PROOF OF COVERAGE ONLY</b>		<p>Should the above describe Certificate be cancelled before the expiration date thereof, the issuing company will endeavor to mail 30 days written notice to the Memorandum Holder named to the left, but failure to mail such notice shall impose no obligation or liability of any kind upon the company, its agents or representatives.</p>			
		<p><b>Authorized Representative</b> Mark Brostowitz</p>			
		<p><i>Mark A. Brostowitz</i></p>			

Client # 648063

MEMORANDUM OF INSURANCE				Date Issued 05/25/2022	
<b>Producer</b>  Mercer Consumer, a service of Mercer Health & Benefits Administration LLC P.O. Box 14576 Des Moines, IA 50306-3576 1-800-375-2764		This memorandum is issued as a matter of information only and confers no rights upon the holder. This memorandum does not amend, extend or alter the coverages afforded by the Certificate listed below.			
<b>Insured</b>  Gary C Ernst 1526 East Beech Drive Visalia, CA 93292		<b>Company Affording Coverage</b>  Liberty Insurance Underwriters Inc.			
This is to certify that the Certificate listed below has been issued to the insured named above for the policy period indicated, notwithstanding any requirement, term or condition of any contract or other document with respect to which this memorandum may be issued or may pertain, the insurance afforded by the Certificate described herein is subject to all the terms, exclusions and conditions of such Certificate. The limits shown may have been reduced by paid claims. The Memorandum of Insurance and verification of payment are your evidence of coverage. No coverage is afforded unless the premium is successfully paid in full.					
Type of Insurance	Certificate Number	Effective Date	Expiration Date	Limits	
Professional Liability	AHY-633100011	06/23/2022	06/23/2023	Per Incident/ Occurrence	\$2,000,000
HealthInfo SE Health Information Mgmt				Annual Aggregate	\$4,000,000
Memorandum Holder is added as an Additional Insured but only as respects to claims arising out of the sole negligence of the named insured subject to the terms and provisions of the policy.					
<b>Memorandum Holder:</b>  Siskiyou County Human Services Agency 2060 Campus Drive Yreka CA 96097			Should the above described Certificate be cancelled before the expiration date thereof, the issuing company will endeavor to mail 30 days written notice to the Memorandum Holder named to the left, but failure to mail such notice shall impose no obligation or liability of any kind upon the company, its agents or representatives.		
			<b>Authorized Representative</b> Mark Brostowitz		
					

**PROOF OF INSURANCE**



 <p><b>PROOF OF INSURANCE</b> Interinsurance Exchange of the Automobile Club NAIC # 15598</p> <p>Named Insured                      Policy Number: CAA 159132908 GARY ERNST</p> <p>Effective Date: 12-03-21    Expiration Date: 12-03-22</p> <p>This policy provides at least the minimum amounts of liability insurance required by the CA VEH CODE SECTION 16056 for the specified vehicles and named insureds. Coverage subject to policy terms and limits.</p>	<p>FOLD HERE</p>	<p><b>VEHICLES ON POLICY</b></p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>YEAR</th> <th>MAKE</th> <th>VEH I.D. #</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>2003</td> <td>HOND</td> <td>5FNRL18963B135366</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2010</td> <td>HOND</td> <td>5J6YH1H71AL001557</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2020</td> <td>HOND</td> <td>5FNYP8H05LB010047</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p><b>DRIVERS ON POLICY</b> ERNST, GARY ERNST, MARY E</p>	YEAR	MAKE	VEH I.D. #	2003	HOND	5FNRL18963B135366	2010	HOND	5J6YH1H71AL001557	2020	HOND	5FNYP8H05LB010047
YEAR	MAKE	VEH I.D. #												
2003	HOND	5FNRL18963B135366												
2010	HOND	5J6YH1H71AL001557												
2020	HOND	5FNYP8H05LB010047												
 <p><b>PROOF OF INSURANCE</b> Interinsurance Exchange of the Automobile Club NAIC # 15598</p> <p>Named Insured                      Policy Number: CAA 159132908 GARY ERNST</p> <p>Effective Date: 12-03-21    Expiration Date: 12-03-22</p> <p>This policy provides at least the minimum amounts of liability insurance required by the CA VEH CODE SECTION 16056 for the specified vehicles and named insureds. Coverage subject to policy terms and limits.</p>	<p>FOLD HERE</p>	<p><b>VEHICLES ON POLICY</b></p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>YEAR</th> <th>MAKE</th> <th>VEH I.D. #</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>2003</td> <td>HOND</td> <td>5FNRL18963B135366</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2010</td> <td>HOND</td> <td>5J6YH1H71AL001557</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2020</td> <td>HOND</td> <td>5FNYP8H05LB010047</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p><b>DRIVERS ON POLICY</b> ERNST, GARY ERNST, MARY E</p>	YEAR	MAKE	VEH I.D. #	2003	HOND	5FNRL18963B135366	2010	HOND	5J6YH1H71AL001557	2020	HOND	5FNYP8H05LB010047
YEAR	MAKE	VEH I.D. #												
2003	HOND	5FNRL18963B135366												
2010	HOND	5J6YH1H71AL001557												
2020	HOND	5FNYP8H05LB010047												

200313000045 04326 8-10 CAA159132908

<p><b>IF YOU HAVE AN ACCIDENT CALL OUR 24/7 AAA CLAIMS HOTLINE 1-800-672-5246</b></p>	
<p>After an accident, exchange information with the other party and follow these 5 easy steps:</p> <p><b>Step 1:</b> Pull vehicle over to a safe place. Get the names, addresses, and phone numbers of all persons involved in the accident, e.g., pedestrians, witnesses, other passengers, etc.</p> <p><b>Step 2:</b> Take photos of or write down the other person's driver's license information and other vehicle's license plate number, including states of registration.</p> <p><b>Step 3:</b> Take photos of or write down the other person's insurance card information.</p>	<p><b>Step 4:</b> Take photos of the vehicles involved, damages and surrounding area of the accident, if it is safe to do so.</p> <p><b>Step 5:</b> Call our AAA Claims Hotline at 800-672-5246 to report the loss. If necessary, we will arrange to have your vehicle towed. Our provider's tow trucks always display the AAA emblem.</p> <p><i>Do not admit responsibility for or discuss the circumstances of the accident with anyone other than the police or an authorized Auto Club claims representative. Do not disclose your policy limits to anyone.</i></p>
<p>For questions or changes to your policy, call 1-877-422-2100, Monday through Friday from 7 a.m. to 9 p.m. or Saturday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.</p>	
<p><b>IF YOU HAVE AN ACCIDENT CALL OUR 24/7 AAA CLAIMS HOTLINE 1-800-672-5246</b></p>	
<p>After an accident, exchange information with the other party and follow these 5 easy steps:</p> <p><b>Step 1:</b> Pull vehicle over to a safe place. Get the names, addresses, and phone numbers of all persons involved in the accident, e.g., pedestrians, witnesses, other passengers, etc.</p> <p><b>Step 2:</b> Take photos of or write down the other person's driver's license information and other vehicle's license plate number, including states of registration.</p> <p><b>Step 3:</b> Take photos of or write down the other person's insurance card information.</p>	<p><b>Step 4:</b> Take photos of the vehicles involved, damages and surrounding area of the accident, if it is safe to do so.</p> <p><b>Step 5:</b> Call our AAA Claims Hotline at 800-672-5246 to report the loss. If necessary, we will arrange to have your vehicle towed. Our provider's tow trucks always display the AAA emblem.</p> <p><i>Do not admit responsibility for or discuss the circumstances of the accident with anyone other than the police or an authorized Auto Club claims representative. Do not disclose your policy limits to anyone.</i></p>
<p>For questions or changes to your policy, call 1-877-422-2100, Monday through Friday from 7 a.m. to 9 p.m. or Saturday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.</p>	