

AGREEMENT

SERVICES AGREEMENT

THIS SERVICES AGREEMENT is made as of _____, 2022. (effective date). By and between Pinellas County, a political subdivision of the State of Florida ("County"), and EMS Management & Consultants, Inc., Winston-Salem, NC ("Contractor"), (individually, "Party," collectively, "Parties").

WITNESSETH:

WHEREAS, the County requested proposals pursuant to 22-0167-P JJ ("RFP" or "ITB") for Ambulance Billing Services services; and

WHEREAS, based upon the County's assessment of Contractor's proposal, the County selected the Contractor to provide the Services as defined herein; and

WHEREAS, Contractor represents that it has the experience and expertise to perform the Services as set forth in this Agreement.

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the above recitals, the mutual covenants, agreements, terms and conditions herein, and other good and valuable consideration, the receipt and sufficiency of which is hereby mutually acknowledged, the Parties agree as follows:

1. Definitions.

- A. **"Agreement"** means this Agreement, including all Exhibits, HIPAA Business Associate Agreement, which are expressly incorporated herein by reference, and any amendments thereto.
- B. **"County Confidential Information"** means any County information deemed confidential and/or exempt from Section 119.07, Florida Statutes, and Section 24(a), Article 1 of the Florida Constitution, or other applicable law, including, but not limited to data or information designated in writing by the County as County Confidential Information.
- C. **"Contractor Confidential Information"** means any Contractor information that is designated as confidential and/or exempt by Florida's public records law, including information that constitutes a trade secret pursuant to Chapter 688, Florida Statutes, and is designated in this Agreement or in writing as a trade secret by Contractor (unless otherwise determined to be a public record by applicable Florida law). Notwithstanding the foregoing, Contractor Confidential Information does not include information that: (i) becomes public other than as a result of a disclosure by the County in breach of the Agreement; (ii) becomes available to the County on a non-confidential basis from a source other than Contractor, which is not prohibited from disclosing such information by obligation to Contractor; (iii) is known by the County prior to its receipt from Contractor without any obligation or confidentiality with respect thereto; or (iv) is developed by the County independently of any disclosures made by Contractor.
- D. **"Contractor Personnel"** means all employees of Contractor, and all employees of subcontractors of Contractor, including, but not limited to temporary and/or leased employees, who are providing the Services at any time during the project term.
- E. **"Services"** means the work, duties and obligations to be carried out and performed safely by Contractor under this Agreement, as described throughout this Agreement and as specifically described in the Statement of Work Exhibit attached hereto and incorporated herein by reference. As used in this Agreement, Services shall include any component task, subtask, service, or function inherent, necessary, or a customary part of the Services, but not specifically described in this Agreement, and shall include the provision of all standard day-to-day administrative, overhead, and internal expenses, including costs of bonds and insurance as required herein, labor, materials, equipment, safety equipment, products, office supplies, consumables, tools, postage, computer hardware/software, telephone charges, copier usage, fax charges, travel, lodging, and per diem and all other costs required to perform Services except as otherwise specifically provided in this Agreement.

2. Execution of Agreement

The execution of this Agreement is expressly limited by the Terms and Conditions hereon. County and the Contractor are not bound by additional provisions or provisions at variance herewith that may appear in the Contractor's quotation/estimate/scope of work or any other such related documents, acknowledgement in force, or any other communication from Contractor to or from County unless such provision is expressly set forth herein.

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3. Conditions Precedent

This Agreement, and the Parties' rights and obligations herein, are contingent upon and subject to the Contractor securing and/or providing the performance security, if required in Section 3, and the insurance coverage(s) required in Section 14, within 10 days of the Effective Date. No Services shall be performed by the Contractor and the County shall not incur any obligations of any type until Contractor satisfies these conditions. Unless waived in writing by the County, in the event the Contractor fails to satisfy the conditions precedent within the time required herein, the Agreement shall be deemed not to have been entered into and shall be null and void.

4. Services

- A. **Services** - The County retains Contractor, and Contractor agrees to provide the Services. All Services shall be performed to the satisfaction of the County and shall be subject to the provisions and terms contained herein and the Exhibits attached hereto.
- B. **Services Requiring Prior Approval** - Contractor shall not commence work on any Services requiring prior written authorization in the Statement of Work without approval from Ambulance Billing Service Manager or Designee.
- C. **Additional Services** - From the Effective Date and for the duration of the project, the County may elect to have Contractor perform Services that are not specifically described in the Statement of Work attached hereto but are related to the Services ("Additional Services"), in which event Contractor shall perform such Additional Services for the compensation specified in the Statement of Work attached hereto. Contractor shall commence performing the applicable Additional Services promptly upon receipt of written approval as provided herein.
- D. **De-scoping of Services** - The County reserves the right, in its sole discretion, to de-scope Services upon written notification to the Contractor by the County. Upon issuance and receipt of the notification, the Contractor and the County shall enter into a written amendment reducing the appropriate Services Fee for the impacted Services by a sum equal to the amount associated with the de-scoped Services as defined in the payment schedule in this Agreement, if applicable, or as determined by mutual written consent of both Parties based upon the scope of work performed prior to issuance of notification.
- E. **Independent Contractor Status and Compliance with the Immigration Reform and Control Act** - Contractor is and shall remain an independent contractor and is neither agent, employee, partner, nor joint venturer of County. Contractor acknowledges that it is responsible for complying with the provisions of the Immigration Reform and Control Act of 1986 located at 8 U.S.C. 1324, et seq, and regulations relating thereto, as either may be amended from time to time. Failure to comply with the above provisions shall be considered a material breach of the Agreement.
- F. **Non-Exclusive Services** - Award of this Agreement imposes no obligation on the County to utilize the Contractor for all goods and/or services of this type, which may develop during the agreement period. This is a non-exclusive Agreement. During the term of this Agreement, and any extensions thereof, the County reserves the right to contract for another provider for similar goods and/or services as it determines necessary in its sole discretion.
- G. **Project Monitoring** - During the term of the Agreement, Contractor shall cooperate with the County, either directly or through its representatives, in monitoring Contractor's progress and performance of this Agreement.

5. Term of Agreement

- A. **Initial Term** - The term of this Agreement shall commence on July 1, 2022 and shall remain in full force and for five (5) years, or until termination of the Agreement, whichever occurs first.

B. Term Extension

The Parties may extend the term of this Agreement for one (1) additional two (2) year period(s) pursuant to the same terms, conditions, and pricing set forth in the Agreement by mutually executing an amendment to this Agreement, as provided herein.

Beginning in year three (3) of the contract, upon written request from selected vendor, price adjustments in an amount not to exceed the average of the Consumer Price Index (CPI) or three (3)%, whichever is less, may be allowed for all Urban Consumers, Series Id: CUUR0000SA0, Not Seasonally Adjusted, Area: U.S. city average, Item: All items, Base Period: 1982-84=100 for the twelve months prior to extension.

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It is the vendor's responsibility to request any pricing adjustment under this provision. For any adjustment to commence on the first day of any exercised extension period, the vendor's request for adjustment should be submitted at time of the extension request from the County, utilizing the available index at the time of request. The vendor adjustment request should not be in excess of the relevant pricing index change. If no adjustment request is received from the vendor, the County will assume the vendor has agreed that the extension term may be exercised without pricing adjustment. Any adjustment request received after the commencement of a new extension period may not be considered.

6. Compensation and Method of Payment

- A. **Services Fee** - As total compensation for the Services, the County shall pay the Contractor the sums as provided in this Section ("Services Fee"), pursuant to the terms and conditions as provided in this Agreement. It is acknowledged and agreed by Contractor that this compensation constitutes a limitation upon County's obligation to compensate Contractor for such Services required by this Agreement but does not constitute a limitation upon Contractor's obligation to perform all of the Services required by this Agreement. In no event will the Services Fee paid exceed the not-to-exceed sums set out in subsections below, unless the Parties agree to increase this sum by written amendment as authorized in the Amendment Section of this Agreement.
- B. **Spending Cap and Payment Structure** - The County agrees to pay the Contractor a total not-to-exceed sum of \$6,747,584.02; with an annual not-to-exceed amount of \$2,000,000.00 per year, for Services completed and accepted herein if applicable, payable on a fixed-fee basis for the deliverables as set out in Exhibit C, payable upon submittal of an invoice as required herein.
- C. **Travel Expenses:** The Services Fee includes all travel, lodging and per diem expenses incurred by Contractor in performing the Services.
- D. **Taxes** - Contractor acknowledges that the County is not subject to any state or federal sales, use, transportation, and certain excise taxes.
- E. **Payments and Invoicing** - Contractor shall submit invoices for payments due as provided herein and authorized reimbursable expenses incurred with such documentation as required by County. Invoices shall be submitted to and as provided in Exhibit D attached hereto.
For time and materials Services, all Contractor Personnel shall maintain logs of time worked, and each invoice shall state the date and number of hours worked for Services authorized to be billed on a time and materials basis. All payments shall be made in accordance with the requirements of Section 218.70 et seq., Florida Statutes, "The Local Government Prompt Payment Act." The County may dispute any payments invoiced by Contractor in accordance with the County's Invoice Payments Dispute Resolution Process established in accordance with Section 218.76, Florida Statutes, and any such disputes shall be resolved in accordance with the County's Dispute Resolution Process.

7. Personnel

- A. **E-Verify** - The contractor and subcontractor must register with and use the E-verify system in accordance with Florida Statute 448.095. A contractor and subcontractor may not enter into a contract with the County unless each party registers with and uses the E-verify system. If a contractor enters a contract with a subcontractor, the subcontractor must provide the contractor with an affidavit stating that the Subcontractor does not employ, contract with, or subcontract with unauthorized aliens. The contractor must maintain a copy of the affidavit for the duration of the contract. If the County, Contractor, or Subcontractor has a good faith belief that a person or entity with which it is contracting has knowingly violated Florida Statute 448.09(1) shall immediately terminate the contract with the person or entity. If the County has a good faith belief that a Subcontractor knowingly violated this provision, but the Contractor otherwise complied with this provision, the County will notify the Contractor and order that the Contractor immediately terminate the contract with the Subcontractor. A contract terminated under the provisions of this section is not a breach of contract and may not be considered such. Any contract termination under the provisions of this section may be challenged to Section 448.095(2)(d), Florida Statute. Contractor acknowledges upon termination of this agreement by the County for violation of this section by Contractor, Contractor may not be awarded a public contract for at least one (1) year. Contractor acknowledges that Contractor is liable for any additional costs incurred by the County as a result of termination of any contract for a violation of this section. Contractor or Subcontractor shall insert in any subcontracts the clauses set forth in this section, requiring the subcontracts to include these clauses in any lower tier subcontracts. Contractor shall be responsible for compliance by any Subcontractor or Lower Tier Subcontractor with the clause set for in this section.

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- B. **Qualified Personnel** - Contractor agrees that each person performing Services in connection with this Agreement shall have the qualifications and shall fulfill the requirements set forth in this Agreement
- C. **Approval and Replacement of Personnel** - The County shall have the right to approve all Contractor Personnel assigned to provide the Services, which approval shall not be unreasonably withheld. Prior to commencing the Services, the Contractor shall provide at least ten (10) days written notice of the names and qualifications of the Contractor Personnel assigned to perform Services pursuant to the Agreement. Thereafter, during the term of this Agreement, the Contractor shall promptly and as required by the County provide written notice of the names and qualifications of any additional Contractor Personnel assigned to perform Services. The County, on a reasonable basis, shall have the right to require the removal and replacement of any of the Contractor Personnel performing Services, at any time during the term of the Agreement. The County will notify Contractor in writing in the event the County requires such action. Contractor shall accomplish any such removal within forty-eight (48) hours after receipt of notice from the County and shall promptly replace such person with another person, acceptable to the County, with sufficient knowledge and expertise to perform the Services assigned to such individual in accordance with this Agreement. In situations where individual Contractor Personnel are prohibited by applicable law from providing Services, removal and replacement of such Contractor Personnel shall be immediate and not subject to such forty-eight (48) hour replacement timeframe and the provisions of the Termination Section of this Agreement shall apply if minimum required staffing is not maintained.

8. Termination

A. Contractor Default Provisions and Remedies of County

- 1. Events of Default - Any of the following shall constitute a "Contractor Event of Default" hereunder:
 - i. Contractor fails to maintain the staffing necessary to perform the Services as required in the Agreement, fails to perform the Services as specified in the Agreement, or fails to complete the Services within the completion dates as specified in the Agreement;
 - ii. Contractor breaches Confidential Information Section of this Agreement;
 - iii. Contractor fails to gain acceptance of goods and/or services deliverable, for 2 consecutive iterations; or
 - iv. Contractor fails to perform or observe any of the other material provisions of this Agreement.
- 2. Cure Provisions - Upon the occurrence of a Contractor Event of Default as set out above, the County shall provide written notice of such Contractor Event of Default to Contractor ("Notice to Cure"), and Contractor shall have 30 calendar days after the date of a Notice to Cure to correct, cure, and/or remedy the Contractor Event of Default described in the written notice.
- 3. Termination for Cause by the County - In the event that Contractor fails to cure a Contractor Event of Default as authorized herein, or upon the occurrence of a Contractor Event of Default as specified in Termination – Contractor Default Provisions and Remedies of County – Events of Default Section of this Agreement, the County may terminate this Agreement in whole or in part, effective upon receipt by Contractor of written notice of termination pursuant to this provision, and may pursue such remedies at law or in equity as may be available to the County.

B. County Default Provisions and Remedies of Contractor

- 1. Events of Default - Any of the following shall constitute a "County Event of Default" hereunder:
 - i. the County fails to make timely undisputed payments as described in this Agreement;
 - ii. the County breaches Confidential Information Section of this Agreement; or
 - iii. the County fails to perform any of the other material provisions of this Agreement.
- 2. Cure Provisions - Upon the occurrence of a County Event of Default as set out above, Contractor shall provide written notice of such County Event of Default to the County ("Notice to Cure"), and the County shall have thirty (30) calendar days after the date of a Notice to Cure to correct, cure, and/or remedy the County Event of Default described in the written notice.
- 3. Termination for Cause by Contractor - In the event the County fails to cure a County Event of Default as authorized herein, Contractor may terminate this Agreement in whole or in part effective on receipt by the County of written notice of termination pursuant to this provision and may pursue such remedies at law or in equity as may be available to the Contractor.

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C. Termination for Convenience

1. Notwithstanding any other provision herein, the County may terminate this Agreement, without cause, by giving 30 days advance written notice to the Contractor of its election to terminate this Agreement pursuant to this provision.

9. Time is of the Essence

Time is of the essence with respect to all provisions of this Agreement that specify a time for performance, including the Services as described in the Exhibits attached hereto; provided, however, that the foregoing shall not be construed to limit a Party's cure period allowed in the Agreement.

10. Confidential Information and Public Records

- A. County Confidential Information - Contractor shall not disclose to any third party County Confidential Information that Contractor, through its Contractor Personnel, has access to or has received from the County pursuant to its performance of Services pursuant to the Agreement, unless approved in writing by the County Contract Manager. All such County Confidential Information will be held in trust and confidence from the date of disclosure by the County, and discussions involving such County Confidential Information shall be limited to Contractor Personnel as is necessary to complete the Services.
- B. Contractor Confidential Information - All Contractor Confidential Information received by the County from Contractor will be held in trust and confidence from the date of disclosure by Contractor and discussions involving such Contractor Confidential Information shall be limited to the members of the County's staff and the County's subcontractors who require such information in the performance of this Agreement. The County acknowledges and agrees to respect the copyrights, registrations, trade secrets and other proprietary rights of Contractor in the Contractor Confidential Information during and after the term of the Agreement and shall at all times maintain the confidentiality of the Contractor Confidential Information provided to the County, subject to federal law and the laws of the State of Florida related to public records disclosure. Contractor shall be solely responsible for taking any and all action it deems necessary to protect its Contractor Confidential Information except as provided herein. Contractor acknowledges that the County is subject to public records legislation, including but not limited to Chapter 119, Florida Statutes, and the Florida Rules of Judicial Administration, and that any of the County's obligations under this Section may be superseded by its obligations under any requirements of said laws.
- C. Public Records - Contractor acknowledges that information and data it manages as part of the services may be public records in accordance with Chapter 119, Florida Statutes and Pinellas County public records policies. Contractor agrees that prior to providing services it will implement policies and procedures to maintain, produce, secure, and retain public records in accordance with applicable laws, regulations, and County policies, including but not limited to the Section 119.0701, Florida Statutes. Notwithstanding any other provision of this Agreement relating to compensation, the Contractor agrees to charge the County, and/or any third parties requesting public records only such fees allowed by Section 119.07, Florida Statutes, and County policy for locating and producing public records during the term of this Agreement.
- D. **If the Contractor has questions regarding the application of Chapter 119, Florida Statutes, to the Contractor's duty to provide public records relating to this contract, contact the Pinellas County Board of County Commissioners, Purchasing and Risk Management Department, Operations Manager custodian of public records at 727-464-3311, purchase@pinellascounty.org, Pinellas County Government, Purchasing and Risk Management Department, Operations Manager, 400 S. Ft. Harrison Ave, 6th Floor, Clearwater, FL 33756.**

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11. Audit

Contractor shall retain all records relating to this Agreement for a period of at least 5 years after final payment is made. All records shall be kept in such a way as will permit their inspection pursuant to Chapter 119, Florida Statutes. In addition, County reserves the right to examine and/or audit such records.

12. Compliance with Laws

Contractor shall comply with all applicable federal, state, county and local laws, ordinances, rules and regulations in the performance of its obligations under this Agreement, including the procurement of permits and certificates where required, and including but not limited to laws related to Workers Compensation, Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Minority Business Enterprise (MBE), occupational safety and health and the environment, equal employment opportunity, privacy of medical records and information, as applicable. Failure to comply with any of the above provisions shall be considered a material breach of the Agreement.

13. Digital Accessibility

Supplier acknowledges and warrants that all digital content and services provided under this contract conforms and shall continue to conform during the Term of this Agreement to the W3C Web Content Accessibility Guidelines, version 2.0 ("WCAG 2.0") at conformance Level A and AA. If all digital content and services does not fully conform to WCAG 2.0 A and AA, Supplier shall advise Pinellas County in writing of the nonconformance prior to execution of this Agreement and shall provide Pinellas County a plan to achieve conformance to WCAG 2.0 A and AA, including but not limited to, an intended timeline for conformance. Failure to achieve conformance, as determined in Pinellas County's sole discretion, on its intended timeline shall be considered a material breach of this Agreement and grounds for termination by Pinellas County.

If during the Term of this Agreement, Supplier fails to maintain compliance with WCAG 2.0 A and AA or Pinellas County otherwise identifies an issue related to accessibility of the product (the "Accessibility Issue") that renders the product inaccessible, then Pinellas County shall notify Supplier of non-compliance. Within 30 days of Supplier's receipt of a non-compliance notice ("Notice"), Supplier and Pinellas County shall meet and mutually agree upon an appropriate timeline for resolution of the Accessibility Issue(s) ("Initial Meeting").

Should Supplier:

- i. fail to acknowledge receipt of the notice within 30 days of receipt of the Notice;
- ii. unreasonably and solely withhold agreement regarding a timeline for resolution for more than 30 days following the Initial Meeting; or
- iii. fail to materially resolve the Accessibility Issue(s) within the agreed-upon timeline,

Failure to comply with the requirements of this section shall constitute a material breach of this Agreement and shall be grounds for termination of this Agreement by Pinellas County and subject Supplier to the Liability and Insurance – Indemnification Section of this Agreement, "Indemnification."

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14. Public Entities Crimes

Contractor is directed to the Florida Public Entities Crime Act, Section 287.133, Florida Statutes, as well as Florida Statute 287.135 regarding Scrutinized Companies, and represents to County that Contractor is qualified to transact business with public entities in Florida, and to enter into and fully perform this Agreement subject to the provisions stated therein. Failure to comply with any of the above provisions shall be considered a material breach of the Agreement.

15. Liability and Insurance

- A. **Insurance** - Contractor shall comply with the insurance requirements set out in the Insurance Exhibit, attached hereto and incorporated herein by reference.
- B. **Indemnification** - Contractor agrees to indemnify, pay the cost of defense, including attorney's fees, and hold harmless the County, its officers, employees and agents from all damages, suits, actions or claims, including reasonable attorney's fees incurred by the County, of any character brought on account of any injuries or damages received or sustained by any person, persons, or property, or in any way relating to or arising from the Agreement; or on account of any act or omission, neglect or misconduct of Contractor; or by, or on account of, any claim or amounts recovered under the Workers' Compensation Law; or of any other laws, regulations, ordinance, order or decree; or arising from or by reason of any actual or claimed trademark, patent or copyright infringement or litigation based thereon; or for any violation of requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, as may be amended, and all rules and regulations issued pursuant thereto (collectively the "ADA") except when such injury, damage, or violation was caused by the sole negligence of the County.
- C. **Liability** - Neither the County nor Contractor shall make any express or implied agreements, guaranties, or representations, or incur any debt, in the name of or on behalf of the other Party. Neither the County nor Contractor shall be obligated by or have any liability under any agreements or representations made by the other that are not expressly authorized hereunder. The County shall have no liability or obligation for any damages to any person or property directly or indirectly arising out of the operation by Contractor of its business, whether caused by Contractor's negligence or willful action or failure to act.
- D. **Contractor's Taxes** - The County will have no liability for any sales, service, value added, use, excise, gross receipts, property, workers' compensation, unemployment compensation, withholding or other taxes, whether levied upon Contractor or Contractor's assets, or upon the County in connection with Services performed or business conducted by Contractor. Payment of all such taxes and liabilities shall be the responsibility of Contractor.

16. County's Funding

The Agreement is not a general obligation of the County. It is understood that neither this Agreement nor any representation by any County employee or officer creates any obligation to appropriate or make monies available for the purpose of the Agreement beyond the fiscal year in which this Agreement is executed. No liability shall be incurred by the County, or any department, beyond the monies budgeted and available for this purpose. If funds are not appropriated by the County for any or all of this Agreement, the County shall not be obligated to pay any sums provided pursuant to this Agreement beyond the portion for which funds are appropriated. The County agrees to promptly notify Contractor in writing of such failure of appropriation, and upon receipt of such notice, this Agreement, and all rights and obligations contained herein, shall terminate without liability or penalty to the County.

17. Orders

Within the term of this Agreement, County may place one or more orders for goods and/or services at the prices listed on the Price Schedule Exhibit attached hereto, and which is incorporated by reference hereto.

18. Name Changes

The Contractor is responsible for immediately notifying the County of any company name change, which would cause invoicing to change from the name used at the time of the original Agreement.

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19. Acceptance of Services

For all Services deliverables that require County acceptance as provided in the Statement of Work, the County, through the Ambulance Billing Service Manager or designee, will have 10 calendar days to review the deliverable(s) after receipt or completion of same by Contractor, and either accept or reject the deliverable(s) by written notice to EMS Management & Consultants, Inc. If a deliverable is rejected, the written notice from the County will specify any required changes, deficiencies, and/or additions necessary. Contractor shall then have 7 calendar days to revise the deliverable(s) to resubmit and/or complete the deliverable(s) for review and approval by the County, who will then have 7 calendar days to review and approve, or reject the deliverable(s); provided however, that Contractor shall not be responsible for any delays in the overall project schedule that result from the County's failure to timely approve or reject deliverable(s) as provided herein. Upon final acceptance of the deliverable(s), the County will accept the deliverable(s) in writing.

20. Subcontracting/Assignment

A. **Subcontracting:** Contractor shall not subcontract any work under this Agreement.

B. **Assignment**

This Agreement, and all rights or obligations hereunder, shall not be assigned, transferred, or delegated in whole or in part, including by acquisition of assets, merger, consolidation, dissolution, operation of law, change in effective control of the Contractor, or any other assignment, transfer, or delegation of rights or obligations, without the prior written consent of the County. The Contractor shall provide written notice to the County within fifteen (15) calendar days of any action or occurrence assigning the Agreement or any rights or obligations hereunder as described in this section. In the event the County does not consent to the assignment, as determined in its sole discretion, the purported assignment in violation of this section shall be null and void, and the County may elect to terminate this Agreement by providing written notice of its election to terminate pursuant to this provision upon fifteen (15) days' notice to Contractor.

21. Survival

The provisions of this Agreement shall survive the expiration or termination of this Agreement.

22. Notices

All notices, authorizations, and requests in connection with this Agreement shall be deemed given on the day they are: (1) deposited in the U.S. mail, postage prepaid, certified or registered, return receipt requested; or (2) sent by air express courier (e.g., Federal Express, Airborne, etc.), charges prepaid, return receipt requested; or (3) sent via email and addressed as set forth below, which designated person(s) may be amended by either Party by giving written notice to the other Party:

For County: Pinellas County Ambulance Billing & Financial Services
Attn: Ambulance Billing Service Manager
12490 Ulmerton Road
Largo, Florida 33774

with a copy to:

Attn: Merry Celeste,
Purchasing and Risk Management Division Director
Pinellas County Purchasing Department
400 South Fort Harrison Avenue
Clearwater, FL 33756

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For Contractor: EMS Management & Consultants, Inc.
Attn: Kate Pruitt
2540 Empire Drive, Suite 100
Winston-Salem, NC 27103

23. Conflict of Interest

- A. The Contractor represents that it presently has no interest and shall acquire no interest, either direct or indirect, which would conflict in any manner with the performance of the Services required hereunder, and that no person having any such interest shall be employed by Contractor during the agreement term and any extensions.
- B. The Contractor shall promptly notify the County in writing of any business association, interest, or other circumstance which constitutes a conflict of interest as provided herein. If the Contractor is in doubt as to whether a prospective business association, interest, or other circumstance constitutes a conflict of interest, the Contractor may identify the prospective business association, interest or circumstance, the nature of work that the Contractor may undertake and request an opinion as to whether the business association, interest or circumstance constitutes a conflict of interest if entered into by the Contractor. The County agrees to notify the Contractor of its opinion within (10) calendar days of receipt of notification by the Contractor, which shall be binding on the Contractor.

24. Right to Ownership

All work created, originated and/or prepared by Contractor in performing Services pursuant to the Agreement, including all documentation or improvements related thereto, to the extent that such work, products, documentation, materials or information are described in or required by the Services (collectively, the "Work Product") shall be County's property when completed and accepted, if acceptance is required in this Agreement, and the County has made payment of the sums due therefore. The ideas, concepts, know-how or techniques developed during the course of this Agreement by the Contractor or jointly by Contractor and the County may be used by the County without obligation of notice or accounting to the Contractor. Any data, information or other materials furnished by the County for use by Contractor under this Agreement shall remain the sole property of the County.

25. Amendment

This Agreement may be amended by mutual written agreement of the Parties hereto.

26. Severability

The terms and conditions of this Agreement shall be deemed to be severable. Consequently, if any clause, term, or condition hereof shall be held to be illegal or void, such determination shall not affect the validity or legality of the remaining terms and conditions, and notwithstanding any such determination, this Agreement shall continue in full force and effect unless the particular clause, term, or condition held to be illegal or void renders the balance of the Agreement impossible to perform.

27. Applicable Law and Venue

This Agreement and any and all purchases made hereunder shall be governed by and construed in accordance with the laws of the State of Florida (without regard to principles of conflicts of laws). The Parties agree that all actions or proceedings arising in connection with this Agreement shall be tried and litigated exclusively in the state or federal (if permitted by law and a Party elects to file an action in federal court) courts located in or for Pinellas County, Florida. This choice of venue is intended by the Parties to be mandatory and not permissive in nature, and to preclude the possibility of litigation between the Parties with respect to, or arising out of, this Agreement in any jurisdiction other than that specified in this section. Each Party waives any right it may have to assert the doctrine of forum non-conveniens or similar doctrine or to object to venue with respect to any proceeding brought in accordance with this section.

28. Waiver

No waiver by either Party of any breach or violation of any covenant, term, condition, or provision of this Agreement or of the provisions of any ordinance or law, shall be construed to waive any other term, covenant, condition, provisions, ordinance or law, or of any subsequent breach or violation of the same.

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29. Due Authority

Each Party to this Agreement represents and warrants that: (i) it has the full right and authority and has obtained all necessary approvals to enter into this Agreement; (ii) each person executing this Agreement on behalf of the Party is authorized to do so; (iii) this Agreement constitutes a valid and legally binding obligation of the Party, enforceable in accordance with its terms.

30. No Third-Party Beneficiary

The Parties hereto acknowledge and agree that there are no third-party beneficiaries to this Agreement. Persons or entities not a party to this Agreement may not claim any benefit from this Agreement or as third-party beneficiaries hereto.

31. Force Majeure

"Force Majeure Event" means any act or event that (i) prevents a Party (the "Nonperforming Party") from performing its obligations or satisfying a condition to the other Party's (the "Performing Party") obligations under this Agreement, (ii) is beyond the reasonable control of and not the fault of the Nonperforming Party, and (iii) the Nonperforming Party has not, through commercially reasonable efforts, been able to avoid or overcome. Force Majeure Event(s) do not include economic hardship, changes in market conditions or insufficiency of funds. If a Force Majeure Event occurs, the Nonperforming Party is excused from the performance thereby prevented and from satisfying any conditions precedent to the Performing Party's performance that cannot be satisfied, in each case to the extent limited or prevented by the Force Majeure Event. The Nonperforming Party must promptly notify the Performing Party upon the occurrence of a Force Majeure Event. When the Nonperforming Party is able to resume its performance or satisfy the conditions precedent to the Performing Party's obligations, the Nonperforming Party will resume performance under this Agreement without undue delay. Each Party will use commercially reasonable efforts to mitigate the effect of a Force Majeure Event.

32. Entirety

This Agreement constitutes the entire Agreement between the Parties and supersedes all prior negotiations, representations, or agreements either oral or written.

(Signature Page Follows)

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IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Parties hereto have executed this Agreement the day and year first written.

PINELLAS COUNTY, a political subdivision of the State of Florida PINELLAS COUNTY acting by and through the

Board of County Commissioners

EMS Management & Consultants, Inc.

By:

By:

Signature

Signature

Print Name

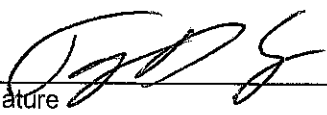
Print Name

Title

Title

Date

Date



JAY GYURE

CFO

5/23/2022

APPROVED AS TO FORM

By: Keiah Townsend
Office of the County Attorney

AGREEMENT

EXHIBIT A - STATEMENT OF WORK

Pinellas County Billing Ambulance Claims Component Procedures:

1. The capacity to process the initial billing of an average of 676 transports per day (based on 250 working business days in 2022) annualized to be 169,000, which reflects 90% of Sunstar's projected annual transports for FY 22. Needed capacity could vary based on transport volume.
2. The competency to determine the appropriate payer and prepare and submit the initial billing of ambulance transportation claims on behalf of EMS to Medicare, Medicaid, private insurers, patients, and other responsible parties in accordance with the Division's ambulance billing policies and procedures; billing protocols of the Pinellas County Medical Director; and associated governing healthcare regulations.
3. Perform necessary pre-billing functions, including insurance verification to validate the accuracy of the initial payer. Below is a general outline of the expected actions in identifying insurance and executing a thorough review of the claim.
 - a. Reconcile patient demographic information currently listed in the RescueNet Billing System with the patient demographic information contained on the ePCR. This may include researching the entirety of the ePCR, hospital face sheet, and/or Modify Customer history to determine the most accurate information. Add or update any information that was not updated through the initial reconciliation process (i.e., adding a guarantor, adding a permanent address, etc.).
 - b. Identify all potential payors by reviewing the entire ePCR and hospital face sheet as well as previous patient trips, if applicable
 - c. Verify all insurance eligibility for potential payers comprehensively utilizing, but not limited to, the following tools as applicable: phone verification, clearinghouses, and specific payer websites. The clearinghouse's utilized by Pinellas County currently includes Availity, Waystar, Florida Medicaid, and Medicare Secure Portal Online Tool (SPOT). The responsibility for Insurance verification actions is the responsibility of the vendor under this contract.
 - d. Add applicable payors (using the payor reference guide) to RescueNet Billing in the appropriate order and ensure that their eligibility status is identified
 - e. Add all applicable Insurance Verification notes for each insurance verified, using the appropriate pre-programmed note template.
 - f. Review entire ePCR and all supporting/attached documentation to verify that the following fields within RescueNet Billing were imported accurately and/or to determine the information that needs to be entered into RescueNet Billing to complete claim processing:
 - I. Review Pick-Up and Drop-Off locations
 - II. ICD-10 Codes/Chief Complaints (**Different list of acceptable codes for Florida Medicaid and MMAs**)
 - III. EMD Codes
 - IV. All procedures/interventions/medications given
 - V. All abnormal vitals
 - VI. Mileage
 - VII. Bed-confinement status
 - VIII. Medical Necessity
 - IX. Validate signature requirements
 - g. Comprehensively assess the ePCR and all supporting documentation to determine Medical Necessity as defined by CMS for Medicare and Medicaid claims.

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- h. Enter all applicable information into RescueNet Billing:
 - I. Add all applicable ICD-10 Codes and list in order of severity (**Different list of acceptable codes for Florida Medicaid and MMAs**)
 - II. Add complete narrative listing:
 - Patient's Age
 - Primary Complaints (and severity, if applicable)
 - All Abnormal Vitals
 - All Interventions/Assessments
 - All Medications Administered
 - Multiple Patients (If Applicable)
 - Complete Ambulance Certification fields, including copy of narrative
 - III. Select appropriate payor.
 - IV. Ensure the appropriate schedule is selected as outlined in policies and procedures.
 - V. Complete patient signature information including the names of the patient representative or crew member and receiving facility staff member if the patient is unable to sign.
 - VI. Add applicable base rate and mileage charges based on the EMD Code and level of service provided (**Different determinants for level of service for Florida Medicaid and MMAs**).
 - VII. Verify trip F10 in RescueNet Billing.
4. Maintain designated managerial staff to provide oversight to ensure the accuracy, compliance, quality of work performed, and timely completion of work performed under the agreement.
5. Demonstrate an overall team accuracy rating of 97% and an individual staff rating of 95.5% per biller. Error ratio is calculated using the number of errors divided by the number of claims billed in a calendar month. Billing errors are identified by EMS staff via daily Quality Assurance (QA) Reports. The vendor will have two (2) days to identify and correct errors prior to error documentation by EMS. Below is an illustrative example of Billing QA Reports:
 - a. **Charge Code** – Reports for the various charge codes are ran to evaluate for improper usage (ALS, ALS2, BLS, Critical Care, Emergency, Non-Emergency, Missing Base or Mileage charge, Multiple Passenger)
 - b. **Demographics** – Reports highlights trips where there may be an address issue or missing guarantor on a transport that is for a minor
 - c. **Diagnosis Code** – Reports returns runs that require verification of ICD-10 codes used to bill claims to validate priority order and specificity is appropriate (E.g., Missing Z-Code)
 - d. **Mileage Discrepancies** – Flags accounts where mileage billed contradicts loaded mileage per the system
 - e. **Modifier** – Reports looks at criteria such as customer, origin, destination, and modifier usage to evaluate appropriateness (GY, 76, SE, Nursing Home, Physician Office)
 - f. **Payor** – Report's flag transports that may indicate the wrong payor was billed or that there is missing criteria for the payor utilized (Origin, Facility, Baker Act, Flight Company, Mental Health Van, Covid, Medicaid/MMA, VA)
 - g. **Schedule** – These reports return results that the schedule used may not be properly aligned with the billing action needed (Baker Act, FirstCare Membership, Collection Skip Trace, Write Off)
6. Billing system verification failures and run rejections that occur during claim submission will be corrected and resubmitted within three (3) business days.

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7. Per EMS Billing standards, the monthly fee shall be reduced in the amount of the per claim fee for each claim in excess of the 3% error rate. Any error rate reduction will be calculated on the number of claims billed in a calendar month and the associated errors that exceed 3% margin of error. Example: If there are 15,000 claims billed in a month with a 5.5% error ratio. The error ratio has exceeded the permissible 3% by 2.5% which equates to a monthly reduction of 375 claims. The total amount of claims paid would be 14,625.

Pinellas County Customer Service Component Procedures:

1. Operate Pinellas County EMS phone lines from Monday through Friday, 8AM until 5PM (EST), except for county designated holidays.
2. Provide patients with professional and courteous customer service.
 - a. Customer Service staff are exclusively assigned to Pinellas County EMS phone lines:
 - I. Five (5) Customer Service Professionals
 - II. At least (2) Bilingual Customer Service Professionals
 - III. One (1) Senior Customer Service Professional
 - IV. One (1) Customer Service Manager
3. Leverage Language Link translation services to assist callers who speak a language other than English or Spanish.
4. Maintain designated managerial staff to provide oversight to ensure the accuracy, compliance, quality of work performed, and timely completion of work performed under the agreement.
5. Verify all insurance eligibility for potential payers comprehensively utilizing, but not limited to, the following tools as applicable: phone verification, clearinghouses, and specific payer websites. The clearinghouse's utilized by Pinellas County currently includes Availity, Waystar, Florida Medicaid, and Medicare Secure Portal Online Tool (SPOT). This includes researching any additional payors that are identified through the verification process.
6. Customer service representatives in the call center will be familiar with EMS ambulance billing policies and procedures; and associated governing healthcare regulations.
7. The vendor will provide one branded toll-free line that can accommodate the call volume and will route the Pinellas County's Ambulance Billing local number to the branded line.
8. Add applicable payors (using the payor reference guide) provided by the caller to RescueNet Billing in the appropriate order and ensure that their eligibility status is identified.
 - a. Add all applicable Insurance Verification notes for each insurance verified, using the appropriate pre-programmed note template and update with the eligibility result details.
9. Verify date of death using SPOT and/or Legacy when notified that a patient is deceased by the caller.
10. Complete credit card and debit card transactions for callers using Pinellas County's Bill2Pay system.
 - a. Mask all payment information within the NICE inContact phone system for PCI Compliance.
11. Assist callers with Sunstar FirstCare membership enrollment.
 - a. Complete credit card and debit card transactions for membership enrollment fees
 - b. using Pinellas County's Bill2Pay system.
 - c. Mask all payment information within the NICE inContact phone system for PCI Compliance. Direct callers to the appropriate POC for requests for the enrollment/renewal application to be mailed.

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12. Assist callers with requests for access to PHI by adhering to Pinellas County's policies and procedures.
 - a. Mail or email PHI request forms to callers as needed.
 - b. Add applicable Patient Statement Request notes for each trip in RescueNet Billing pertaining to the caller's request, using the appropriate pre-programmed note template and update the specific request details.
13. Properly document all phone conversations and actions taken within RescueNet Billing using the prescribed note type and note-taking standards as established by Pinellas County EMS.
14. Place accounts that require supervisor review onto the REVIEW ITEMS – EMSMC Customer Service workflow.
 - a. Items placed on the workflow are reviewed and appropriate action is taken to resolve the referral within 24 hrs. Escalations should be routed up through the vendors chain for research and resolution and if determined to be appropriate referral for assistance with Pinellas County.
 - b. Items that require further review by the Pinellas County EMS team are referred to the REVIEW ITEMS – PC PHONES review group in RescueNet billing.
15. Trips that are sent to collections in error, or that need to be removed from collections due to special circumstance, are placed on Collections Recall schedule to be removed from Collections.
 - a. Once removed, trips are then updated to the appropriate schedule and event.
16. Escalated calls are referred to the Senior Customer Service Professional.
 - a. If the Senior CSP is not available, they are referred to the CS Team Lead or CS Manager for handling.
 - b. All escalations are communicated to the Pinellas County EMS team for further review/action.
17. Reporting/Quality Assurance
 - a. All calls are recorded for Quality Assurance.
 - I. Call recordings are shared with the Pinellas County EMS team via the FTP upon request.
 - b. Customer Service Quality Call Audits are conducted on a monthly basis for each Customer Service Professional.
 - I. Quality performance is measured against the Customer Service Quality Score Card which evaluates the call greeting, compliance, knowledge base, job-related technical skills, soft skills, and critical thinking/problem solving.
 - II. Generate monthly Call Center Services Key Performance Indicators (KPI) to include, but not limited to number of calls, average speed of answer, average handle time, call disposition, abandons, post-processing times, wait times, etc. to ensure all call center KPIs are met.
 - III. Per EMS Call Center Customer Service Standards, the representative's quality assurance monthly average score should meet or exceed 95%.

Pinellas County Required Accounts Receivable Component Procedures:

1. A/R Posting Functions will be executed in accordance with EMS policies and procedures and regulations that govern specific payers.
 - a. The capacity for posting the following payment types, including but not limited to, Medicare B, Medicare C, Medicaid, Railroad Medicaid, Out of State Medicaid, Medicaid MMA, Medicaid Transportation Brokers, Commercial Insurance, patient payments, VA, Hospice, Skilled Nursing Facility, Hospital, Jail, Collection Agency, State Issued, Credit Card, Workers Comp, Risk, School, etc., in the RescueNet Software, Batch Posting module.

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- b. Determine the appropriate subsequent payer and prepare and submit the billing of ambulance transportation claims on behalf of the Division to Medicare, Medicaid, private insurers, patients, and other responsible parties in accordance with the Division's ambulance billing policies and procedures and associated governing healthcare regulations.
 - c. Perform necessary payment posting, subsequent billing functions, including review of insurance verification to validate the accuracy of the initial payer billed and payer order, and post denials. Below is an outline of current Pinellas County posting procedures:
 - I. Payments and denials received are scanned into the document management system. The total number of pages received, and the sum of all payments is reconciled against what was imported into the document management system.
 - II. Review of Group to be posted, assuring all items are legible and complete. Compile, retrieve, or request any additional items necessary to post group, examples: EasyPrint Explanation of Benefits (EOB), open Program Services ticket for missing EOB or call and request from payor (per EOB retrieval listing), etc.
 - III. All initial Billing processes will have been completed and verification note(s) will reflect primary and secondary payor. Review of Tab 6 notes, current payor list, and Explanation of Benefits, will determine the next entity to be billed.
 - IV. Upload electronic files into the RescueNet Batch Posting module and work through each individual patient payment to assure payment amount per charge code is correct, contractual(s), write offs and/or, adjustments are applied per EOB and Regulatory Requirements. Co-pay, co-insurance, and deductible information also needs to be confirmed, corrected, or keyed, if applicable.
 - V. If electronic files are not available, the poster will need to manually key the payments into RescueNet Batch Posting module. Each individual patient payment needs to have payment amount posted by charge code, e.g., base service and mileage, contractual(s), write offs, and/or, adjustments applied per EOB and Regulatory requirements. Copay, co-insurance, and deductible information also needs to be confirmed, corrected, or keyed, if applicable.
 - VI. Choose next entity to be billed for remaining balance, review notes and EOB for reference to any crossover billing. Choose schedule and event, if applicable.
 - VII. Add any pertinent notes to account (via billing module).
 - VIII. Update/Add any missing payers in Modify Customer. Correct payor order in modify customer and/or trip specific payor list if applicable.
 - IX. Approved claims that have a \$0 payment resulting from a balance due from copay, co-insurance, and/or deductible listed on an EOB must also be posted/reviewed for accuracy.
 - X. Post denials in RescueNet Batch Posting (Medicare and Medicaid), all others post in RescueNet Call Taking in individual run #, tab 3 including a note that includes Payor, Check #, and any other pertinent information. Choose correct schedule for workflow follow up.
2. Maintain designated managerial staff to provide oversight to ensure the accuracy, compliance, quality of work performed, and timely completion of work performed under the agreement.
 3. Reporting/Quality Assurance
 - a. Must not exceed an overall error rate of 3% of the total number of monthly A/R transactions (defined as the individual postings of payments and denials). Should the vendor exceed the overall 3% monthly error rate, a flat fee penalty of \$500 for every percentage point they are over the allotted error rate (the error rate shall be calculated out by two (2) decimal places and applicable rounding up or down, e.g., 3.45% = 3%, 3.50% = 4%. This fee will be applied by reducing the monthly charges via line item on the monthly submitted invoice.

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- b. Each individual poster assigned to EMS A/R functions must not exceed a monthly error rate of 3%. Should the individual exceed the 3% monthly error rate for two (2) consecutive months, they must be subject to an identified Performance Improvement Plan (required as an attachment to the RFP). If the issue is not corrected within a 6-month period, the individual must be removed from working on EMS accounts.
- c. The vendor must demonstrate an overall team accuracy rating of 97% and an individual staff rating of 97% per poster. Error ratio is calculated using the number of errors divided by the number of transactions posted in a calendar month. See SOW ATTACHMENT 1 – QUALITY ASSURANCE EXAMPLES for an illustrative example of QA Reports. The vendor will have two (2)-days in which to identify and correct errors prior to error documentation by EMS.
- d. Below is an illustrative example of Accounts Receivable QA Reports:
 - I. **Improperly Posted Credits** – Incorrectly posted charges as a negative or positive depending on the credit type
 - II. **Improper Removal of a Write-Off** – Write offs associated with regulatory requirements, E.g., COVID Relief fund Terms & Conditions
 - III. **Credit Type Conflicts with Payor Profile** – E.g., Medicare Part C payer with a payment insurance check credit type.
 - IV. **Inconsistent Membership Fee** – Fee contradicts with current year’s established membership fee
 - V. **Removal of Accounts from a Do Not Change Schedules** – E.g., time payment, non-billable claims, etc.
 - VI. **Payment Transfers Leaving a Balance** – Failure to appropriately transfer the full balance of an account.

Pinellas County Required Compliance Component Procedures:

- 1. Computers and network data will be held to the level required by HIPAA and HITECH including but not limited to logins and passwords, user-based role access to ensure RescueNet, in any capacity, will be used outside the functions explicitly outlined in the agreement.
 - a. SSAE 18 Audits will be performed annually
 - b. EMS|MC has a Corporate Compliance & HIPPA Privacy & Data Security plan in place that complies with the standards under section 3003(a) within the HITECH Act and is reviewed annually
 - c. HIPAA and Compliance training will be performed annually
- 2. EMS|MC will continue to have in place an internal quality assurance team to ensure accuracy, compliance, and work quality.
- 3. EMS|MC will remain eligible to participate as a vendor in Medicare and Medicaid programs.
 - a. On a monthly basis, all employees will be entered into the OIG Database to assure that no individuals or entities are excluded.
- 4. EMS|MC will maintain billing, operational and fiscal records in accordance with Chapters 119 and 257, Florida Statutes.
 - a. Upon any termination of the executed agreement all records must be maintained for a period of not less than seven (7) years.
 - b. Critical information systems are pushed to AWS S3 to be auto-replicated to AWS ec2 with server-level recovery granularity; Periodic dry-run tests of failover are conducted to ensure reliability; Daily block storage snapshots, as well as 3-hour incremental file snapshots on critical file storage with retention of previous versions, with current version retention policies based on file type (financial, ePHI, etc.)

AGREEMENT

EXHIBIT B - INSURANCE REQUIREMENTS

1. LIMITATIONS ON LIABILITY

By submitting a Proposal, the Vendor acknowledges and agrees that the services will be provided without any limitation on the Vendor's liability. The County objects to and shall not be bound by any term or provision that purports to limit the Vendor's liability to any specified amount in the performance of the services. The Vendor shall state any exceptions to this provision in its response, including specifying the proposed limits of liability in the stated exception to be included in the Services Agreement. The Vendor is deemed to have accepted and agreed to provide the services without any limitation on the Vendor's liability that the Vendor does not take exception to in its response. Notwithstanding any exceptions by the Vendor, the County reserves the right to declare its prohibition on any limitation on the Vendor's liability as non-negotiable, to disqualify any Proposal that includes exceptions to this prohibition on any limitation on the Vendor's liability, and to proceed with another responsive, responsible proposal, as determined by the County in its sole discretion.

2. INDEMNIFICATION

Proposer agrees to indemnify, pay the cost of defense, including attorney's fees, and hold harmless the County, its officers, employees and agents from all damages, suits, actions or claims, including reasonable attorney's fees incurred by the County, of any character brought on account of any injuries or damages received or sustained by any person, persons, or property, or in any way relating to or arising from the Agreement; or on account of any act or omission, neglect or misconduct of Contractor; or by, or on account of, any claim or amounts recovered under the Workers' Compensation Law; or of any other laws, regulations, ordinance, order or decree; or arising from or by reason of any actual or claimed trademark, patent or copyright infringement or litigation based thereon; or for any violation of requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, as may be amended, and all rules and regulations issued pursuant thereto (collectively the "ADA") except when such injury, damage, or violation was caused by the sole negligence of the County.

3. INSURANCE:

The Vendor must provide a certificate of insurance and endorsement in accordance with the insurance requirements listed below, prior to recommendation for award.

The Vendor shall obtain and maintain, and require any sub-Vendors to obtain and maintain, at all times during its performance of the Agreement, insurance of the types and in the amounts set forth. For projects with a Completed Operations exposure, Vendor shall maintain coverage and provide evidence of insurance for two (2) years beyond final acceptance. All insurance policies shall be from responsible companies duly authorized to do business in the State of Florida and have an AM Best rating of A- VIII or better.

A. Submittals should include the Vendor's current Certificate(s) of Insurance. If Vendor does not currently meet insurance requirements, Vendor shall also include verification from their broker or agent that any required insurance not provided at that time of submittal will be in place prior to the award of contract.

Upon selection of Vendor for award, the selected Vendor shall email certificate that is compliant with the insurance requirements. If the certificate received is compliant, no further action may be necessary. The Certificate(s) of Insurance shall be signed by authorized representatives of the insurance companies shown on the Certificate(s). **The Certificate holder section shall indicate Pinellas County, a Subdivision of the State of Florida, 400 S Fort Harrison Ave, Clearwater, FL 33756. Pinellas County shall be named as an Additional Insured for General Liability. A Waiver of Subrogation for Workers Compensation shall be provided if Workers Compensation coverage is a requirement.**

B. Approval by the County of any Certificate(s) of Insurance does not constitute verification by the County that the insurance requirements have been satisfied or that the insurance policy shown on the Certificate(s) of Insurance is in compliance with the requirements of the Agreement. The County reserves the right to require a certified copy of the entire insurance policy, including endorsement(s), at any time during the RFP and/or contract period.

C. If any insurance provided pursuant to the Agreement expires or cancels prior to the completion of the work you will be notified by CTrax, the authorized Vendor of Pinellas County. Upon notification, renewal certificate(s) of Insurance and endorsement(s) should be furnished to Pinellas County Risk Management at InsuranceCerts@pinellascounty.org and to CTrax c/o JDi Data at PinellasSupport@jdidata.com by the Vendor or their agent prior to the expiration date.

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- 1) The Vendor shall also notify the County within twenty-four (72) hours after receipt, of any notices of expiration, cancellation, nonrenewal or adverse material change in coverage received by said Vendor from its insurer. Notice shall be given by email to Pinellas County Risk Management at InsuranceCerts@pinellascounty.org. Nothing contained herein shall absolve Vendor of this requirement to provide notice.
 - 2) Should the Vendor, at any time, not maintain the insurance coverages required herein, the County may terminate the Agreement.
- D. If subcontracting is allowed under this RFP, the Primary Vendor shall obtain and maintain, at all times during its performance of the Agreement, insurance of the types and in the amounts set forth; and require any Subcontractors to obtain and maintain, at all times during its performance of the Agreement, insurance limits as it may apply to the portion of the Work performed by the Subcontractor; but in no event will the insurance limits be less than \$500,000 for Workers' Compensation/Employers' Liability, and \$1,000,000 for General Liability and Auto Liability if required below.

All subcontracts between the Vendor and its Subcontractors shall be in writing and are subject to the County's prior written approval. Further, all subcontracts shall

- 1) Require each Subcontractor to be bound to the Vendor to the same extent the Vendor is bound to the County by the terms of the Contract Documents, as those terms may apply to the portion of the Work to be performed by the Subcontractor;
 - 2) Provide for the assignment of the subcontracts from the Vendor to the County at the election of Owner upon termination of the Contract;
 - 3) Provide that County will be an additional indemnified party of the subcontract;
 - 4) Provide that the County will be an additional insured on all insurance policies required to be provided by the Subcontractor except workers compensation and professional liability;
 - 5) Provide a waiver of subrogation in favor of the County and other insurance terms and/or conditions as outlined below;
 - 6) Assign all warranties directly to the County; and
 - 7) Identify the County as an intended third-party beneficiary of the subcontract. The Vendor shall make available to each proposed Subcontractor, prior to the execution of the subcontract, copies of the Contract Documents to which the Subcontractor will be bound by this Section C and identify to the Subcontractor any terms and conditions of the proposed subcontract which may be at variance with the Contract Documents.
- E. Each insurance policy and/or certificate shall include the following terms and/or conditions:
- 1) The Named Insured on the Certificate of Insurance and insurance policy must match the entity's name that responded to the solicitation and/or is signing the agreement with the County.
 - 2) Companies issuing the insurance policy, or policies, shall have no recourse against County for payment of premiums or assessments for any deductibles which all are at the sole responsibility and risk of Vendor.
 - 3) The term "County" or "Pinellas County" shall include all Authorities, Boards, Bureaus, Commissions, Divisions, Departments and Constitutional offices of County and individual members, employees thereof in their official capacities, and/or while acting on behalf of Pinellas County.
 - 4) All policies shall be written on a primary, non-contributory basis.

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The minimum insurance requirements and limits for this Agreement, which shall remain in effect throughout its duration and for two (2) years beyond final acceptance for projects with a Completed Operations exposure, are as follows:

- 1) **Commercial General Liability Insurance:** including, but not limited to, Independent Vendor, Contractual Liability Premises/Operations, Products/Completed Operations, and Personal Injury.

Limits

Combined Single Limit Per Occurrence	\$1,000,000
Products/Completed Operations Aggregate	\$2,000,000
Personal Injury and Advertising Injury	\$1,000,000
General Aggregate	\$2,000,000

- 2) **Cyber Risk Liability (Network Security/Privacy Liability) Insurance:** including cloud computing and mobile devices, for protection of private or confidential information whether electronic or non-electronic, network security and privacy; privacy against liability for system attacks, digital asset loss, denial or loss of service, introduction, implantation or spread of malicious software code, security breach, unauthorized access and use; including regulatory action expenses; and notification and credit monitoring expenses with at least minimum limits as follows:

Limits

Each Occurrence	\$5,000,000
General Aggregate	\$5,000,000

For acceptance of Cyber Risk Liability coverage included within another policy required herein, a statement notifying the certificate holder must be included on the certificate of insurance and the total amount of said coverage per occurrence must be greater than or equal to the amount of Cyber Risk Liability and other coverage combined.

- 3) **Crime/Fidelity/Financial Institution Insurance** coverage shall include Clients' Property endorsement similar or equivalent to ISO form CR 04 01, with at least minimum limits as follows:

Limits

Each Occurrence	\$ 1,000,000
General Aggregate	\$ 1,000,000

Property Insurance: Proposer will be responsible for all damage to its own property, equipment and/or materials.

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EXHIBIT C - PAYMENT SCHEDULE

Payment Schedule to be approved by ABFS

1. **Fixed Fee Per Claim Billed:** The initial fee of \$5.00 shall be held firm for the first twenty-four (24) months of the contract.
2. **Fixed Monthly Fee for Call Center Services:** The initial monthly fee of \$19,500.00 shall be held firm for the first twenty-four (24) months of the contract.
3. **Accounts Receivable Payment and Denial Posting:** Based on a minimum of two (2) FTEs for an eight (8) hour day for the term of the contract (1 FTE equates to 2080 annual hours): The initial hourly rate of \$26.05 shall be held firm for the first twenty-four (24) months of the contract.

Beginning in year three (3) of the contract, upon written request from selected vendor, price adjustments in an amount not to exceed the average of the Consumer Price Index (CPI) or three (3)%, whichever is less, may be allowed for all Urban Consumers, Series Id: CUUR0000SA0, Not Seasonally Adjusted, Area: U.S. city average, Item: All items, Base Period: 1982-84=100 for the twelve months prior to extension.

It is the vendor's responsibility to request any pricing adjustment under this provision. For any adjustment to commence on the first day of any exercised extension period, the vendor's request for adjustment should be submitted at time of the extension request from the County, utilizing the available index at the time of request. The vendor adjustment request should not be in excess of the relevant pricing index change. If no adjustment request is received from the vendor, the County will assume the vendor has agreed that the extension term may be exercised without pricing adjustment. Any adjustment request received after the commencement of a new extension period may not be considered.

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EXHIBIT D - PAYMENT/INVOICES

PAYMENT/INVOICES:

SUPPLIER shall submit invoices for payment due as provided herein with such documentation as required by Pinellas County and all payments shall be made in accordance with the requirements of Section 218.70 et. seq, Florida Statutes, "The Local Government Prompt Payment Act." Invoices shall be submitted to the address below unless instructed otherwise on the purchase order, or if no purchase order, by the ordering department:

Finance Division Accounts Payable
Pinellas County Board of County Commissioners
P. O. Box 2438
Clearwater, FL 33757

Each invoice shall include, at a minimum, the Supplier's name, contact information and the standard purchase order number. In order to expedite payment, it is recommended the Supplier also include the information shown in below. The County may dispute any payments invoiced by SUPPLIER in accordance with the County's Dispute Resolution Process for Invoiced Payments, established in accordance with Section 218.76, Florida Statutes, and any such disputes shall be resolved in accordance with the County's Dispute Resolution Process.

INVOICE INFORMATION:

Supplier Information Company name, mailing address, phone number, contact name and email address as provided on the PO

Remit To Billing address to which you are requesting payment be sent

Invoice Date Creation date of the invoice

Invoice Number Company tracking number

Shipping Address Address where goods and/or services were delivered

Ordering Department Name of ordering department, including name and phone number of contact person

PO Number Standard purchase order number

Ship Date Date the goods/services were sent/provided

Quantity Quantity of goods or services billed

Description Description of services or goods delivered

Unit Price Unit price for the quantity of goods/services delivered

Line Total Amount due by line item

Invoice Total Sum of all of the line totals for the invoice

Pinellas County offers a credit card payment process (ePayables) through Bank of America. Pinellas County does not charge vendors to participate in the program; however, there may be a charge by the company that processes your credit card transactions. For more information please visit Pinellas County purchasing website at (www.pinellascounty.org/purchase).

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EXHIBIT E - DISPUTE RESOLUTION FOR PINELLAS COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS IN MATTERS OF INVOICE PAYMENTS:

Payment of invoices for work performed for Pinellas County Board of County Commissioners (County) is made, by standard, in arrears in accordance with Section 218.70, et. seq., Florida Statutes, the Local Government Prompt Payment Act.

If a dispute should arise as a result of non-payment of a payment request or invoice the following Dispute Resolution process shall apply:

- A. Pinellas County shall notify a vendor in writing within 10 days after receipt of an improper invoice, that the invoice is improper. The notice should indicate what steps the vendor should undertake to correct the invoice and resubmit a proper invoice to the County. The steps taken by the vendor shall be that of initially contacting the requesting department to validate their invoice and receive a sign off from that entity that would indicate that the invoice in question is in keeping with the terms and conditions of the agreement. Once sign off is obtained, the vendor should then resubmit the invoice as a "Corrected Invoice" to the requesting department which will initiate the payment timeline.
 1. Requesting department for this purpose is defined as the County department for whom the work is performed.
 2. Proper invoice for this purpose is defined as an invoice submitted for work performed that meets prior agreed upon terms or conditions to the satisfaction of Pinellas County.
- B. Should a dispute result between the vendor and the County about payment of a payment request or an invoice then the vendor should submit their dissatisfaction in writing to the Requesting Department. Each Requesting Department shall assign a representative who shall act as a "Dispute Manager" to resolve the issue at departmental level.
- C. The Dispute Manager shall first initiate procedures to investigate the dispute and document the steps taken to resolve the issue in accordance with section 218.76 Florida Statutes. Such procedures shall be commenced no later than 45 days after the date on which the payment request or invoice was received by Pinellas County and shall not extend beyond 60 days after the date on which the payment request or invoice was received by Pinellas County.
- D. The Dispute Manager should investigate and ascertain that the work, for which the payment request or invoice has been submitted, was performed to Pinellas County's satisfaction, and duly accepted by the Proper Authority. Proper Authority for this purpose is defined as the Pinellas County representative who is designated as the approving authority for the work performed in the contractual document. The Dispute Manager shall perform the required investigation and arrive at a solution before or at the 60 days' timeframe for resolution of the dispute, per section 218.76, Florida Statutes. The County Administrator or his or her designee shall be the final arbiter in resolving the issue before it becomes a legal matter. The County Administrator or his or her designee will issue their decision in writing.
- E. Pinellas County Dispute Resolution Procedures shall not be subject to Chapter 120 of the Florida Statutes. The procedures shall also, per section 218.76, Florida Statutes, not be intended as an administrative proceeding which would prohibit a court from ruling again on any action resulting from the dispute.
- F. Should the dispute be resolved in the County's favor interest charges begin to accrue 15 days after the final decision made by the County. Should the dispute be resolved in the vendor's favor the County shall pay interest as of the original date the payment was due.
- G. For any legal action to recover any fees due because of the application of sections 218.70 et. seq., Florida Statutes, an award shall be made to cover court costs and reasonable attorney fees, including those fees incurred as a result of an appeal, to the prevailing party. If it is found that the non-prevailing party held back any payment that was the reason for the dispute without having any reasonable lawful basis or fact to dispute the prevailing party's claim to those amounts.

SOW ATTACHMENT 1 – QUALITY ASSURANCE EXAMPLES

Billing:

- **Charge Code** – Reports for the various charge codes are ran to evaluate for improper usage (ALS, ALS2, BLS, Critical Care, Emergency, Non-Emergency, Missing Base or Mileage charge, Multiple Passenger)
- **Demographics** – Reports highlights trips where there may be an address issue or missing guarantor on a transport that is for a minor
- **Diagnosis Code** – Reports returns runs that require verification of ICD-10 codes used to bill claims to validate priority order and specificity is appropriate (E.g., Missing Z-Code)
- **Mileage Discrepancies** – Flags accounts where mileage billed contradicts loaded mileage per the system
- **Modifier** – Reports looks at criteria such as customer, origin, destination, and modifier usage to evaluate appropriateness (GY, 76, SE, Nursing Home, Physician Office)
- **Payor** – Report's flag transports that may indicate the wrong payor was billed or that there is missing criteria for the payor utilized (Origin, Facility, Baker Act, Flight Company, Mental Health Van, Covid, Medicaid/MMA, VA)
- **Schedule** – These reports return results that the schedule used may not be properly aligned with the billing action needed (Baker Act, FirstCare Membership, Collection Skip Trace, Write Off)

Accounts Receivable:

- **Improperly Posted Credits** – Incorrectly posted charges as a negative or positive depending on the credit type
- **Improper Removal of a Write-Off** – Write offs associated with regulatory requirements, E.g., COVID Relief funds Terms & Conditions
- **Credit Type Conflicts with Payor Profile** – E.g., Medicare Part C payer with a payment insurance check credit type.
- **Inconsistent Membership Fee** – Fee contradicts with current year's established membership fee
- **Removal of Accounts from a Do Not Change Schedules** – E.g., time payment, non-billable claims, etc.
- **Payment Transfers Leaving a Balance** – Failure to appropriately transfer the full balance of an account.

HIPAA BUSINESS ASSOCIATE AGREEMENT

This Agreement (hereinafter referred to as AGREEMENT) is entered into by and between Pinellas County, a political subdivision of the State of Florida (hereinafter referred to as COVERED ENTITY) and the business associate named on the signature page hereof (hereinafter referred to as BUSINESS ASSOCIATE) (each hereinafter referred to as PARTY and collectively hereinafter referred to as the PARTIES) on this ____ day of _____, 2022.

WHEREAS, BUSINESS ASSOCIATE performs functions, activities, or services for, or on behalf of COVERED ENTITY, and BUSINESS ASSOCIATE receives, has access to or creates Health Information in order to perform such functions, activities or services; and

WHEREAS, COVERED ENTITY is subject to the Administrative Simplification requirements of the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 and regulations promulgated there under (hereinafter referred to as HIPAA), including but not limited to, the Standards for Privacy of Individually Identifiable Health Information and the Security Standards for the Protection of Electronic Protected Health Information found at 45 Code of Federal Regulations Parts 160, 162 and 164; and

WHEREAS, HIPAA requires COVERED ENTITY to enter into a contract with BUSINESS ASSOCIATE to provide for the protection of the privacy and security of Health Information, and HIPAA prohibits the disclosure to or use of Health Information by BUSINESS ASSOCIATE if such a contract is not in place; and

WHEREAS, as a result of the requirements of the Health Information Technology for Economic and Clinical Health Act (hereinafter referred to as HITECH ACT), as incorporated in the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009, and its implementing regulations and guidance issued by the Secretary of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (hereinafter referred to as SECRETARY), all as amended from time to time, the PARTIES agree to this AGREEMENT in order to document the PARTIES' obligations under the HITECH ACT.

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the foregoing, and for other good and valuable consideration, the receipt and adequacy of which is hereby acknowledged, the PARTIES agree as follows:

**ARTICLE I
DEFINITIONS**

1.1 "Business Associate" shall generally have the same meaning as the term "business associate" at 45 CFR 160.103, and in reference to the party to this agreement, shall mean EMS Management & Consultants, Inc.

1.2 "Covered Entity" shall generally have the same meaning as the term "covered entity" at 45 CFR 160.103, and in reference to the party to this agreement, shall mean Pinellas County Emergency Medical Services Authority, dba SUNSTAR EMS.

1.3 “Disclose” and “Disclosure” shall mean, with respect to Health Information, the release, transfer, provision of access to, or divulging in any other manner of Health Information outside BUSINESS ASSOCIATE’s internal operations or to other than its employees.

1.4 “Health Information” shall mean information that: (a) relates to the past, present or future physical or mental health or condition of an individual; the provision of health care to an individual, or the past, present or future payment for the provision of health care to an individual; (b) identifies the individual (or for which there is a reasonable basis for believing that the information can be used to identify the individual); and (c) is received by BUSINESS ASSOCIATE from or on behalf of COVERED ENTITY, or is created by BUSINESS ASSOCIATE, or is made accessible to BUSINESS ASSOCIATE by COVERED ENTITY.

1.5 “HIPAA Rules”. “HIPAA Rules” shall mean the Privacy, Security, Breach Notification, and Enforcement Rules at 45 CFR Part 160 and Part 164.

1.6 “Privacy Regulations” shall mean the Standards for Privacy of Covered Individually Identifiable Health Information, 45 Code of Federal Regulations Parts 160 and 164, promulgated under HIPAA.

1.7 “Services” shall mean the services provided by BUSINESS ASSOCIATE pursuant to the Underlying Agreement, or if no such agreement is in effect, the services BUSINESS ASSOCIATE performs with respect to the COVERED ENTITY.

1.8 “Underlying Agreement” shall mean the services agreement executed by the COVERED ENTITY and BUSINESS ASSOCIATE, if any.

1.9 “Use” or “Uses” shall mean, with respect to Health Information, the sharing, employment, application, utilization, examination or analysis of such Health Information within BUSINESS ASSOCIATE’s internal operations.

1.10 Catch-all definition: The following terms used in this Agreement shall have the same meaning as those terms in the HIPAA Rules: Breach, Data Aggregation, Designated Record Set, Disclosure, Health Care Operations, Individual, Minimum Necessary, Notice of Privacy Practices, Protected Health Information, Required By Law, Secretary, Security Incident, Subcontractor, Unsecured Protected Health Information, and Use, unless otherwise specifically defined or referred under this Agreement.

ARTICLE II OBLIGATIONS OF BUSINESS ASSOCIATE

2.1 Initial Effective Date of Performance. The obligations created under this AGREEMENT shall become effective immediately upon execution of this AGREEMENT or the agreement to which it is appended.

2.2 Obligations and Activities of Business Associate. Business Associate agrees to:

- a. Not use or disclose protected health information other than as permitted or required by the Agreement or as required by law.
- b. Use appropriate safeguards, and comply with Subpart C of 45 CFR Part 164 with respect to electronic protected health information, to prevent use or disclosure of protected health information other than as provided for by the Agreement.
- c. Report to covered entity any unauthorized acquisition, access, use or disclosure of protected health information not provided for by the Agreement of which it becomes aware, including breaches of unsecured protected health information as required at 45 CFR 164.410, and any security incident of which it becomes aware.
- d. In accordance with 45 CFR 164.502(e)(1)(ii) and 164.308(b)(2), if applicable, ensure that any subcontractors that create, receive, maintain, or transmit protected health information on behalf of the business associate agree to the same restrictions, conditions, and requirements that apply to the business associate with respect to such information.
- e. Make available protected health information in a designated record set to the COVERED ENTITY as necessary to satisfy covered entity's obligations under 45 CFR 164.524.
- f. Make any amendment(s) to protected health information in a designated record set as directed or agreed to by the covered entity pursuant to 45 CFR 164.526, or take other measures as necessary to satisfy covered entity's obligations under 45 CFR 164.526.
- g. Maintain and make available the information required to provide an accounting of disclosures to the "covered entity" as necessary to satisfy covered entity's obligations under 45 CFR 164.528.
- h. To the extent the business associate is to carry out one or more of covered entity's obligation(s) under Subpart E of 45 CFR Part 164, comply with the requirements of Subpart E that apply to the covered entity in the performance of such obligation(s).
- i. Make its internal practices, books, and records available to the Secretary for purposes of determining compliance with the HIPAA Rules.

2.3 Permitted Uses and Disclosures of Health Information. BUSINESS ASSOCIATE is authorized to:

- a. Use and Disclose Health Information as necessary to perform Services for, or on behalf of COVERED ENTITY.

b. Use Health Information to create aggregated or de-identified information consistent with the requirements of the Privacy Regulations.

c. Use or Disclose Health Information (including aggregated or de-identified information) as otherwise directed by COVERED ENTITY provided that COVERED ENTITY shall not request BUSINESS ASSOCIATE to use or disclose Health Information in a manner that would not be permissible if done by COVERED ENTITY.

d. To the extent required by the HITECH ACT, BUSINESS ASSOCIATE shall limit its use, disclosure or request of PHI to the Limited Data Set or, if needed, to the minimum necessary to accomplish the intended use, disclosure or request, respectively. Effective on the date the SECRETARY issues guidance on what constitutes "minimum necessary" for purposes of HIPAA, BUSINESS ASSOCIATE shall limit its use, disclosure or request of PHI to only the minimum necessary as set forth in such guidance.

e. BUSINESS ASSOCIATE shall not use Health Information for any other purpose that would violate Subpart E of 45 CFR Part 164, except that if necessary, BUSINESS ASSOCIATE may use Health Information for the proper management and administration of BUSINESS ASSOCIATE or to carry out its legal responsibilities; provided that any use or disclosure described herein will not violate the Privacy Regulations or Florida law if done by COVERED ENTITY. Except as otherwise limited in this Agreement, BUSINESS ASSOCIATE may disclose Health Information for the proper management and administration of the BUSINESS ASSOCIATE, provided that with respect to any such disclosure either: (a) the disclosure is required by law (within the meaning of the Privacy Regulations) or (b) the disclosure would not otherwise violate Florida law and BUSINESS ASSOCIATE obtains reasonable written assurances from the person to whom the information is to be disclosed that such person will hold the information in confidence and will not use or further disclose such information except as required by law or for the purpose(s) for which it was disclosed by BUSINESS ASSOCIATE to such person, and that such person will notify BUSINESS ASSOCIATE of any instances of which it is aware in which the confidentiality of the information has been breached.

2.4 Compliance with Security Provisions. BUSINESS ASSOCIATE shall:

a. Implement and maintain administrative safeguards as required by 45 CFR § 164.308, physical safeguards as required by 45 CFR § 164.310 and technical safeguards as required by 45 CFR § 164.312.

b. Implement and document reasonable and appropriate policies and procedures as required by 45 CFR § 164.316.

through exercise of reasonable diligence, should have been known to BUSINESS ASSOCIATE or any of its employees, officers or agents, other than the person who committed the breach.

d. To the extent the information is available to BUSINESS ASSOCIATE, it's written notice shall include the information required by 45 CFR §164.410.

e. BUSINESS ASSOCIATE shall promptly supplement the written report with additional information regarding the breach as it obtains such information.

f. BUSINESS ASSOCIATE shall cooperate with COVERED ENTITY in meeting the COVERED ENTITY's obligations under the HITECH ACT with respect to such breach. COVERED ENTITY shall have sole control over the timing and method of providing notification of such breach to the affected individual(s), the SECRETARY and, if applicable, the media, as required by the HITECH ACT.

g. BUSINESS ASSOCIATE shall reimburse COVERED ENTITY for its reasonable costs and expenses in providing the notification, including, but not limited to, any administrative costs associated with providing notice, printing and mailing costs, and costs of mitigating the harm for affected individuals whose PHI has or may have been compromised as a result of the breach. In order to be reimbursed by BUSINESS ASSOCIATE, COVERED ENTITY must provide to BUSINESS ASSOCIATE a written accounting of COVERED ENTITY's actual costs and to the extent applicable, copies of receipts or bills with respect thereto.

2.8 Availability of Internal Practices, Books and Records. BUSINESS ASSOCIATE agrees to make its internal practices, books and records relating to the use and disclosure of Health Information available to the SECRETARY, for purposes of determining COVERED ENTITY's compliance with the Privacy Regulations.

2.9 Agreement to Restriction on Disclosure. If COVERED ENTITY is required to comply with a restriction on the disclosure of PHI pursuant to Section 13405 of the HITECH ACT, then COVERED ENTITY shall, to the extent needed to comply with such restriction, provide written notice to BUSINESS ASSOCIATE of the name of the individual requesting the restriction and the PHI affected thereby. BUSINESS ASSOCIATE shall, upon receipt of such notification, not disclose the identified PHI to any health plan for the purposes of carrying out payment or health care operations, except as otherwise required by law.

2.10 Accounting of Disclosures. Upon COVERED ENTITY's request, BUSINESS ASSOCIATE shall:

a. Provide to COVERED ENTITY an accounting of each disclosure of Health Information made by BUSINESS ASSOCIATE or its employees, agents, representatives or subcontractors as required by the Privacy Regulations. For each Disclosure that requires an accounting under this Section 2.10, BUSINESS ASSOCIATE

shall track the information required by the Privacy Regulations, and shall securely maintain the information for six (6) years from the date of the Disclosure.

b. If BUSINESS ASSOCIATE is deemed to use or maintain an Electronic Health Record on behalf of COVERED ENTITY, then BUSINESS ASSOCIATE shall maintain an accounting of any disclosures made through an Electronic Health Record for treatment, payment and health care operations, as applicable. Such accounting shall comply with the requirements of the HITECH ACT.

c. Upon request by COVERED ENTITY, BUSINESS ASSOCIATE shall provide such accounting to COVERED ENTITY in the time and manner specified by the HITECH ACT.

d. Where COVERED ENTITY responds to an individual's request for an accounting of disclosures made through an Electronic Health Record by providing the requesting individual with a list of all business associates acting on behalf of COVERED ENTITY; BUSINESS ASSOCIATE shall provide such accounting directly to the requesting individual in the time and manner specified by the HITECH ACT.

2.11 Use of Subcontractors and Agents. BUSINESS ASSOCIATE shall require each of its agents and subcontractors that receive Health Information from BUSINESS ASSOCIATE to execute a written agreement obligating the agent or subcontractor to comply with all the terms of this AGREEMENT with respect to such Health Information.

2.12 Access to Electronic Health Records.

a. If BUSINESS ASSOCIATE is deemed to use or maintain an Electronic Health Record on behalf of COVERED ENTITY with respect to PHI, BUSINESS ASSOCIATE shall provide an individual with a copy of the information contained in such Electronic Health Record in an electronic format and, if the individual so chooses, transmit such copy directly to an entity or person designated by the individual upon request, to the extent an individual has the right to request a copy of the PHI maintained in such Electronic Health Record pursuant to 45 CFR § 164.524 and makes such a request to BUSINESS ASSOCIATE.

b. BUSINESS ASSOCIATE may charge a fee to the individual for providing a copy of such information, but such fee may not exceed BUSINESS ASSOCIATE's labor costs in responding to the request for the copy.

c. The provisions of 45 CFR § 164.524, including the exceptions to the requirement to provide a copy of PHI shall otherwise apply and BUSINESS ASSOCIATE shall comply therewith as if BUSINESS ASSOCIATE were the COVERED ENTITY.

d. At COVERED ENTITY's request, BUSINESS ASSOCIATE shall provide COVERED ENTITY with a copy of an individual's PHI maintained in an

Electronic Health Record in an electronic format in a time and manner designated by COVERED ENTITY in order for COVERED ENTITY to comply with 45 CFR § 164.524, as amended by the HITECH ACT.

2.13 Limitations on Use of PHI for Marketing Purposes.

a. BUSINESS ASSOCIATE shall not use or disclose PHI for the purpose of making a communication about a product or service that encourages recipients of the communication to purchase or use the product or service, unless such communication:

1) Complies with the requirements the definition of marketing contained in 45 CFR § 164.501; and

2) Complies with the requirements of Subparagraphs a, b or c of Section 13406(a)(2) of the HITECH ACT.

b. COVERED ENTITY shall cooperate with BUSINESS ASSOCIATE to determine if the foregoing requirements are met with respect to any such marketing communication.

**ARTICLE III
TERM AND TERMINATION**

3.1 Term. Subject to the provisions of Sections 3.2 and 3.3, the term of this AGREEMENT shall be the term of the Underlying Agreement.

3.2 Termination of AGREEMENT.

a. Upon becoming aware of a pattern of activity or practice of either PARTY that constitutes a material breach or violation of obligations under the AGREEMENT, the non-breaching PARTY shall immediately notify the PARTY in breach.

b. Notification shall be provided in writing and shall specify the nature of the breach.

c. With respect to such breach or violation, upon receiving notice of the violation the non-breaching PARTY shall:

1) Allow the breaching PARTY thirty (30) days to take reasonable steps to cure such breach or end such violation; and

2) Terminate this AGREEMENT, if cure is either not possible or unsuccessful; and

3) Report the breach or violation to the SECRETARY if such termination is not feasible.

d. Upon termination of this AGREEMENT for any reason, BUSINESS ASSOCIATE shall return or destroy all PHI consistent with Section 3.4 as follows:

1) BUSINESS ASSOCIATE shall destroy PHI in a manner that renders the PHI unusable, unreadable or indecipherable to unauthorized individuals as specified in the HITECH ACT and shall certify in writing to COVERED ENTITY that such PHI has been destroyed in compliance with such standards; or

2) Return of PHI shall be made in a mutually agreed upon format and timeframe and at no additional cost to BUSINESS ASSOCIATE.

e. Where return or destruction are not feasible, BUSINESS ASSOCIATE shall continue to extend the protections of the AGREEMENT to such PHI and limit further uses and disclosures of such PHI to those purposes that make the return or destruction of such PHI not feasible.

3.3 Termination for Breach. COVERED ENTITY may terminate the Underlying Agreement and this AGREEMENT upon thirty (30) days written notice in the event: (a) BUSINESS ASSOCIATE does not promptly enter into negotiations to amend this AGREEMENT when requested by COVERED ENTITY pursuant to Section 4.2 or (b) BUSINESS ASSOCIATE does not enter into an amendment to this AGREEMENT providing assurances regarding the safeguarding of Health Information that the COVERED ENTITY, deems sufficient to satisfy the standards and requirements of HIPAA and the HITECH ACT.

3.4 Disposition of Health Information Upon Termination or Expiration. Upon termination or expiration of this AGREEMENT, BUSINESS ASSOCIATE shall either return or destroy, in COVERED ENTITY's sole discretion and in accordance with any instructions by COVERED ENTITY, all Health Information in the possession or control of BUSINESS ASSOCIATE and its agents and subcontractors. In such event, BUSINESS ASSOCIATE shall retain no copies of such Health Information. If BUSINESS ASSOCIATE determines that neither return nor destruction of Health Information is feasible, BUSINESS ASSOCIATE shall notify COVERED ENTITY of the conditions that make return or destruction infeasible, and may retain Health Information provided that BUSINESS ASSOCIATE: (a) continues to comply with the provisions of this AGREEMENT for as long as it retains Health Information, and (b) further limits uses and disclosures of Health Information to those purposes that make the return or destruction of Health Information infeasible.

ARTICLE IV MISCELLANEOUS

4.1 Indemnification. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in the Underlying Agreement, BUSINESS ASSOCIATE agrees to indemnify, defend and hold harmless COVERED ENTITY and COVERED ENTITY's employees, directors, officers, subcontractors or agents against all damages, losses, lost profits, fines, penalties, costs or expenses (including

reasonable attorneys' fees) and all liability to third parties arising from any breach of this AGREEMENT by BUSINESS ASSOCIATE or its employees, directors, officers, subcontractors, agents or other members of BUSINESS ASSOCIATE's workforce. BUSINESS ASSOCIATE's obligation to indemnify shall survive the expiration or termination of this AGREEMENT.

4.2 Amendment to Comply with Law. The PARTIES acknowledge that state and federal laws relating to electronic data security and privacy are rapidly evolving and that amendment of this AGREEMENT may be required to provide for procedures to ensure compliance with such developments. The PARTIES specifically agree to take such action as is necessary to implement the standards and requirements of HIPAA, the HITECH ACT and other applicable laws relating to the security or confidentiality of Health Information. The PARTIES understand and agree that COVERED ENTITY must receive satisfactory written assurance from BUSINESS ASSOCIATE that BUSINESS ASSOCIATE will adequately safeguard all Health Information that it receives or creates on behalf of COVERED ENTITY. Upon COVERED ENTITY's request, BUSINESS ASSOCIATE agrees to promptly enter into negotiations with COVERED ENTITY, concerning the terms of any amendment to this AGREEMENT embodying written assurances consistent with the standards and requirements of HIPAA, the HITECH ACT or other applicable laws.

4.3 Modification of Agreement. No alteration, amendment, or modification of this AGREEMENT shall be valid or effective unless in writing and signed the PARTIES.

4.4 Non-Waiver. A failure of any PARTY to enforce at any time any term, provision or condition of this AGREEMENT, or to exercise any right or option herein, shall in no way operate as a waiver thereof, nor shall any single or partial exercise preclude any other right or option herein. Waiver of any term, provision or condition of this AGREEMENT shall not be valid unless in writing, signed by the waiving PARTY and only to the extent set forth in such writing.

4.5 Agreement Drafted By All Parties. This AGREEMENT is the result of arm's length negotiations between the PARTIES and shall be construed to have been drafted by all PARTIES such that any ambiguities in this AGREEMENT shall not be construed against either PARTY.

4.6 Severability. If any provision of this AGREEMENT is found to be invalid or unenforceable by any court, such provision shall be ineffective only to the extent that it is in contravention of applicable laws without invalidating the remaining provisions hereof.

4.7 No Third Party Beneficiaries. There are no third party beneficiaries to this AGREEMENT.

4.8 Counterparts. This AGREEMENT may be executed in one or more counterparts, each of which shall be deemed an original and will become effective and binding upon the PARTIES as of the effective date at such time as all the signatories hereto have signed a counterpart of this AGREEMENT.

4.9 Notices. The PARTIES designate the following to accept notice on their behalf:

If to BUSINESS ASSOCIATE:

EMS Management & Consultants, Inc.
2540 Empire Drive, Suite 100
Winston-Salem, NC 27103

If to COVERED ENTITY:

Pinellas County EMSA
c/o Pinellas County Public Safety Services
Attn: HIP AA Compliance Officer
12490 Ulmerton Road
Largo, FL 33774-2700

4.10 Applicable Law and Venue. This AGREEMENT shall be governed by and construed in accordance with the laws of the State of Florida. The PARTIES agree that all actions or proceedings arising in connection with this AGREEMENT shall be tried and litigated exclusively in the state or federal courts located in or nearest to Pinellas County, Florida.

4.11 Interpretation. This AGREEMENT shall be construed in a manner that will cause the PARTIES to comply with the requirements of HIPAA and the HITECH ACT.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, each of the undersigned has caused this AGREEMENT to be duly executed in its name and on its behalf effective as of this ___ day of _____, 2022.

COVERED ENTITY:

Pinellas County EMSA

By: _____

Print Name: _____

Print Title: _____

BUSINESS ASSOCIATE:

EMS Management & Consultants, Inc.

By: 

Print Name: JAY GYURE

Print Title:  CFO

**APPROVED AS TO FORM
OFFICE OF COUNTY ATTORNEY**

By: _____
Assistant County Attorney