

**Drone Replacement Program Financial Assistance Agreement**  
**between**  
**Florida Department of Law Enforcement**  
**and**  
**Hernando Fire and Rescue**

This agreement is entered into by and between the Florida Department of Law Enforcement (herein referred to as "FDLE" or "Department") and the Recipient Agency named above.

WHEREAS, the Department has the authority pursuant to Florida law and does hereby agree to provide state financial assistance to the Recipient upon the terms and conditions hereinafter set forth, and

WHEREAS, The General Appropriations Act, 2023 Legislature, Section 123 provides approximately \$25,000,000 in nonrecurring funds to the Florida Department of Law Enforcement for the Drone Replacement Program established in Chapter 2023-240, Laws of Florida, and

WHEREAS, The General Appropriations Act, 2024 Legislature, Section 147, reverted and appropriated the unexpended balance of funds for use in the 2024-2025 fiscal year, and

WHEREAS, Chapter No. 2024-228, Section 44, amended Drone Replacement Program requirements, and

WHEREAS, Section 934.50, Florida Statutes establishes rules, regulations, and security standards for the use of drones by governmental entities, and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Rule 60GG-2.0075, Florida Administrative Code, the Department of Management Services (DMS) has published minimum security standards for drones used by governmental entities; and

WHEREAS, the Recipient purchased a drone that does not meet the minimum security standards in Rule 60GG-2.0075, Florida Administrative Code, and

WHEREAS, the Recipient seeks to receive funding to replace the noncompliant drone with a drone that meets required minimum security standards.

NOW THEREFORE, in consideration of the foregoing, the parties hereto agree to this agreement as follows:

This agreement is subject to all applicable state financial assistance standard conditions provided in **Appendix B**.

The State of Florida's performance and obligation to pay under this agreement is contingent upon an appropriation by the Legislature, availability of funds, and subject to any modification in accordance with Chapter 216, Florida Statutes or the Florida Constitution.

FDLE will administer and disburse funds under this agreement in accordance with sections 215.97, 215.971, 215.981 and 215.985, F.S. for state financial assistance. The Recipient shall perform all tasks, activities, and provide deliverables, including reports, as specified in this agreement. FDLE's determination of acceptable expenditures shall be conclusive.

The Recipient certifies with respect to this agreement that it possesses the legal authority to receive the funds to be provided under this agreement and that, if applicable, its governing body has authorized, by resolution or otherwise, the execution and acceptance of this agreement with all covenants and assurances contained herein. The Recipient also certifies that the undersigned possesses the authority to legally execute and bind Recipient to the terms of this agreement.

Expenditures of state financial assistance shall be compliant with laws, rules and regulations applicable to expenditures of State funds, including, but not limited to, the Reference Guide for State Expenditures published by the Florida Department of Financial Services.

## OVERVIEW AND FUNDING

**Project Title:** FY2024-25 Drone Replacement Program

**Project Start Date:** 07/01/2024

**Project End Date:** 06/30/2025

### Program Activities and Scope of Work

The Florida Legislature amended Section 934.50, Florida Statutes during the 2022 session. By July 1, 2022 governmental agencies using any drone not produced by an approved manufacturer must implement a plan to discontinue the use of the such drone by January 1, 2023. This grant provides funding for the Recipient to replace drones that are not in compliance with Rule 60GG-2.0075, Florida Administrative Code. The Recipient will be awarded funds in an amount commensurate with the replacement cost, not to exceed \$25,000 per compliant drone, for each noncompliant drone relinquished to the Department.

To be eligible for payment under this program, the noncompliant drone must not be at end-of-life and must still be in working condition. In order to receive reimbursement for this program, drones which were purchased that are not compliant with the minimum security standards established in Rule 60GG-2.0075, Florida Administrative Code, must be relinquished to the Florida Department of Law Enforcement.

In accordance with revised program guidelines established in the 2024 legislative session, the first two functional drones of each make and model relinquished to the Department, will be provided to the Florida Center for Cybersecurity at the University of South Florida (USF) for analysis. All drones relinquished to the Department and not subsequently provided to the Florida Center for Cybersecurity will be destroyed.

Additionally, under the new program guidelines established in 2024-228, Section 44, the Department will use a portion of these funds to increase awards previously provided in fiscal year 2023-2024, which were based on the noncompliant drone's current value.

## RECIPIENT'S RESPONSIBILITY

The Recipient must prepare a Drone Certification Form (**Appendix A**) for the noncompliant drone(s) they are seeking replacement for. This form includes an attestation that the noncompliant drone has not reached its end of life and is in working condition at the time it is relinquished. This must be provided to the Department at the time of relinquishment and should be accompanied by any operational manuals that distinguish make, model, and year of the noncompliant drone(s). This is crucial for the analysis conducted by the Center for Cybersecurity at the University of South Florida.

The Recipient must submit documentation for the original purchase of the noncompliant drone, including but not limited to: invoice, cancelled check or bank statement, or other proof of payment to document the noncompliant drone was originally purchased by the Recipient organization.

The Recipient is responsible for relinquishing the noncompliant drone to the Florida Department of Law Enforcement to either Tallahassee Regional Operations Center or Tampa Bay Regional Operations Center. To facilitate this process, the Recipient must schedule an appointment with the below FDLE contact for the appropriate location for relinquishment of the noncompliant drone. The days that appointments can be scheduled are Tuesdays from 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM (EST) and Thursdays from 1:00 PM - 5:00 PM (EST).

**Tallahassee Regional Operations Center (TROC) – 2331 Phillips Road, Tallahassee, FL 32308**  
**Point of Contact:** Robert Lyons – 850-410-7419 – [RobertLyons@fdle.state.fl.us](mailto:RobertLyons@fdle.state.fl.us)

**Tampa Bay Regional Operations Center (TBROC) – 4211 North Lois Avenue, Tampa, FL 33614**  
**Point of Contact:** Corey Monaghan – 813-878-7887 – [CoreyMonaghan@fdle.state.fl.us](mailto:CoreyMonaghan@fdle.state.fl.us)  
**Alternate POC:** Richard Kaplan – [RichardKaplan@fdle.state.fl.us](mailto:RichardKaplan@fdle.state.fl.us)

Funds received under this program must be used to acquire drones that are compliant with Rule 60GG-2.0075, Florida Administrative Code. The approved drones must have a purchase date of January 1, 2022 or later.

## **DELIVERABLES**

As stated in the scope and responsibilities above, the Recipient shall relinquish any noncompliant drones to the Department and purchase new drones that are compliant with Rule 60GG-2.0075, Florida Administrative Code.

## **DISTRIBUTION AND PAYMENTS**

This award is a cost-reimbursement agreement with the ability to request a cash advance. The Recipient will be awarded funds in an amount commensurate with the replacement cost, not to exceed \$25,000 per compliant drone, for each noncompliant drone relinquished to the Department.

Any funds paid in excess of the amount to which the participating agency is entitled under the terms and conditions of the agreement must be refunded to FDLE. Factual misrepresentations of drone purchases or other certifications will result in the loss of funding.

Funds under this agreement will be disbursed when all the following criteria are met:

- Executed agreement is signed by the Chief Official and provided to [OCJGSFA@fdle.state.fl.us](mailto:OCJGSFA@fdle.state.fl.us);
- The Drone Certification Form (Appendix A) is prepared and signed by the Chief Official and provided to [OCJGSFA@fdle.state.fl.us](mailto:OCJGSFA@fdle.state.fl.us);
- Noncompliant drones are relinquished to FDLE and the Drone Certification Form (Appendix A) is signed by the FDLE point-of-contact in the region where it is relinquished; and
- Drone Certification Form (Appendix A) signed by the FDLE Regional Operations Center point-of-contact is provided to [OCJGSFA@fdle.state.fl.us](mailto:OCJGSFA@fdle.state.fl.us).
- Criteria is met for Option 1 (Reimbursement) or Option 2 (Cash Advance):

Option 1 = Reimbursement: The Recipient may use its own funds to purchase the compliant drone and provide documentation related to the purchase including: purchase order, invoice, and proof of payment (cancelled check, bank/card statement, etc.). This method may be used for agencies who may have purchased a compliant drone prior to this program being released.

Option 2 = Cash Advance: The Recipient may request a cash advance to receive program funds and subsequently purchase the compliant drone. In order to qualify for this method of payment, the Recipient must provide a valid, executed purchase order and must be ready to order the compliant drone immediately upon the receipt of advanced funds. The Recipient must provide documentation of purchase (invoice) and proof of payment (cancelled check, bank/card statement, etc.) within 45 days of receiving the advanced funds. Failure to provide documentation within 45 days will result in the Recipient being required to submit a refund to FDLE.

## **FDLE GRANT MANAGEMENT CONTACTS**

The following individuals can assist with any program related questions or concerns:

### **FDLE Grant Manager**

**Name:** Patricia Stark

**Title:** Government Analyst II

**Phone:** 850-617-1252

**Email:** [PatriciaStark@fdle.state.fl.us](mailto:PatriciaStark@fdle.state.fl.us)

### **FDLE Grant Supervisor**

**Name:** Tennille Robinette

**Title:** Senior Management Analyst Supervisor

**Phone:** 850-617-1268 or 850-661-9295

**Email:** [TennilleRobinette@fdle.state.fl.us](mailto:TennilleRobinette@fdle.state.fl.us)

If you are unable to reach either member above directly, please call the Office of Criminal Justice Grants main line at 850-617-1250 or email [OCJGSFA@fdle.state.fl.us](mailto:OCJGSFA@fdle.state.fl.us).

## RECIPIENT CONTACTS

For assistance with any contract or financial questions, the Florida Department of Law Enforcement can contact:

**Contract/Grant Manager:**  
(please print)

Name: Floyd M Bedford  
Title: Captain  
Phone: (352)400-1246  
Email: mbedford@co.hernando.fl.us

**Chief Official**  
(please print)

Name: Brian Hawkins  
Title: Chairman, Board of County Commission  
Phone: 352-754-4000  
Email: \_\_\_\_\_

**Financial Contact:**  
(please print)

Name: Kelly Trout  
Title: Finance Manager  
Phone: (352)754-4282  
Email: ltrout@co.hernando.fl.us

**Alternate Point-of-Contact**  
(please print)

Name: Paul Hasenmeier  
Title: Fire Chief  
Phone: (352)345-5059  
Email: phasenmeier@co.hernando.fl.us

Recipient's Vendor ID (FEID/EIN): 59-1155275

Please provide the Remittance/Payment Address where a check should be mailed if the Recipient is not set up for EFTs from the State of Florida:

Entity Name: Hernando County Fire Rescue  
Address 1: 15470 Flight Path Drive  
Address 2: \_\_\_\_\_  
City, State, Zip: Brooksville, FL 34604

## SIGNATURES

In witness whereof, the parties affirm they each have read and agree to the conditions set forth in this agreement, have read and understand the agreement in its entirety and have executed this agreement by their duly authorized officers on the date, month and year set out below.

Modifications to this page, including strikeouts, whiteout, etc. are not permitted.

### Florida Department of Law Enforcement Office of Criminal Justice Grants

Signature:  Date: 4/02/25

Printed Name and Title: Cody Menacof, Bureau Chief

### Recipient Hernando County Fire Rescue

The award is not valid until signed and dated by all required parties including either the Chief Official or Designee below. Any Designee signatures must be accompanied by documentation granting the authority to execute this agreement.

### Recipient Chief Official

Signature:  Date: 3-11-2025

Printed Name and Title: Brian Hawkins, Chairman, Board of County Commission

\*\*\* If using a designee, sign the Chief Official Designee section below\*\*\*

### Recipient Chief Official Designee

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Printed Name and Title: \_\_\_\_\_

### Additional Recipient Signatures (optional)

If your local process requires additional signatures (i.e., legal, clerk, etc.) use the spaces below.

Signature:  Date: 3-11-2025

Printed Name and Title: Doug Chorvat, Clerk of Court

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Printed Name and Title: \_\_\_\_\_

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND  
LEGAL SUFFICIENCY:

By: Melissa Tartaglia  
County Attorney's Office

**Appendix A – Drone Certification Form**

**Recipient:** **Hernando County Fire Rescue**

**Select One:** ☒ **New Participant** ☐ **Additional Drones (FY24-25)**

**NOTE:** Please do not list accessories as line items. If you wish to capture the cost of accessories your department has invested in the noncompliant drone, please add it the purchase price of the drone.

	Drone ID (Serial #)	Make	Model	Purchase Date	Purchase Price
1	1ZNBJ6F00C00LF	DJI	Matrice	9/14/2021	\$ 18,965.00
2	2983KB1001S09D	DJI	Enterprise	09/14/2021	\$ 3,350.00
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On behalf of the Recipient, I acknowledge the following statements are true and correct:

1. The drones above are in working order and not at their end of life.
2. Funds provided for the drone(s) above will only be used for the purchase of compliant drones.
3. Documentation for the initial purchase of each relinquished, noncompliant drone above was, or will be, provided to [OCJGSFA@fdle.state.fl.us](mailto:OCJGSFA@fdle.state.fl.us).

**Signature:**

**Name/Title:** Brian Hawkins, Chairman, Board of County Commission

**Date:**

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND LEGAL SUFFICIENCY:

By: *Melissa Tartaglia*  
County Attorney's Office

**\*\*\*\* FDLE Regional Operations Center ONLY \*\*\*\***

I certify the drones listed above were received and verified on the date provided below.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

## **Appendix B – FY2024-25 State Financial Assistance Standard Conditions**

The following terms and conditions will be binding upon approval of the grant award and execution of the contract by both the Recipient and the Florida Department of Law Enforcement. The Recipient will maintain required registrations and certifications for eligibility under this program.

The Department and the Recipient agree that they do not contemplate the development, transfer or receipt of intellectual property as a part of this agreement.

### **SECTION I: PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION**

**Legal Authority:** The Recipient certifies with respect to this agreement that it possesses the legal authority to receive the funds to be provided under this agreement and that, if applicable, its governing body has authorized, by resolution or otherwise, the execution and acceptance of this agreement with all covenants and assurances contained herein. The Recipient also certifies that the undersigned possesses the authority to legally execute and bind Recipient to the terms of this agreement.

**Not Operational within 60 and 90 Days:** If a project is not operational within 60 days of the original start date of the award period, the Recipient must report by letter to the Department the steps taken to initiate the project, the reasons for delay, and the expected start date. If a project is not operational within 90 days of the original start date of the award period, the Recipient must submit a second statement to the Department explaining the implementation delay. Upon receipt of the 90-day letter, the Department shall determine if the reason for delay is justified or shall, at its discretion, require additional project documentation and justifications throughout the award period. The Department will also require the Recipient provide a revised project timeline that includes all anticipated project activities, tasks, and estimated completion date(s).

### **SECTION II: PAYMENTS**

**Obligation to Pay:** The State of Florida's obligation to pay under this agreement is contingent upon an appropriation by the Legislature.

**Overpayments:** Any funds paid in excess of the amount to which the Recipient is entitled under the terms and conditions of the agreement must be refunded to the Department. Any balance of unobligated cash that has been paid and has not been authorized to be retained for direct program costs in a subsequent period must be refunded to the Department.

**Advance Funding (Drone Program Only):** Advance funding may be provided to a Recipient upon completion and submission of the following to the assigned FDLE Grant Manager: (1) a completed "Compliant Drone Cash Advance Request" form, (2) a valid, executed Purchase Order, and (3) vendor quote(s) for the compliant drone. The request form must be signed by the Chief Official. Advanced funds must be spent on drone purchase within 30 days of receipt. In order to reconcile the Cash Advance, the Recipient must provide the invoice and proof of payment for the compliant drone to the assigned FDLE Grant Manager within 45 days of the receipt of the advanced funding. Should extenuating circumstances arise which prevent the expenditure of advance funds within 30 days of receipt, or the provision of required documentation to reconcile the funds, a written request to retain the funds must be provided by the Recipient and approved by the Department. Failure to provide documentation will result in a refund of any advanced funding.

### **SECTION III: PROJECT AND GRANT MANAGEMENT**

**Personnel Changes:** The Recipient must notify the FDLE grant manager of any change in the Chief Officials or Project Director or any change in contact information, including mailing address, phone number, email, or title change.

**Obligation of Grant Funds:** Grant funds shall not under any circumstances be obligated prior to the effective date, or subsequent to the termination date, of the period of performance. Only project costs incurred on or after the effective date, and on or prior to the termination date of the Recipient's project are eligible for reimbursement. All payments must be completed within thirty (30) days of the end of the grant period of performance.

**Financial Management:** The Recipient must have a financial management system able to record and report on the receipt, obligation, and expenditure of grant funds. An adequate accounting system must be able to separately track receipts, expenditures, assets, and liabilities for awards, programs, and subrecipients. The Recipient shall maintain books, records, and documents (including electronic storage media) in accordance with generally accepted accounting procedures and practices. Recipient must have written procedures for procurement transactions.

**Travel:** Cost for travel shall be reimbursed at the Recipient's travel rate, but the maximum reimbursement for each type of travel cost shall not exceed rates established in State of Florida Travel Guidelines, §112.061, F.S.

**Subcontracts:** Recipient agrees that all employees, subcontractors, or agents performing work under the agreement shall be properly trained individuals who meet or exceed any specified training qualifications. Recipient agrees to be responsible for all work performance and all expenses incurred in fulfilling the obligations of this agreement, and will not assign the responsibility for this agreement to another party. If the Recipient subcontracts any or all of the work required under this agreement, the Recipient must provide a completed DFS-A2-NS (Recipient-Subrecipient vs. Vendor Determination) form and a copy of the executed subcontract within thirty (30) days after execution of the subcontract. The Recipient agrees to include in the subcontract that (i) the subcontractor is bound by all applicable state and federal laws and regulations, and (ii) the subcontractor shall hold the Department and Recipient harmless against all claims of whatever nature arising out of the subcontractor's performance of work under this agreement, to the extent allowed and required by law.

**Grant Adjustments:** Recipients must submit a Request for Grant Adjustment to the FDLE grant manager for substantive changes such as: scope modifications, changes to project activities, target populations, service providers, implementation schedules, project director, designs or research plans set forth in the approved agreement, and for any budget changes affecting a cost category that was not included in the original budget. Recipients may transfer up to 10% of the total budget between current, approved budget categories without prior approval, as long as the funds are transferred to an existing line item. Adjustments are required when there will be a transfer of 10% or more of the total budget between budget categories. Under no circumstances can transfers of funds increase the total award. Requests for changes to the grant agreement must be signed by the Recipient or Implementing Agency's chief official or the chief official's designee. All requests for changes must be submitted no later than thirty (30) days prior to grant expiration date.

**Property Management:** The Recipient shall establish and administer a system to protect, preserve, use, maintain, and dispose of any property furnished to it by the Department or purchased pursuant to this agreement.

#### **SECTION IV: MANDATORY DISCLOSURES**

**Conflict of Interest:** The Recipient will establish safeguards to prohibit employees from using their positions for a purpose that constitutes or presents the appearance of personal or organizational conflict of interest, or personal gain. Recipients must disclose in writing any potential conflict of interest to the Department.



**Violations of Criminal Law:** The Recipient must disclose all violations of state or federal criminal law involving fraud, bribery or gratuity violations potentially affecting the grant award.

**Convicted Vendors:** The Recipient shall disclose to the Department if it, or any of its affiliates, as defined in §287.133(1)(a) F.S., is on the convicted vendor list. A person or affiliate placed on the convicted vendor list following a conviction for a public entity crime is prohibited from doing any activities listed in the agreement for a period of thirty-six (36) months from the date of being placed on the convicted vendor list.

**Vendors on Scrutinized Companies Lists:** If this agreement is in the amount of \$1 million or more, Recipient certifies upon executing this agreement, that it is not listed on either the Scrutinized Companies with Activities in Sudan List or the Scrutinized Companies with Activities in the Iran Petroleum Energy Sector List, created pursuant to §215.473, F.S., or engaged in business operations in Cuba or Syria. In the event that federal law ceases to authorize the states to adopt and enforce the contracting prohibition identified herein, this provision shall be null and void.

**Discriminatory Vendors:** The Recipient shall disclose to the Department if it or any of its affiliates, as defined by §287.134(1)(a), F.S. appears on the discriminatory vendors list. An entity or affiliate placed on the discriminatory vendor list pursuant to §287.134, F.S. may not a) submit a bid, proposal, or reply on a contract or agreement to provide any goods or services to a public entity; b) submit a bid, proposal, or reply on a contract or agreement with a public entity for the construction or repair of a public building or public work; c) submit bids, proposals, or replies on leases of real property to a public entity; d) be awarded or perform work as a contractor, subcontractor, Recipient, supplier, subrecipient, or consultant under a contract or agreement with any public entity; or e) transact business with any public entity.

**Reporting Potential Fraud, Waste, Abuse, and Similar Misconduct:** The Recipient must promptly refer to the Department of Law Enforcement, Office of Criminal Justice Grants any credible evidence that a principal, employee, agent, contractor, subcontractor, or other person has either 1) submitted a claim for grant funds that violates the False Claims Act; or 2) committed a criminal or civil violation of laws pertaining to fraud, conflict of interest, bribery, gratuity, or similar misconduct involving grant funds.

**Non-Disclosure Agreements:** Restrictions and certifications regarding non-disclosure agreements and related matters Recipients or contracts/subcontracts under this award may not require any employee or contractor to sign an internal confidentiality agreement or statement that prohibits, restricts or purports to prohibit or restrict, the reporting of waste, fraud or abuse in accordance with law, to an investigative or law enforcement representative of a state or federal department or agency authorized to receive such information. The Recipient certifies that if informed or notified of any subrecipient, or contractor/subcontractor has been requiring their employees to execute agreements or statements that prohibit the reporting of fraud, waste, or abuse that it will immediately cease all further obligations of award funds to the entity and will immediately notify the Department. The Recipient will not resume obligations until expressly authorized to do so from the Department.

## **SECTION V: COMPLIANCE WITH STATUTES, RULES, AND REGULATIONS**

In performing its obligations under this agreement, the Recipient shall without exception be aware of and comply with all State and Federal laws, rules and regulations relating to its performance under this agreement as they may be enacted or amended from time-to-time, as well as any court or administrative order, judgment, settlement or compliance agreement involving the Department which by its nature affects the services provided under this agreement. The following are examples of rules and regulations that govern Recipient's performance under this agreement.

**Lobbying Prohibited:** The Recipient shall comply with the provisions of 11.062 and 216.347, F.S., which prohibit the expenditure of funds for the purpose of lobbying the Legislature, judicial branch, or a State agency. No funds or other resources received from the Department in connection with this agreement may

be used directly or indirectly to influence legislation or any other official action by the Florida Legislature or any state agency.

**State of Florida E.O. 20-44: Public-Private Partnerships:** Any entity named in statute with which the agency must form a sole-source, public-private agreement; and any nongovernmental Recipient receiving 50% or more of their annual budget from any combination of state or federal funding must submit an annual report to the Office of Criminal Justice Grants. The report must include the most recent IRS Form 990, detailing the total compensation for the entities' executive leadership teams. Total compensation shall include salary, bonuses, cashed-in leave, cash equivalents, severance pay, retirement benefits, deferred compensation, real-property gifts, and any other payout. In addition, the Recipient must agree through appropriate contract or grant agreement amendment to inform the agency of any changes in total executive compensation between the annual reports. All compensation reports must indicate what percent of compensation comes directly from the State or Federal allocations to the Recipient.

**Civil Rights:** The Recipient agrees to comply with the Americans With Disabilities Act (Public Law 101-336, 42 U.S.C. Section 12101 et seq.) and shall not discriminate against any employee (or applicant for employment) in the performance of this agreement because of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, disability, age, or marital status. These requirements shall apply to all contractors, subcontractors, subgrantees or others with whom it arranges to provide services or benefits to clients or employees in connection with its programs and activities.

**E-Verify:** The Department shall consider the employment by any contractor of unauthorized aliens a violation of section 274(e) of the Immigration and Nationalization Act. Such violation shall be cause for unilateral cancellation of this contract. Pursuant to F.S. 448.095, the Contracting Party and any subcontractors are required to register with and use the E-Verify system operated by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security beginning on January 1, 2021. The Contracting Party and any subcontractors are prohibited from entering into contracts with one another unless all parties register and use the E-Verify system. Subcontractors who enter into contracts with the Contracting Party are required to provide a certification that the subcontractor does not employ or use unauthorized aliens as defined in the statute, a copy of which the Contracting Party must maintain. The Contracting Party and any subcontractors are required to terminate a contract if a party has a good faith belief that another party is in violation of F.S. 448.09(1), prohibiting the employment of unauthorized aliens. If a public employer has a good faith belief that the subcontractor has violated these requirements, but that the Contracting Party has otherwise complied, the public employer must notify the Contracting Party to terminate its contract with the subcontractor. A party may challenge a contract termination in accordance with these requirements. A penalized Contractor is prohibited from obtaining another contract with a public employer for at least one year.

**Background Check:** Whenever a background screening for employment or a background security check is required by law for employment, unless otherwise provided by law, the provisions of Chapter 435 F.S., shall apply. All employees in positions designated by law as positions of trust or responsibility shall be required to undergo security background investigations as a condition of employment and continued employment. For the purposes of the subsection, security background investigations shall include, but not be limited to, employment history checks, fingerprinting for all purposes and checks in this subsection, statewide criminal and juvenile record checks through the Florida Department of Law Enforcement, and federal criminal record checks through the Federal Bureau of Investigation, and may include local criminal record checks through local law enforcement agencies.

**Public Records:** As required by 287.058(1)(c), F.S., the Recipient shall allow public access to all documents, papers, letters, or other public records as defined in 119.011(12), F.S. as prescribed by 119.07(1) F.S., made or received by the Recipient in conjunction with this agreement, except public records which are made confidential by law must be protected from disclosure. It is expressly understood that the Recipient's failure to comply with this provision shall constitute an immediate breach of contract, for which the Department may unilaterally terminate this agreement.

**Independent Contractor, Subcontracting and Assignments:** In performing its obligations under this agreement, the Recipient shall at all times be acting in the capacity of an independent contractor and not as an officer, employee, or agent of the State of Florida. Neither the Recipient nor any of its agents, employees, subcontractors or assignees shall represent to others that it is an agent of or has the authority to bind the Department by virtue of this agreement, unless specifically authorized in writing to do so.

**Timely Payment of Subcontractors:** To the extent that a subcontract provides for payment after Recipient's receipt of payment from the Department, the Recipient shall make payments to any subcontractor within 7 working days after receipt of full or partial payments from the Department in accordance with §287.0585, F.S., unless otherwise stated in the agreement between the Recipient and subcontractor. Failure to pay within seven (7) working days will result in a penalty that shall be charged against the Recipient and paid by the Recipient to the subcontractor in the amount of one-half of one percent (.005) of the amount due per day from the expiration of the period allowed for payment. Such penalty shall be in addition to actual payments owed and shall not exceed fifteen (15%) percent of the outstanding balance due.

**Notice of Legal Actions:** The Recipient shall notify the Department of potential or actual legal actions taken against the Recipient related to services provided through this agreement or that may impact the Recipient's ability to complete the deliverables outlined herein, or that may adversely impact the Department. The Department's Grant Manager will be notified within 10 days of Recipient becoming aware of such actions or potential actions or from the day of the legal filing, whichever comes first.

**Property:** In accordance with 287.05805, F.S., any State funds provided for the purchase of or improvements to real property are contingent upon the Recipient granting to the State a security interest in the property at least to the amount of the State funds provided for at least five (5) years from the date of purchase or the completion of the improvements or as further required by law.

## **SECTION VI: RECORDS, AUDITS, AND INFORMATION SECURITY**

**Records Retention:** Retention of all financial records, supporting documents, statistical records, and any other documents (including electronic storage media) pertinent to this agreement shall be maintained by the Recipient during the term of this agreement and retained for a period of five (5) years after completion of the agreement or longer when required by law. In the event an audit is required under this agreement, records shall be retained for a minimum period of five years after the audit report is issued or until resolution of any audit findings or litigation based on the terms of this agreement, at no additional cost to the Department. Upon demand, at no additional cost to the Department, the Recipient will facilitate the duplication and transfer of any records or documents during the term of this agreement and the required five (5) year retention period. No record may be withheld, nor may the Recipient attempt to limit the scope of any of the foregoing inspections, reviews, copying, transfers or audits based on any claim that any record is exempt from public inspection or is confidential, proprietary or trade secret in nature; provided, however, that this provision does not limit any exemption to public inspection or copying to any such record. These records shall be made available at all reasonable times for inspection, review, copying, or audit by State, or other personnel duly authorized by the Department.

**Records Inspection:** Pursuant to Section 216.1366, F.S., in order to preserve the interest of the state in the prudent expenditure of state funds, the Department shall be authorized to inspect the (a) Financial records, papers, and documents of the Contractor that are directly related to the performance of the Contract or the expenditure of state funds, and (b) Programmatic records, papers, and documents of the Contractor which the Department determines are necessary to monitor the performance of the Contract or to ensure that the terms of the Contract are being met. The Contractor shall provide such records, papers, and documents requested by the Department within ten (10) business days after the request is made.

**Monitoring:** The Recipient agrees to comply with the Department's grant monitoring guidelines, protocols, and procedures; and to cooperate with the Department on all grant monitoring requests, including requests related to desk reviews, enhanced programmatic desk reviews, site visits, and/or Florida Department of Financial Services contract reviews and Expanded Audits of Payment (EAP). The Recipient agrees to provide the Department all documentation necessary to complete monitoring of the award and verify expenditures in accordance with 215.971, F.S. Further, the Recipient agrees to abide by reasonable deadlines set by the Department for providing requested documents. Failure to cooperate with grant monitoring activities may result in sanctions affecting the Recipient's award, including, but not limited to: withholding and/or other restrictions on the Recipient's access to funds, and/or referral to the Office of the Inspector General for audit review.

**Florida Single Audit Act (FSAA):** The Recipient shall comply and cooperate immediately with any inspections, reviews, investigations, or audits deemed necessary by The Office of the Inspector General (§20.055, F.S.). In the event that the Recipient expends a total amount of state financial assistance equal to or in excess of \$750,000 in any fiscal year, the Recipient must have a single audit or project-specific audit in accordance with §215.97, F.S. and the applicable rules of the Department of Financial Services and the Auditor General. In determining the state financial assistance expended in its fiscal year, the Recipient shall consider all sources of state financial assistance, including state financial assistance received from the Department of Law Enforcement, other state agencies, and other non-state entities. State financial assistance does not include Federal direct or pass-through awards and resources received by a non-state entity for Federal program matching requirements. The schedule of expenditures should disclose the expenditures by contract/agreement number for each contract with the Department in effect during the audit period. All questioned costs and liabilities due the Department shall be fully disclosed in the audit report package with reference to the specific contract number. If the Recipient expends less than \$750,000 in state financial assistance in its fiscal year, an audit conducted in accordance with the provisions of 215.97, F.S., is not required. In the event that the Recipient expends less than \$750,000 in state financial assistance in its fiscal year and elects to have an audit conducted in accordance with the provisions of 215.97, F.S., the cost of the audit must be paid from the non-state entity's resources (i.e., the cost of such an audit must be paid from the Recipient's resources obtained from other than State entities). Pursuant to 215.97(8), F.S., state agencies may conduct or arrange for audits of state financial assistance that are in addition to audits conducted in accordance with §215.97, F.S. In such an event, the state awarding agency must arrange for funding the full cost of such additional audits. Any reports, management letters, or other information required to be submitted to the Department pursuant to this agreement shall be submitted within nine (9) months after the end of the Recipient's fiscal year or within 30 days of the Recipient's receipt of the audit report, whichever occurs first, unless otherwise required by Florida Statutes. Copies of financial reporting packages required by this agreement shall be submitted by or on behalf of the Recipient directly to each of the following:

The Department of Law Enforcement:  
Florida Department of Law Enforcement  
Office of Criminal Justice Grants  
ATTN: State Financial Assistance  
Post Office Box 1489 Tallahassee, Florida 32302-1489

The Auditor General's Office at:  
Auditor General's Office, Room 401  
Pepper Building  
111 West Madison Street  
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1450

**Criminal Justice Information Data Security:** Acceptance of this award, constitutes understanding that transmission of Criminal Justice Information (CJI) between locations must be encrypted to conform to the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) Criminal Justice Information Services (CJIS) Security Policy.

**Recipient's Confidential and Exempt Information:** By executing this agreement, the Recipient acknowledges that any information not marked as "confidential" or "exempt" will be posted by the Department on the public website maintained by the Department of Financial Services pursuant to 215.985, F.S. The Recipient agrees that, upon written request of the Department, it shall promptly provide to the Department a written statement of the basis for the exemption applicable to each provision identified by the Recipient as "confidential" or "exempt", including the statutory citation to an exemption created or afforded by statute, and state with particularity the reasons for the conclusion that the provision is exempt or confidential. Any claim by Recipient of trade secret (proprietary) confidentiality for any information contained in Recipient's documents (reports, deliverables or work papers, etc., in paper or electronic form) submitted to the Department in connection with this agreement cannot be waived, unless the claimed confidential information is submitted in accordance with the following two paragraphs.

The Recipient must clearly label any portion of the documents, data, or records submitted that it considers exempt from public inspection or disclosure pursuant to Florida's Public Records Law as trade secret. The labeling will include a justification citing specific statutes and facts that authorize exemption of the information from public disclosure. If different exemptions are claimed to be applicable to different portions of the protected information, the Recipient shall include information correlating the nature of the claims to the particular protected information.

The Department, when required to comply with a public records request including documents submitted by the Recipient, may require the Recipient to expeditiously submit redacted copies of documents marked as trade secret in accordance with this section. Accompanying the submission shall be an updated version of the justification, correlated specifically to redacted information, either confirming that the statutory and factual basis originally asserted remain unchanged or indicating any changes affecting the basis for the asserted exemption from public inspection or disclosure. The redacted copy must exclude or obliterate only those exact portions that are claimed to be trade secret. If the Recipient fails to promptly submit a redacted copy, the Department is authorized to produce the records sought without any redaction of proprietary or trade secret information.

## **SECTION VII: PENALTIES, TERMINATION, DISPUTE RESOLUTION, AND LIABILITY**

**Financial Penalties for Failure to Take Corrective Action:** Corrective action plans may be required for noncompliance, nonperformance, or unacceptable performance under this agreement. Penalties may be imposed for failures to implement or to make acceptable progress on such corrective action plans.

**Termination:** The Department reserves the right to unilaterally cancel this agreement for refusal by the Recipient to allow public access to all documents, papers, letters or other material subject to the provisions of Chapter 119, Florida Statutes, and made or received by the Recipient in conjunction with this agreement, unless the records are exempt pursuant to Article I, Section 24(a), of the Florida Constitution and §119.07(1), F.S. The Department shall be the final authority as to the appropriation, availability and adequacy of funds. In the event the Recipient fails to fully comply with the terms and conditions of this agreement, the Department may terminate the agreement upon written notice. Such notice may be issued without providing an opportunity for cure if it specifies the nature of the noncompliance and states that provision for cure would adversely affect the interests of the State or is not permitted by law or regulation. Otherwise, notice of termination will be issued after the Recipient's failure to fully cure such noncompliance within the time specified in a written notice of noncompliance issued by the Department specifying the nature of the noncompliance and the actions required to cure such noncompliance. In addition, the Department may employ the default provisions in Rule 60A-1.006(3), F.A.C., but is not required to do so in order to terminate the agreement. The Department's failure to demand performance of any provision of this agreement shall not be deemed a waiver of such performance. The Department's waiver of any one breach of any provision of this agreement shall not be deemed to be a waiver of any other breach and neither event shall be construed to be a modification of the terms and conditions of this agreement. The provisions herein do not limit the Department's right to remedies at law or in equity. The validity of this agreement is subject to the truth and accuracy of all the information, representations, and materials submitted or provided by the Recipient in this agreement, in any subsequent submission or response to Department request, or in any

submission or response to fulfill the requirements of this agreement, and such information, representations, and materials are incorporated by reference. The lack of accuracy thereof or any material changes shall, at the option of the Department and with thirty (30) days written notice to the Recipient, cause the termination of this agreement and the release of the Department from all its obligations to the Recipient. This agreement shall be construed under the laws of the State of Florida, and venue for any actions arising out of this agreement shall lie in Leon County. If any provision hereof is in conflict with any applicable statute or rule, or is otherwise unenforceable, then such provision shall be deemed null and void to the extent of such conflict, and shall be deemed severable, but shall not invalidate any other provision of this agreement. No waiver by the Department of any right or remedy granted hereunder or failure to insist on strict performance by the Recipient shall affect or extend or act as a waiver of any other right or remedy of the Department hereunder, or affect the subsequent exercise of the same right or remedy by the Department for any further or subsequent default by the Recipient. Any power of approval or disapproval granted to the Department under the terms of this agreement shall survive the terms and life of this agreement as a whole. The agreement may be executed in any number of counterparts, any one of which may be taken as an original. In the event of termination, the Recipient will be compensated for any work satisfactorily completed through the date of termination or an earlier date of suspension of work.

**Disputes and Appeals:** The Department shall make its decision in writing when responding to any disputes, disagreements, or questions of fact arising under this agreement and shall distribute its response to all concerned parties. The Recipient shall proceed diligently with the performance of this agreement according to the Department's decision. If the Recipient appeals the Department's decision, the appeal also shall be made in writing within twenty-one (21) calendar days to the Department's clerk (agency clerk). The Recipient's right to appeal the Department's decision is contained in Chapter 120, F.S., and in procedures set forth in Fla. Admin. Code R.28-106.104. Failure to appeal within this time frame constitutes a waiver of proceedings under Chapter 120, F.S. After receipt of a petition for alternative dispute resolution the Department and the Recipient shall attempt to amicably resolve the dispute through negotiations. Timely delivery of a petition for alternative dispute resolution and completion of the negotiation process shall be a condition precedent to any legal action by the Recipient concerning this agreement.

**Liability:** Unless the Recipient is a state agency or subdivision, the Recipient shall be solely responsible to parties with whom it shall deal in carrying out the terms of this agreement, and shall save the Department harmless against all claims of whatever nature by third parties arising out of the performance of work under this agreement. For purposes of this agreement, Recipient agrees that it is not an employee or agent of the Department, but is an independent contractor. Nothing herein shall be construed as consent by a state agency of the State of Florida to be sued by third parties in any matter arising out of any contract. Nothing shall be construed affect in any way the Recipient rights, privileges, and immunities under the doctrine of "sovereign immunity" and as set forth in 768.28, F.S.