

# GRANT CONTRACT

OAG Contract No. 2109916

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

## SECTION 1. PURPOSE OF THE CONTRACT

The purpose of the Other Victim Assistance Grant (OVAG) program is to accomplish the general public purpose of addressing the unmet needs of crime victims by maintaining or increasing their access to quality services. It is intended that the grants will be awarded through a competitive selection and allocation process. The purpose of this contract is to provide reasonable contractual controls to ensure that the public purposes of the grant are achieved. In general, and subject to the terms, conditions, and limitations of each specific contract with each grantee, OVAG contracts awarded may be used for victim-related services or assistance for the following purposes:

- a. To provide direct services to crime victims including, but not limited to, counseling, crisis intervention, assistance with Crime Victims’ Compensation, assistance with the utilization of the Texas Statewide Automated Victim Notification System, (“SAVNS”), legal assistance, victim advocacy, and information and referral;
- b. To provide outreach or community education to help identify crime victims who might not otherwise be reached and provide or refer them to needed services;
- c. To connect crime victims to services for the purpose of supporting or assisting in their recovery;
- d. To train professionals and volunteers to improve their ability to inform crime victims of their rights, to assist crime victims in their recovery, or to establish a continuum of care for crime victims; or
- e. To provide other support for crime victims, related to services or assistance in aid of the recovery of the victim as determined by the OAG.

## SECTION 2. TERM OF THE CONTRACT

This contract shall begin on September 1, 2020 and shall terminate August 31, 2021, unless it is terminated earlier in accordance with another provision of this contract.

## SECTION 3. GRANTEE’S CONTRACTUAL SERVICES

**3.1 GRANTEE’S Compliance with Grant Application Kit.** GRANTEE shall comply with

the terms and conditions as set forth and required in the OVAG/VCLG FY 2020–2021 Grant Application Kit (“Application Kit”) which is in the possession of, acknowledged, and known by both Parties and which is hereby incorporated by reference, and as it may be supplemented, amended or adjusted by the OAG.

**3.2 Establishment of Final Project Budget, Targets, Outputs, Special Conditions, and Outcomes.** The OAG, at its sole discretion, establishes the initial budget for this grant project considered under this contract, as reflected on the attached Exhibit A. If any adjustments were made by the OAG to GRANTEE’s budget, those adjustments will be reflected on the attached Exhibit A.

The OAG, at its sole discretion, will establish the final project targets, outputs, and outcomes based on the Grant Application submitted by the GRANTEE and accepted by the OAG. In addition, the OAG, at its sole discretion, may adjust GRANTEE’s budget, targets, outputs, outcomes, and/or any other items as deemed appropriate by the OAG, at any time, during the term of this contract.

**3.3 Grant Narrative.** GRANTEE’s application (“Grant Application”) submitted in response to the Application Kit, including the narrative contained therein as submitted by GRANTEE and as further modified by the OAG, which is in the possession of, acknowledged, and known by both Parties and is hereby incorporated by reference into this contract. GRANTEE hereby certifies that the information provided in GRANTEE’s application, including the statements made in the narrative, is true and correct and agrees to be bound by the representations and commitments contained therein.

**3.4 Special Conditions.** The OAG may, at its sole discretion, impose Special Conditions, as that term is defined in the Application Kit, on GRANTEE, without notice and without amending this contract. GRANTEE agrees in advance to satisfy the requirements of any special conditions imposed by OAG. The imposition of any special conditions places GRANTEE on immediate financial hold, consistent with section 9.2, without further notice, until all special conditions are satisfied.

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

### **4.1 General Matters**

**4.1.1 Required Reports; Form of Reports; Filings with the OAG.** GRANTEE shall forward to the OAG all applicable reports on forms as specified by the OAG. GRANTEE shall ensure that it files each document or form required by the OAG in an accurate and timely manner. Unless filing dates are given herein, all other reports and other documents that GRANTEE is required to forward to the OAG shall be promptly forwarded. From time to time, the OAG may require additional information from GRANTEE.

**4.1.2 Cooperation; Additional Information.** GRANTEE shall cooperate fully with the OAG.

In addition to the information contained in the required reports, other information may be required as requested by the OAG.

**4.1.3 Notification of Changes in Organization, Changes in Authorized Official or Grant Contact.** GRANTEE shall submit written notice to the OAG of any change in the following: GRANTEE's name; contact information; key personnel, officer, director or partner; organizational structure; legal standing; or authority to do business in Texas. Such notice shall be provided in advance, when possible, but in no event later than ten (10) business days after the date of such change. A change in GRANTEE's name requires an amendment to the contract.

To change an Authorized Official, GRANTEE must submit a written request on GRANTEE's letterhead, with an original signature of someone with actual authority to act on behalf of GRANTEE. To change a grant contact, GRANTEE must submit a written request on GRANTEE's letterhead signed by an Authorized Official.

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

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

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

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

**4.1.6 Public Information Act.** GRANTEE acknowledges that information, documents, and communications created or exchanged in the provision of services required by this contract may be subject to the Texas Public Information Act, Chapter 552 of the Texas Government Code, and

may be subject to required disclosure in a publicly-accessible format at no charge to the State, pursuant to Section 2252.907 of the Texas Government Code.

## **4.2 Programmatic Reports**

**4.2.1 Quarterly Statistical (Performance) Reports.** GRANTEE shall deliver to the OAG quarterly statistical reports no later than the thirtieth (30th) day of each month following the end of each quarter covered by the term of this contract. The four (4) quarters, within each year covered by the term of this contract, end respectively on the last day of the months of November, February, May and August. Accordingly, quarterly statistical reports, for each respective quarter, are due on or before December 30, March 30, June 30, and September 30.

**Contents of Quarterly Statistical Reports.** The quarterly statistical reports shall contain, at a minimum, information on the following statistical measures:

- a. Targets as submitted in the Grant Application and accepted by OAG or otherwise established by the OAG pursuant to Section 3.2 above;
- b. Outputs and Outcomes as submitted in the Grant Application, accepted by OAG or otherwise established by the OAG pursuant to Section 3.2 above; and
- c. Program Narratives.

**4.2.2 Written Explanation of Variance.** GRANTEE must provide a written explanation to the OAG on the quarterly statistical report for any year-to-date performance that varies from the projected performance included within the implementation plan submitted by GRANTEE as part of the Grant Application or as otherwise agreed between the parties. In addition to the written explanation, GRANTEE shall promptly answer any questions from the OAG, whether in writing or otherwise, in connection with any quarterly and annual reports presented to the OAG.

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

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

## **4.3 Financial Matters**

**4.3.1 Grant Budget.** With regard to the use of funds pursuant to this contract, GRANTEE will immediately review the budget as established in this contract.

**4.3.2 Monthly Request for Reimbursement and Financial Status Report.** Grant funds will be paid on a cost-reimbursement basis. GRANTEE will submit, each month, a request for reimbursement for the actual and allowable allocable costs incurred by GRANTEE for providing services under this contract. The payments made to GRANTEE shall not exceed its actual and allowable allocable costs to provide the services under this contract.

The request for reimbursement will be submitted to the OAG in the form and manner as approved by the OAG and will specify the detailed and total expenses for the month, in the following cost categories: (a) personnel and fringe benefits, reported separately, (b) professional and consulting services, (c) travel, (d) equipment, (e) supplies, and (f) other direct operating expenses. The request for reimbursement must be accompanied by supporting documentation as required by the OAG. The OAG may from time to time require different or additional supporting documentation.

A request for reimbursement and financial status report are required each month, whether GRANTEE has paid expenses, or is seeking reimbursement.

**4.3.3 Fiscal Year End Required Reports.** GRANTEE shall submit fiscal year-end required reports that shall be received by the OAG on or before October 15 of each year covered by the term of this contract, GRANTEE will submit fiscal year end required reports. The year-end reports shall include the following:

- a. Record of Reimbursement.** GRANTEE will submit a reconciled record of its expenses for the prior fiscal year in the following cost categories: (i) personnel and fringe benefits, reported separately, (ii) professional and consulting services, (iii) travel, (iv) equipment, (v) supplies, and (vi) other direct operating expenses.
- b. Equipment Inventory Report.** To the extent the purchase of equipment is authorized under this grant and GRANTEE purchases equipment is purchased with grant funds. GRANTEE will submit an Equipment Inventory Report which provides a record of the current inventory of items purchased, disposed of, replaced or transferred for any equipment that was purchased with grant funds.

**4.3.4 Annual Independent Financial Audit Report.** GRANTEE shall timely submit to the OAG a copy of its annual independent financial audit. The timely submission to the OAG must be on or before nine (9) months after the end of GRANTEE's accounting year. GRANTEE will contract with an independent CPA firm to perform an annual financial audit engagement. If applicable, GRANTEE's independent CPA firm will determine the type of annual financial audit, which may include a compliance attestation in accordance with the requirements of 2 CFR Part 200 titled Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards and/or Texas Single Audit Circular (Single Audit or non-Single Audit financial audit). If applicable, GRANTEE will provide the OAG with any and all annual independent financial audits or audited financial statements, related management letters, and management responses of GRANTEE.

**4.3.5 Timing of Submission of Request for Reimbursement to the OAG; Close-Out Invoice.** GRANTEE is responsible for submitting bills in an accurate and timely manner. GRANTEE shall make every reasonable effort to submit monthly billings to the OAG, which cover the previous month's expenses, so that they are received by the OAG on or before the twentieth (20<sup>th</sup>) day of each month, or if the 20<sup>th</sup> day falls on a weekend or holiday, the next business day. The OAG will make reasonable efforts to promptly process and make payments on properly completed billings. GRANTEE shall submit a final invoice that must be received by the OAG not later than the earlier of (a) forty-five (45) calendar days after termination of this contract; or (b) forty-five (45) calendar days after the end of each state fiscal year.

**4.3.6 Reimbursement of Actual and Allowable Costs.** The OAG shall only reimburse actual and allowable allocable costs incurred and paid by GRANTEE during the term of this contract. The OAG shall only reimburse GRANTEE for employee costs that are directly related to performing the responsibilities of this contract. The OAG is not obligated to reimburse expenses that were incurred prior to the commencement or after the termination or expiration of this contract.

**4.3.7 Refunds and Deductions.** If the OAG determines that GRANTEE has been overpaid grant funds under this contract, such as payments made inadvertently or payments made but later determined not to be actual and allowable allocable costs, GRANTEE shall promptly refund that amount identified by the OAG as an overpayment. The OAG, in its sole discretion, may offset and deduct the amount of the overpayment from any amount owed to GRANTEE as a reimbursement, or may choose to require a payment directly from GRANTEE rather than offset and deduct any amount. GRANTEE shall refund any overpayment to the OAG within thirty (30) calendar days of the receipt of the notice of the overpayment from the OAG unless an alternate payment plan is specified by the OAG.

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

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

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

will be remitted by direct deposit and the OAG will discontinue providing GRANTEE with copies of reimbursement vouchers.

**4.3.10 Debts and Delinquencies.** GRANTEE agrees that any payments due under the grant contract shall be applied towards any debt or delinquency that is owed to the State of Texas.

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

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

**5.2 Maximum Liability of OAG.** The maximum liability of the OAG is contained in the attached Exhibit A. Any change to the maximum liability may only be achieved by a written, duly executed amendment to this contract.

**5.3 Reimbursement of Grantee Expenses.** The OAG shall be obligated to reimburse GRANTEE for all actual and allowable allocable costs incurred by GRANTEE pursuant to this contract. The OAG is not obligated to pay unauthorized costs. Prior written approval from the OAG is required if GRANTEE anticipates altering the scope of the grant, adding funds to previously un-awarded budget categories, changing funds in any awarded budget category by more than 10% of the annual budget and/or adding new line items to any awarded budget category.

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

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

## **SECTION 6. TERMINATION**

**6.1 Termination for Convenience.** Either Party may, at its sole discretion, terminate this contract, without recourse, liability or penalty, upon written notice to the other Party at least thirty (30) calendar days before the effective date of such termination.

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

**6.3 Termination Not Exclusive Remedy; Survival of Terms and Conditions.** Termination is not an exclusive remedy, but will be in addition to any other rights and remedies provided in equity, by law, or under this contract.

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

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

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

**7.2 Records Retention.** GRANTEE shall maintain and retain records for a period of seven (7) years after the contract is completed or expires, or all issues that arise from any litigation, claim, negotiation, audit, open records request, administrative review, or other action involving the contract or documents are resolved. The records include, but may not be limited to, the contract, any contract solicitation documents, any documents that are necessary to fully disclose the extent of services provided under this contract, any daily activity reports and time distribution and attendance records, and other records that may show the basis of the charges made or performances delivered.

**7.3 Audit Trails.** GRANTEE shall maintain appropriate audit trails to provide accountability for all reporting measures and requests for reimbursement. Audit trails maintained by GRANTEE will, at a minimum, identify the supporting documentation prepared by GRANTEE to permit an audit of its systems. GRANTEE's automated systems, if any, must provide the means whereby



authorized personnel have the ability to audit and verify contractually required performances and to establish individual accountability for any action that can potentially cause access to, generation of, or modification of confidential information.

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

**7.5 State Auditor.** In addition to and without limitation on the other audit provisions of this contract, pursuant to Section 2262.154 of the Texas Government Code, the State Auditor's Office may conduct an audit or investigation of GRANTEE or any other entity or person receiving funds from the State directly under this contract or indirectly through a subcontract under this contract. The acceptance of funds by GRANTEE or any other entity or person directly under this contract or indirectly through a subcontract under this contract acts as acceptance of the authority of the State Auditor's Office, under the direction of the Legislative Audit Committee, to conduct an audit or investigation in connection with those funds. Under the direction of the Legislative Audit Committee, GRANTEE or another entity that is the subject of an audit or investigation by the State Auditor's Office must provide the State Auditor's Office with access to any information the State Auditor's Office considers relevant to the investigation or audit. GRANTEE further agrees to cooperate fully with the State Auditor's Office in the conduct of the audit or investigation, including providing all records requested. GRANTEE shall ensure that this paragraph concerning the authority to audit funds received indirectly by subcontractors through GRANTEE and the requirement to cooperate is included in any subcontract it awards. The State Auditor's Office shall at any time have access to and the right to examine, audit, excerpt, and transcribe any pertinent books, documents, working papers, and records of GRANTEE related to this contract. GRANTEE also represents and warrants that it will comply with Section 321.022 of the Texas Government Code, which requires that suspected fraud and unlawful conduct be reported to the State Auditor's Office.

**7.6 Location.** Any audit of records shall be conducted at GRANTEE's principal place of business and/or the location(s) of GRANTEE's operations during GRANTEE's normal business hours. GRANTEE shall provide to OAG or its designees, on GRANTEE's premises (or if the audit is being performed of a subcontractor, the subcontractor's premises if necessary) private space, office furnishings (including lockable cabinets), telephone and facsimile services, utilities and

office-related equipment and duplicating services as OAG or its designees may reasonably require to perform the audits described in this contract.

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

The OAG will designate the proper methods for the delivery of information to the OAG by GRANTEE. The OAG generally requires submission of information via email or hard copy format. Some reporting requirements must occur via the internet and/or a web-based data collection method. Accordingly, all reports required under this contract including but not limited to semi-annual statistical reports, annual performance reports, financial status reports, requests for reimbursement, Annual Compiled Financial Statement Report, and any other reports, notices or information must be submitted in the manner directed by the OAG. The manner of delivery may be subject to change during the term of the contract, in the sole discretion of the OAG.

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

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

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

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

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

**9.4 No Waiver.** Notwithstanding the imposition of corrective actions, financial hold and/or sanctions, GRANTEE remains responsible for complying with the contract terms and conditions. Corrective action plans, financial hold, and/or sanctions do not excuse or operate as a waiver of prior failure to comply with this contract.

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

**10.1 Federal and State Laws, Rules and Regulations, Directives, Guidelines, Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) and Other Relevant Authorities.** GRANTEE agrees to comply with all applicable federal and state laws, rules and regulations, directives, guidelines, including 2 CFR Part 200, and any other authorities relevant to the performance of GRANTEE under this contract. In instances where multiple requirements apply to GRANTEE, the more restrictive requirement applies.

**10.2 Uniform Grant Management Act, UGMS and Applicable Standard Federal and State Certifications and Assurances.** GRANTEE agrees to comply with applicable laws, executive orders, regulations and policies, including Texas Government Code, Chapter 783, and the Uniform Grant Management Standards (UGMS), and any other applicable federal or state grant management standards. Further, GRANTEE agrees to comply with the applicable OAG Certifications and Assurances, as contained in the Application Kit, which are incorporated herein by reference, including, but not limited to, the equal employment opportunity program certification, disclosure and certification regarding lobbying, non-procurement debarment certification, drug-free workplace certification, annual single audit certification, compliance with annual independent financial audit filing requirement, compliance with UGMS, and the applicable 2 CFR Part 200, return of grant funds in the event of loss or misuse, and conflict of interest.

**10.3 Generally Accepted Accounting Principles or Other Recognized Accounting Principles.** GRANTEE shall adhere to Generally Accepted Accounting Principles promulgated by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants, unless other recognized accounting principles are required by GRANTEE. GRANTEE shall also follow OAG fiscal management policies and procedures in processing and submitting requests for reimbursement and maintaining financial records related to this contract.

**10.4 Conflicts of Interest; Disclosure of Conflicts.** GRANTEE has not given, or offered to give, nor does GRANTEE intend to give at any time hereafter, any economic opportunity, future employment, gift, loan, gratuity, special discount, trip, favor, or service to a public servant or employee of the OAG, at any time during the negotiation of this contract or in connection with this contract, except as allowed under relevant state or federal law. GRANTEE will establish safeguards to prohibit its employees from using their positions for a purpose that constitutes or presents the appearance of a personal or organizational conflict of interest or personal gain. GRANTEE will operate with complete independence and objectivity without an actual, potential, or apparent conflict of interest with respect to its performance under this contract. GRANTEE must disclose, in writing, within fifteen (15) calendar days of discovery, any existing or potential

conflicts of interest relative to its performance under this contract.

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

**10.6 Does Not Boycott Israel.** To the extent required by Texas Government Code Section 2271.002, GRANTEE represents and warrants that neither GRANTEE, nor any subcontractor, assignee, or sub-recipient of GRANTEE, currently boycotts Israel, or will boycott Israel during the term of this contract. GRANTEE agrees to take all necessary steps to ensure this certification remains true for any future subcontractor or assignee. For purposes of this provision, "Boycott Israel" shall have the meaning assigned by Texas Government Code, Sec. 808.001(1).

**10.7 Law Enforcement Funding.** To the extent applicable, GRANTEE acknowledges that, under article IX, section 4.01 of the General Appropriations Act for the term covered by this contract, funds may only be expended under this contract if GRANTEE is in compliance with all rules developed by the Commission on Law Enforcement or if the Commission on Law Enforcement has certified that GRANTEE is in the process of achieving compliance.

**10.8 Restriction on Abortion Funding.** GRANTEE acknowledges that, under article IX, section 6.25 of the General Appropriations Act for the term covered by this contract, and except as provided by that Act, funds may not be distributed under this contract to any individual or entity that: (1) performs an abortion procedure that is not reimbursable under the State's Medicaid program; (2) is commonly owned, managed, or controlled by an entity that performs an abortion procedure that is not reimbursable under the State's Medicaid program; or (3) is a franchise or affiliate of an entity that performs an abortion procedure that is not reimbursable under the State's Medicaid program.

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

**11.1 Independent Contractor Status; Indemnity and Hold Harmless Agreement.** GRANTEE expressly agrees that it is an independent contractor and under no circumstances shall any owner, incorporator, officer, director, employee, or volunteer of GRANTEE be considered a state employee, agent, servant, or partner of, or part of any joint venture or joint enterprise with, the OAG or the State of Texas. GRANTEE agrees to take such steps as may be necessary to ensure that each contractor of GRANTEE will be deemed to be an independent contractor and will not be considered or permitted to be an agent, servant, or partner of, or part of any joint venture or joint enterprise with, the OAG or the State of Texas.

All persons furnished, used, retained, or hired by or on behalf of GRANTEE or any of GRANTEE's contractors shall be considered to be solely the employees or agents of GRANTEE or GRANTEE's contractors. GRANTEE or GRANTEE's contractors shall be responsible for ensuring that any and all appropriate payments are made, such as unemployment, workers compensation, social security, any benefit available to a state employee as a state employee, and other payroll taxes for such persons, including any related assessments or contributions required by law.

**GRANTEE or contractors are responsible for all types of claims whatsoever due to actions or performance under this contract, including, but not limited to, the use of automobiles or other transportation by its owners, incorporators, officers, directors, employees, volunteers or any third parties. GRANTEE shall defend, indemnify, and hold harmless OAG and the State of Texas, and/or their officers, agents, employees, representatives, contractors, assignees, and/or designees from any and all liability, actions, claims, demands, or suits, and all related costs, attorneys fees, and expenses arising out of, or resulting from any acts or omissions of GRANTEE or its agents, employees, subcontractors, order fulfillers, or suppliers of subcontractors in the execution or performance of the Contract. In the event the State of Texas, the OAG, or any other State of Texas agency are named defendants in any lawsuit, the defense thereof shall be coordinated by GRANTEE with the OAG. GRANTEE may not agree to any settlement without first obtaining the concurrence from OAG. OAG and GRANTEE agree to furnish timely written notice to each other of any such claim.**

**11.2 Publicity.** GRANTEE shall not use the OAG's name or refer to the OAG directly or indirectly in any media release, public service announcement or public service disclosure relating to this contract or any acquisition pursuant hereto, including in any promotional or marketing materials, without first obtaining written consent from the OAG. This section is not intended to and does not limit GRANTEE's ability to comply with its obligations and duties under the Texas Open Meetings Act and/or the Texas Public Information Act.

**11.3 Intellectual Property.** GRANTEE understands and agrees that GRANTEE may copyright any original books, manuals, films, or other original material and intellectual property, developed or produced using funds obtained under this contract, subject to a royalty-free, non-exclusive, and irrevocable license which is hereby reserved by the OAG and granted to OAG by GRANTEE, or, where applicable, the State of Texas or the United States Government if federal funds are expended. Grantee hereby grants the OAG an unrestricted, royalty-free, non-exclusive, and irrevocable license to use, copy, modify, reproduce, publish, or otherwise use, and authorize others to use (in whole or in part, including in connection with derivative works), at no additional cost to the OAG, in any manner the OAG deems appropriate in the exercise of its sole discretion, any component of such intellectual property.

GRANTEE shall obtain from subrecipients, contractors, and subcontractors (if any) all rights and data necessary to fulfill the GRANTEE's obligations to the OAG under this contract. If a proposed

subrecipient, contractor, or subcontractor refuses to accept terms affording the OAG such rights, Grantee shall promptly bring such refusal to the attention of the OAG Program Manager for the contract and not proceed with the agreement in question without further authorization from the OAG.

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

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

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

**11.7 No Subcontracting, Assignment, or Delegation without Prior Written Approval of OAG.** GRANTEE may not subcontract, assign any of its rights, or delegate any of its duties under this contract without the prior written approval of the OAG. OAG shall maintain the complete and sole discretion to approve or deny any request to subcontract, assign any right, or delegate any duty under this contract, and the OAG may withhold its approval for any reason or no reason. In the event OAG approves subcontracting, assignment, or delegation by GRANTEE, GRANTEE will ensure that its contracts with others shall require compliance with the provisions of this Contract. GRANTEE, in subcontracting for any performances specified herein, expressly understands and agrees that it is not relieved of its responsibilities for ensuring that all performance is in compliance with this contract and that the OAG shall not be liable in any manner to GRANTEE's subcontractor(s). GRANTEE represents and warrants that it will maintain oversight to ensure that contractors perform in accordance with the terms, conditions, and specifications of their contracts or purchase orders.

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

**11.9 Merging Entities.** If GRANTEE merges with an organization that is currently receiving grant funds for the same purpose, directly from the OAG, (an "eligible organization") and the merger is completed during the current contract term, the standing organization may seek

reimbursement for the remaining OAG funding of the dissolving organization in addition to the standing organization's current funding.

If GRANTEE merges with or is absorbed by an organization that is not an eligible organization, GRANTEE's contract will terminate upon the effective date of the merger transaction, and the standing organization may not seek the funding of the dissolving organization for the current grant period.

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

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

Except where state law establishes mandatory venue, GRANTEE agrees that any action, suit, litigation or other proceeding (collectively "litigation") arising out of or in any way relating to this contract shall be commenced exclusively in the Travis County District Court or the United States District Court in the Western District, Austin Division, and to the extent allowed by law, hereby irrevocably and unconditionally consents to the exclusive jurisdiction of those courts for the purpose of prosecuting and/or defending such litigation. GRANTEE hereby waives and agrees not to assert by way of motion, as a defense, or otherwise, in any suit, action, or proceeding, any claim that GRANTEE is not personally subject to the jurisdiction of the above-named courts; the suit, action or proceeding is brought in an inconvenient forum; and/or the venue is improper.

**11.12 U.S. Department of Homeland Security's E-Verify System.** GRANTEE will ensure that it utilizes the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's E-Verify system to determine the eligibility of any new employee hired after the effective date of this agreement who will be working on any matter covered by this agreement.

**11.13 Limitation on Civil Legal Services Providers.** If GRANTEE is a provider of civil legal services to victims of crime, and if the purpose of the grant funds is to provide legal services to victims of crime, GRANTEE shall comply with the following:

**11.13.1 Services to Indigent Clients.** GRANTEE shall provide victim-related civil legal services directly to indigent victims, indigent immediate family members of indigent victims, or indigent claimants. "Indigent" means an individual who earns not more than 187 ½% of the federal poverty guidelines published by the United States Department of Health and Human Services. Victims, immediate family members of victims, and claimants are defined in Article 56.32 of the Texas Code of Criminal Procedure.

**11.13.2 Eligibility Screening.** GRANTEE shall conduct eligibility screening for each individual seeking victim-related civil legal services. GRANTEE agrees to use the intake

screening form supplied by the OAG. A copy of all intake screening forms shall be maintained by GRANTEE in a central location and shall be made available to the OAG or any party the OAG determines should have access to these documents at any reasonable time.

**11.13.3 No Cases Resulting in Fees.** Grant funds to organizations to provide legal services to the victims of crime, immediate family members, or claimants in civil matters shall not be used for any case or matter that, if undertaken on behalf of an indigent person by an attorney in private practice, might reasonably be expected to result in payment of a fee for legal services from an award to a client from public funds, or from the opposing party.

The above provisions may not be applicable in any case where GRANTEE determines, in good faith, that (a) the indigent person seeking legal assistance has made reasonable efforts to obtain the services of an attorney in private practice for the particular matter (including contacting attorneys in private practice in the county of residence of the indigent person who normally accept cases of a similar nature), and (b) has been unable to obtain such services because the potential fee is inadequate, is likely to be uncollectible, would substantially consume any recovery by the client, or because of any other reason the organization believes prevents the client from obtaining the services of a private attorney.

**11.13.4 Other Restrictions.** Grant funds shall not be used to fund class action suits, lawsuits against governmental entities, or lobbying for or against any candidate or issue. Grant funds shall not be used to sue or otherwise support a cause of action, claim, or defense against the State of Texas or the OAG or involving a challenge to the constitutionality of a State statute, rule, or regulation, except as specifically provided below.

Grant funds may be used to support a lawsuit brought by an individual, solely on behalf of the individual or the individual's dependent or ward, to compel a governmental entity to provide benefits that the individual or the individual's dependent or ward is expressly eligible to receive, by statute or regulation, including social security benefits, temporary assistance to needy families, financial assistance under Chapter 31, Texas Human Resources Code, food stamps, special education for persons with disabilities, Medicare, Medicaid, subsidized or public housing, and other economic, shelter or medical benefits provided by a government entity directly to an indigent individual, but not to support a claim for actual or punitive damages.

Grant funds shall not be used to support any legal action seeking to establish, obtain or appeal Compensation for Crime Victims payments as administered by the OAG.

**11.13.5 Cooperation and Collaboration.** GRANTEE will cooperate and collaborate in their service areas with (a) all other organizations providing civil legal services to the



indigent, (b) the local organized bar, (c) relevant social and human service organizations, (d) relevant governmental agencies, and (e) other organizations that specifically provide victim-related services.

**11.13.6 Professional Conduct.** In accepting and pursuing matters for clients, GRANTEE shall adhere to the Texas Disciplinary Rules of Professional Conduct and the Texas Rules of Disciplinary Procedure and any other code or rules of professional responsibility adopted by this state for attorneys. GRANTEE should exercise reasonably prudent judgment and consider all relevant factors, including the legal merits and the economic and practical value, of the matter.

**11.13.7 Retainer Agreements and Private Referrals.** Except for matters involving limited advice and brief services (e.g. clinics, hotlines, and similar services), GRANTEE shall execute a written retainer agreement, or letter of engagement, containing appropriate provisions for withdrawal of representation, with each client who receives legal services from GRANTEE. For cases that are referred by GRANTEE to a private attorney, GRANTEE shall make available to the accepting attorney a standard form retainer agreement which may be modified based on the agreement between the attorney and client.

The OAG, in its sole discretion, may further limit, authorize or define the scope of permitted legal services offered by the GRANTEE.

**11.14 Business with Iran, Sudan, or Terrorist Organizations.** GRANTEE hereby represents and warrants that it does not, and shall not for the duration of this contract, engage in any business operations, including but not limited to acquiring, developing, maintaining, owning, selling, possessing, leasing, or operating equipment, facilities, personnel, products, services, personal property, real property, or any other apparatus of business or commerce with Iran, Sudan or a foreign terrorist organization, or as prohibited by Section 2252.152 of the Texas Government Code.

**11.15 No Use of Grant Money for Lobbying.** GRANTEE shall not use any grant funds provided by OAG to GRANTEE to influence the passage or defeat of any legislative measure or election of any candidate for public office.

**11.16 Child Support Obligation Affirmation.** Under Section 231.006 of the Texas Family Code, the GRANTEE certifies that the individual or business entity named in this contract is not ineligible to receive the specified grant, and acknowledges that this contract may be terminated and payment may be withheld if this certification is inaccurate.

**11.17 Texas Public Information Act.** Information, documentation, and other material in connection with this contract or the underlying grant may be subject to public disclosure pursuant to Chapter 552 of the Texas Government Code (the "Public Information Act"). In accordance with Section 2252.907 of the Texas Government Code, GRANTEE is required to

make any information created or exchanged with OAG, the State of Texas, or any state agency pursuant to the contract, and not otherwise excepted from disclosure under the Texas Public Information Act, available in a format that is accessible by the public at no additional charge to OAG, the State of Texas, or any state agency.

**11.18 Dispute Resolution Process.** The dispute resolution process provided for in Chapter 2260 of the Texas Government Code shall be used to resolve any dispute arising under this Contract including specifically any alleged breach of the Contract by OAG.

**11.19 Dispute Resolution Process.** The dispute resolution process provided for in Chapter 2260 of the Texas Government Code shall be used to resolve any dispute arising under this Contract including specifically any alleged breach of the Contract by OAG.

**11.20 Excluded Parties.** GRANTEE certifies that it is not listed in the prohibited vendors list authorized by Executive Order No. 13224, "Blocking Property and Prohibiting Transactions with Persons Who Commit, Threaten to Commit, or Support Terrorism", published by the United States Department of the Treasury, Office of Foreign Assets Control.

**11.21 Executive Head of a State Agency Affirmation.** Under Section 669.003 of the Texas Government Code, relating to contracting with an executive head of a state agency, GRANTEE represents and warrants that no person who served as an executive of OAG, in the past four (4) years, was involved with or has any interest in this Contract or grant award. To the extent GRANTEE employs or has used the services of a former executive of OAG, then GRANTEE certifies it has previously disclosed the following information: name of the former executive, the name of the state agency, the date of separation from the state agency, the position held with GRANTEE, and the date of employment with GRANTEE.

**11.22 Political Polling Prohibition.** GRANTEE represents and warrants that it does not perform political polling and acknowledges that appropriated funds may not be granted to, or expended by, any entity which performs political polling.

**11.23 Financial Participation Prohibited Affirmation.** Under Section 2155.004(b) of the Texas Government Code, GRANTEE certifies that the individual or business entity named in this Contract is not ineligible to receive the specified contract or grant funding and acknowledges that the Contract may be terminated and all payments withheld if this certification is inaccurate.

**11.24 Human Trafficking Prohibition.** Under Section 2155.0061 of the Texas Government Code, the GRANTEE certifies that the individual or business entity named in this Contract is not ineligible to receive the specified contract or grant funding and acknowledges that this Contract may be terminated and all payments withheld if this certification is inaccurate.

**11.25 Prior Disaster Relief Contract Violation.** Under Sections 2155.006 and 2261.053 of the Texas Government Code, the GRANTEE certifies that the individual or business entity named in this contract is not ineligible to receive the specified Contract or grant funding and acknowledges

that this Contract may be terminated and all payments withheld if this certification is inaccurate.

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

**12.1 Construction of Contract.** The provisions of Section 1 are intended to be a general introduction to this contract. To the extent the terms and conditions of this contract do not address a particular circumstance or are otherwise unclear or ambiguous, such terms and conditions are to be construed consistent with the general objectives, expectations, and purposes of this contract.

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

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

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

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

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

**12.7 Signature Authority.** The undersigned Parties represent and warrant that the individuals submitting this document are authorized to sign such documents on behalf of the respective parties.

**IN WITNESS HEREOF, THE PARTIES HAVE SIGNED AND EXECUTED THIS CONTRACT IN MULTIPLE COUNTERPARTS.**

**Office of the Attorney General**

Nueces County

\_\_\_\_\_

DocuSigned by:  
  
\_\_\_\_\_

1AF2D5DCFAB444C...

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

Printed Name: Barbara Canales  
Authorized Official

**GRANT CONTRACT**

**OAG Contract No.** 2109916

**EXHIBIT A**

**Maximum Liability of the OAG.** The OAG and GRANTEE agree the total liability of the OAG to GRANTEE, directly or indirectly, arising out of this contract and for reimbursement of all expenses, shall not exceed the following:

\$42,000.00  
\_\_\_\_\_.

**Budget.** Subject to the limitations within this contract, the OAG will reimburse GRANTEE for actual allowable and allocable costs paid according to the following amounts and budget categories:

| <b>Budget Category</b>             | <b>State Fiscal Year<br/>2021</b> |
|------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Personnel                          | \$29,128.00                       |
| Fringe Benefits                    | \$2,380.00                        |
| Professional & Consultant Services | \$-                               |
| Travel                             | \$4,870.00                        |
| Equipment                          | \$-                               |
| Supplies                           | \$4,442.00                        |
| Other Direct Operating Expenses    | \$1,180.00                        |
| <b>Total</b>                       | \$42,000.00                       |