

**2017**

**EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES  
ALS FIRST RESPONDER AGREEMENT**

**EAST LAKE TARPON  
SPECIAL FIRE CONTROL DISTRICT**

**OCTOBER 1, 2017**

**PINELLAS COUNTY  
EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES AUTHORITY  
12490 Ulmerton Road  
Largo, FL 33774**

**EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES  
ALS FIRST RESPONDER AGREEMENT**

AGREEMENT made this 26<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2017, between the EAST LAKE TARPON SPECIAL FIRE CONTROL DISTRICT, an independent special fire district ("Contractor"), and the PINELLAS COUNTY EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES AUTHORITY, a special district ("Authority").

**RECITALS**

1. The Authority is a special district created for the purpose of providing Emergency Medical Services throughout Pinellas County ("County"), pursuant to Chapter 80-585, Laws of Florida and Chapter 54, Article III, Pinellas County Code, as amended ("The Acts").
2. The Authority has determined that a single-tier all Advanced Life Support ("ALS") EMS system with a first responder component and a transport component is in the best interest of public safety, health and welfare.
3. The Authority has contracted with various municipalities and independent special fire districts in the County to provide First Responder Services (as defined herein) and has also contracted with an Ambulance Contractor to provide ALS emergency and non-emergency transport services.
4. The Authority wishes to continue to provide for the long-term direction and financial stability of the entire Emergency Medical Services system through working with the First Responder agencies to control costs.
5. Authority is authorized to enter into agreements for Emergency Medical Services and the Contractor is willing and able to provide First Responder Services (as defined herein).

**NOW, THEREFORE**, in consideration of the mutual covenants, terms and conditions herein set forth to be kept and performed by and between the parties hereto, it is agreed as follows:

**ARTICLE I**  
**THE AGREEMENT**

**SECTION 101. RECITALS AND PURPOSE.** The foregoing recitals are hereby incorporated and made part of this Agreement. The purpose of this Agreement is to define the obligations and responsibilities of the Parties hereto with respect to the provision of ALS First Responder Services in the County.

**SECTION 102. COOPERATION.** The Parties shall cooperate and use all reasonable efforts, pursuant to the terms of this Agreement, to facilitate the terms of this Agreement. Accordingly, the Parties further agree in good faith to mutually undertake resolution of disputes, if any, in an equitable and timely manner so as to limit the need for costly, time-consuming, adversarial proceedings to resolve such disputes.

**SECTION 103. CONTRACT DOCUMENTS.** The following Appendices are attached to and made part of this Agreement:

- Appendix A.** ALS First Responder Profile
- Appendix B.** ALS First Responder Contractors
- Appendix C.** EMS Equipment
- Appendix D.** EMS Financial Information Attestation Form
- Appendix E.** Instructor Reimbursement Form

Subject to Section 912, this Agreement, together with the foregoing Appendices, constitutes the entire Emergency Medical Services ALS First Responder Agreement between the Parties with respect to the provision of ALS First Responder Services, except to the extent that HIPAA (Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act) requires additional agreements, which will be handled separately, and shall supersede any prior agreement, contract or memorandum of understanding between the Parties regarding such services.

**SECTION 104. SCOPE OF SERVICES.** The services to be performed by the Contractor under this Agreement include the following:

- (a)** The response of an ALS First Responder Unit to the scene of an EMS Incident.
- (b)** The on-scene Patient care by Field Personnel.

(c) The continuation of Patient care, when Contractor's Paramedic accompanies the Patient during transport by the Ambulance Provider or medical helicopter. The transport of Patients to a medical facility, in extraordinary circumstances, shall be in accordance with Florida Statute 401.33 and the then current Medical Operations Manual, Transport Protocols.

(d) The episodic utilization of CME Instructors and Public Educators/Community Paramedics by participating Contractors.

Such services shall be provided in accordance with the terms and conditions of this Agreement. The specific terms and conditions of this Agreement shall govern and prevail over this Section 104.

## **ARTICLE II**

### **DEFINITIONS**

**SECTION 201. WORDS AND TERMS.** Unless the context otherwise requires, capitalized terms used herein shall have the following meanings ascribed to them:

**"ALS"** means Advanced Life Support.

**"ALS First Responder Services"** means the response of an ALS First Responder Unit to an EMS Incident and, if necessary, on-scene Patient care by EMTs and Paramedics, all in accordance with the protocols of the Authority.

**"ALS First Responder Station"** means any location designated by the Contractor and approved by the Authority at which an ALS First Responder Unit, with the minimum staffing required herein, is located.

**"ALS First Responder Unit"** means any of the ALS permitted vehicles provided by Contractor under this Agreement and listed on Appendix A; each of which is equipped to provide Advanced Life Support services and is used for rapid response to an EMS Incident. ALS First Responder Units may include, but not be limited to: ALS engines, Transport capable rescue units and non-Transport capable rescue units.

**"Advanced Life Support"** means treatment of life-threatening medical emergencies through the use of techniques such as endotracheal intubation, the administration of drugs or intravenous fluids, cardiac monitoring, and cardiac defibrillation by a qualified person, pursuant to rules of the Department.

**“Ambulance”** means a vehicle constructed, equipped and permitted as an ALS Ambulance, pursuant to the rules of the Department for the transportation of Patients.

**“Ambulance Contractor”** means the entity selected by the Authority to provide ambulance service countywide.

**“Annual Compensation”** means the professional services fee listed on Appendix A, as may be adjusted pursuant to the terms of this Agreement.

**“Annual External Audit”** means an audit conducted by an external certified public accountant, retained by the Contractor, who at the end of each Fiscal Year verifies and attests that the Contractor has complied with the requirement to utilize EMS funds solely for EMS purposes in accordance with Section 706 through the submission of the form shown on Appendix D.

**“Authority”** means the Pinellas County Emergency Medical Services Authority, a special district established by Chapter 80-585, Laws of Florida, as amended.

**“Authority Funded Unit”** means an ALS First Responder Unit authorized and funded by the Authority pursuant to the terms of this Agreement.

**“Automatic Aid/Closest Unit Response Agreement”** means the agreement by and between every political subdivision and fire control districts within Pinellas County dated October 16, 1990.

**“BLS”** means Basic Life Support.

**“BLS First Responder Unit”** means a vehicle equipped to provide Basic Life Support only.

**“Basic Life Support”** means treatment of medical emergencies by a qualified person through the use of techniques described in the Emergency Medical Technician Basic Training Course Curriculum of the United States Department of Transportation.

**“CAD”** means the computer aided dispatch system.

**“Caller”** means a person accessing the response system by telephone.

**“Continuing Medical Education” or “CME”** means the medical education training program, through distance learning or classroom based courses, provided in accordance with the EMS Rules & Regulations.

**“CME Instructor”** means a County Certified Paramedic, County Certified EMT or County Certified registered nurse, employed and approved by a Contractor or the Ambulance Contractor, who meets the qualifications set forth in the EMS Rules and Regulations and is approved by the Medical Director. CME Instructors may be utilized to teach regular CME

classes, specialized Courses. EMS System orientation or serve as a subject matter expert, curriculum developer or to complete a specific task assignment.

**“Contractor”** means any one of the entities described on Appendix B.

**“Contractor Funded Unit”** means an ALS First Responder Unit, approved by the Executive Director, which is funded and operated by the Contractor for their operational flexibility, but, the additional Unit is not necessary for the Contractor to meet its obligations under the terms of this Agreement.

**“County”** means Pinellas County, Florida, a political subdivision of the State of Florida.

**“County Certified”** means authorized to work in the EMS System in accordance with requirements established by the Medical Control Board, the Medical Director and approved by the Authority.

**“Course”** means any individual CME offering available online or through a sufficient number of classroom based training classes. Regular CME Courses, whether online or classroom based, will be two (2) hours in duration.

**“Department”** means the State of Florida Department of Health.

**“Disaster”** means an occurrence of a severity and magnitude that normally results in death, injuries and/or property damage and that cannot be managed through routine procedures and resources of the EMS system.

**“Emergency Medical Technician” or “EMT”** means any person who is trained in Basic Life Support, who is County Certified and who is certified by the Department to perform such services in emergency situations.

**“Emergency Medical Services” or “EMS”** means the services provided by the Contractor pursuant to Section 104.

**“EMS Advisory Council”** means the advisory board established by the Special Act.

**“EMS Districts”** means the districts designated by Authority pursuant to the Special Act and Resolution 14-66, as may be amended.

**“EMS Emergency”** means any occurrence or threat thereof in the County, any municipalities therein, or in Pasco, Hillsborough or Manatee County, which may result in unusual system overload and is designated as an EMS Emergency by the Executive Director or Authority.

**“EMS Equipment”** means the equipment listed on Appendix C, as may be amended from time to time by the Executive Director.

- “EMS Incident”** means an emergency or non-emergency request processed through the Regional 9-1-1 Center that needs or is likely to need medical services.
- “Emergency Response”** means, for the purposes of measuring response time compliance in Section 403, the act of responding to a request for services in which the Priority Dispatch Protocols have determined that red lights and sirens will be used.
- “EMS Mill”** means the ad valorem real property tax imposed by the Authority pursuant to the “Special Act”, Laws of Florida, as amended.
- “EMS Ordinance”** means Chapter 54, Article III of the Pinellas County Code, as may be amended.
- “EMS System”** means the network of organizations and individuals, including, but not limited to the Authority, Ambulance Contractor, the Contractors, the EMS Advisory Council, the Medical Control Board and the Medical Director, established to provide Emergency Medical Services in Pinellas County.
- “Executive Director”** means the Director of the EMS System, or his or her designee.
- “First Due Unit”** means the ALS First Responder Unit, within Contractor’s primary response area, predetermined to be the nearest to the EMS Incident, in accordance with Section 409 hereof.
- “Field Personnel”** means Paramedics and EMTs employed by Contractor.
- “First Responder Services”** means ALS First Responder Services.
- “Fiscal Year”** means the year commencing on October 1 of any given year and ending on September 30 of the immediately-succeeding year.
- “Force Majeure”** means any act, event, or condition, other than a labor strike, work stoppage or slowdown, that has had or may reasonably be expected to have a direct material adverse effect on the rights or obligations of either Party under this Agreement, and such act, event, or condition is beyond the reasonable control of the Party relying thereon as justification for not performing an obligation or complying with any condition required of such Party under this Agreement, and is not the result of willful or negligent action or a lack of reasonable diligence of the Party relying thereon. Such acts or events may include, but shall not be limited to: an act of God (except normal weather conditions for the County), epidemic, landslide, or similar occurrence, an act of the public enemy, war, blockade, insurrection, riot, general arrest or restraint of government and people, civil disturbance or similar

occurrence.

**“Just Culture”** means the framework of assuring patient safety through error prevention and process improvement; assuring and improving the quality of Patient care and Client services; supporting a professional environment and culture that encourages and supports our Certified Professionals; understands human errors occur and how accountability is assured through consoling, coaching, counseling, Remedial Training, or corrective action.

**“Learning Management System”** means the integrated fire and EMS software system utilized by Provider Agencies for online training, classroom based training attendance tracking, in-service education; dissemination of administrative and medical control directives, tracking receipt of protocols and directives, skill assessment and testing results. Authority's staff and Medical Director shall have administrative rights to upload Emergency Medical Services Continuing Medical Education and post CME curriculum, in-service training modules, administrative and medical control directives, run attendance and grade reports for all students, and reports for CME Instructor activity. All Contractors will utilize the common software platform, Target Solutions, or a successor software product as determined by the Authority upon agreement with the CME steering committee as defined in the EMS Rules and Regulations.

**“Medical Case Review”** means a review conducted by the EMS Medical Director or designee, with all Certified Professionals involved with a case, to closely examine the care of a Patient using a positive and educational approach to determine where gaps in knowledge or errors occurred. Such Medical Case reviews shall be conducted with a Just Culture framework to ensure a positive and supportive culture that encourages quality Patient care.

**“Medical Control”** means the medical supervision of the EMS System provided by the Medical Director.

**“Medical Control Board”** means the board appointed by Authority pursuant to the EMS Ordinance and having the duties and responsibilities set forth in the EMS Ordinance.

**“Medical Direction”** means supervision by Medical Control through two-way communication or through established standing orders, pursuant to rules of the Department.

**“Medical Director”** means a licensed physician, or a corporation, association, or partnership composed of physicians, which employs a licensed physician for the purpose of providing Medical Control to the EMS System.



**“Medical Operations Manual”** means the clinical guidelines, prepared for the EMS System and approved by the Medical Control Board, as the same may be amended from time to time.

**“On-Scene Equipment Exchange Program”** means the Authority’s program whereby an equipment item, such as backboards and immobilization devices, which may be amended by the Executive Director, is employed by Contractor in the course of preparing a Patient for transport and the ambulance personnel replaces the same from its own on-board inventory.

**“Paramedic”** means a person who is trained in Basic and Advanced Life Support, who is County Certified, and who is certified by the Department to perform Basic and Advanced Life Support procedures pursuant to the provisions of state statute, regulations and the Medical Operations Manual.

**“Party” or “Parties”** means either the Authority or the Contractor, or both, as the context of the usage of such term may require.

**“Patient”** means an individual who is ill, sick, injured, wounded or otherwise incapacitated and is in need of or is at risk of needing medical care.

**“Priority Dispatch Protocols”** means the protocols adopted by the Authority, and as may be amended from time to time, governing the EMS System’s response to the different types of service requests.

**“Public Educator/Community Paramedic”** means a County Certified Paramedic or County Certified EMT, or approved public educator employed and approved by a Contractor or the Ambulance Contractor, who meets the qualifications set forth in the EMS Rules and Regulations and is approved by the Medical Director. Public Educators/Community Paramedics may be utilized to teach CPR, first aid, drowning prevention, fall prevention or any other type of EMS specific public education, or prevention program or established community paramedic/outreach program or to complete a specific task assignment related to EMS public education/community outreach.

**“Regional 9-1-1 Center”** means the Communications Center and related telephone, radio and data systems operated and maintained by Pinellas County as the countywide Public Safety Answering Point for the purpose of receiving 9-1-1 calls from citizens; providing emergency medical dispatch following the Priority Dispatch Protocols; providing for the dispatch of all BLS and ALS First Responder Units to EMS Incidents; and providing for the ongoing

communications via radio and wireless data systems.

**“Response”** means the act of responding to a request for services, which act begins when ALS First Responder Units are dispatched to an EMS Incident.

**“Response Time”** means the period of time commencing when an ALS First Responder Unit is dispatched to an EMS Incident and ending when Contractor's first ALS First Responder Unit arrives on the scene of the incident.

**“Rules and Regulations”** means the rules and regulations adopted by the Authority, which is subject to amendment.

**“Run Cards”** means the Regional 9-1-1 Center's computer aided dispatch software database that, based upon the location of the EMS Incident and a predetermined listing of ALS First Responder Units which the Contractor has determined to be the closest by travel time or most appropriate in ranked order, recommends the closest or most appropriate ALS First Responder Unit(s) to respond to EMS Incidents, or successor methods such as global positioning satellite (GPS) automatic vehicle location (AVL) systems.

**“Special Act”** means Chapter 80-585, Laws of Florida, as amended.

**“Special Events”** means non-emergency events, such as sporting events, parades, festivals and other group or mass gatherings, which may require BLS or ALS medical coverage.

**“State”** means the State of Florida.

**“State of Emergency”** means a Disaster which has been declared by proclamation of the State, County or a municipality in the County.

**“Total Unit Hour Compensation”** means Unit Hour Compensation multiplied by the number of Authority Funded Units provided by this Agreement.

**“Transport”** means the transportation of Patients to any destination by Ambulance.

**“Uncontrollable Circumstance”** means a Force Majeure, an EMS Emergency or a State of Emergency.

**“Unforeseen Circumstances”** means circumstances which could not reasonably be foreseen by the Parties at the time of execution of this Agreement.

**“Unit Compensation”** means the Annual Compensation in a Fiscal Year divided by the number of Authority Funded Units provided by this Agreement.

**“Unit Hour Compensation”** means the Unit Compensation divided by Eight Thousand, Seven Hundred and Sixty (8,760) Hours.

**SECTION 202. TERMS GENERALLY.** Whenever the context may require, any pronoun shall include corresponding masculine, feminine and neuter forms. The words “include”, “includes” and “including” shall be deemed to be followed by the phrase “without limitation”, except as the context may otherwise require. The words “agree”, “agreement”, “approval” and “consent” shall be deemed to be followed by the phrase “which shall not be unreasonably withheld or unduly delayed”, except as the context may otherwise require.

### **ARTICLE III**

#### **REPRESENTATIONS**

**SECTION 301. REPRESENTATIONS OF AUTHORITY.** Authority represents to Contractor that each of the following statements is presently true and correct:

(a) **Existing.** Authority has all requisite power and authority to carry on its business as now conducted and to perform its obligations under this Agreement and each document contemplated hereunder to which it is or will be a party.

(b) **Due Authorization.** This Agreement has been duly authorized by all necessary action on the part of, and has been or will be duly executed and delivered by Authority and neither the execution and delivery thereof, nor compliance with the terms and provisions thereof or hereof contravenes any existing law, judgment, government rule, regulation or order applicable to or binding on Authority.

(c) **Enforceability.** This Agreement constitutes a legal, valid and binding obligation of Authority enforceable against Authority in accordance with the terms thereof, except as such enforceability may be affected or limited by applicable bankruptcy, insolvency or similar laws, from time to time in effect, which affect creditor’s rights generally and subject to usual equitable principles in the event that equitable remedies are involved.

(d) **Financial Capability.** Authority is fully capable, financially and otherwise, to perform its obligations hereunder, subject to availability of funds lawfully appropriated for the purposes provided in this Agreement.

(e) **No Litigation.** There are no pending, or to the knowledge of Authority, threatened actions or proceedings before any court or administrative agency to which Authority is a party, questioning the validity of this Agreement or any document or action contemplated hereunder, or which are likely, in any case or in the aggregate, to materially adversely affect the consummation of the transactions contemplated hereunder.

**SECTION 302. REPRESENTATIONS OF CONTRACTOR.** Contractor represents to Authority that each of the following statements is presently true and correct:

(a) **Existing.** Contractor is a Florida municipal corporation or independent special district having all requisite power and authority in Florida to carry on its business as now conducted, to own or hold or otherwise control its properties, and to enter into and perform its obligations under this Agreement and under each instrument described herein to which it is or will be party.

(b) **Due Authorization.** This Agreement has been duly authorized by all necessary action on the part of and has been duly executed and delivered by Contractor and neither the execution and delivery thereof, nor compliance with the terms and provisions thereof or hereof contravenes any existing law, judgment, government rule, regulation or order applicable to or binding on the Contractor.

(c) **Enforceability.** This Agreement constitutes a legal, valid and binding obligation of Contractor enforceable against Contractor in accordance with the terms thereof, except as such enforceability may be limited by applicable bankruptcy, insolvency or similar laws, from time to time in effect, which affect creditor's rights generally and subject to usual equitable principles in the event that equitable remedies are involved.

(d) **No Litigation.** There are no pending, or to the knowledge of Contractor, threatened actions or proceedings before any court or administrative agency to which Contractor is a party, questioning the validity of this Agreement or any document or action contemplated hereunder, or which are likely, in any case or in the aggregate to materially adversely affect the consummation of the transactions contemplated hereunder.

(e) **Financial Capability.** Contractor is fully capable, financially and otherwise, to perform its obligations hereunder subject to availability of funds lawfully appropriated for the purposes provided in this Agreement.

#### **ARTICLE IV**

#### **DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF CONTRACTOR**

**SECTION 401. VEHICLES AND EQUIPMENT.**

(a) **Obligation to Provide Vehicles.** At all times during the term of this Agreement, Contractor shall provide the number of Authority Funded Units described on Appendix A.

Contractor reserves the right to select and acquire vehicles and apparatus used in the performance of this Agreement.

(b) **Maintenance of Vehicles and Fuel.** Contractor shall be responsible for the maintenance and repair of ALS First Responder Units and for furnishing maintenance, equipment, supplies, repairs, spare parts, replacement vehicles and fuel. Contractor shall maintain records of maintenance and fuel in order to document that ALS First Responder Units are maintained and used in accordance with this Agreement.

(c) **Staffing of Vehicles.** Each ALS First Responder Unit shall be staffed in compliance with Chapter 401, Florida Statutes, with a minimum of one (1) Paramedic. Contractor shall maintain records of staffing in order to document that ALS First Responder Units are staffed in accordance with this Agreement.

(d) **Equipment and Supplies.** With the exception of equipment maintained by the Authority in Section 507, Contractor shall furnish and maintain all EMS Equipment, required to be provided by the Contractor pursuant to Appendix C. Contractor shall also be responsible for the cost of replacing outdated medical supplies as provided in Section 504, which are lost through inadequate stock rotation; as well as the cost of medical supplies which are lost, stolen, damaged, or unaccounted for due to Contractor's negligence. The Authority shall be responsible for the cost of any medical supplies which are lost, stolen, or damaged due to a cause other than Contractor's negligence. Contractor shall be subject to the Authority's On-Scene Equipment Exchange Program.

(e) **Medical Communications Equipment.** Contractor shall be responsible for the replacement of all medical communications equipment that is lost, stolen or damaged due to Contractor's negligence. Contractor shall also be responsible for all routine maintenance of such equipment. The Authority shall be responsible for the replacement of any medical communications equipment that is lost, stolen or damaged due to a cause other than Contractor's negligence.

(f) **Inspections.** Contractor shall allow representatives of the Authority and of the Medical Director to inspect ALS First Responder Units, equipment and ALS First Responder Stations as may be reasonably required to determine compliance with this Agreement.

(g) **Patient Care Reporting System Equipment.** Contractor shall be responsible for the replacement of all field equipment for the Patient Care Reporting System (e.g. notebook computers) that is lost, stolen or damaged due to Contractor's negligence. The Authority shall be

responsible for the replacement of field equipment for the Patient Care Reporting System that is lost, stolen or damaged due to a cause other than Contractor's negligence.

**SECTION 402. PRIORITY DISPATCH PROTOCOLS.** Contractor shall respond to EMS Incidents in accordance with the then current Priority Dispatch Protocols. Contractor and the Authority shall cooperate in implementing periodic enhancements and improvements to the Priority Dispatch Protocols.

**SECTION 403. RESPONSE TIME.** Response Time to not less than ninety percent (90%) of all EMS Incidents in a Fiscal Year which are (1) prioritized as an Emergency Response; (2) are within Contractor's EMS District; and (3) for which Contractor's ALS First Responder Unit is determined, in accordance with Section 409, to be the First Due Unit, shall be within seven (7) minutes and thirty (30) seconds or less; provided, however, that such Response Time standard shall not be applicable to Responses which occur during periods of Uncontrollable Circumstances or to Responses to remote areas or areas of limited accessibility, as requested by Contractor and approved by the Executive Director. The Authority and the Contractor desire to maintain Response Times for each EMS District at or below the Response Times now enjoyed by each respective EMS District. Such level of service is met by Authority Funded Units.

**SECTION 404. CONTINUING MEDICAL EDUCATION.**

(a) **Field Personnel.** Contractor shall make available its Field Personnel for Continuing Medical Education as required by state regulation, Rules and Regulations and the Medical Control Board. Satisfactory participation by Contractor's Field Personnel in Continuing Medical Education provided and made available by the Authority shall constitute fulfillment of this obligation. Contractor shall be responsible for ensuring that its Field Personnel attend Continuing Medical Education training, either in classroom based training or distance learning methods as determined by the Medical Director, in accordance with the Rules and Regulations. Contractor may prepare and submit to the Executive Director a report evaluating performance of the CME program. Contractor shall use any prepared forms that the Authority requests it to use for this evaluation.

(b) **CME Instructors.** Contractors will use their best efforts to provide a sufficient number of CME Instructors to conduct courses. The Authority will use its best efforts to provide a sufficient number of classes available at regional training sites on days, times and shifts necessary

to maximize the availability of First Responder units and ambulances up to one hundred eighty (180) classes per regular CME Course or ninety (90) classes for paramedic only CME Courses. Contractors understand the Authority is responsible for the provision of CME instruction and if the pool of CME Instructors made available by the Contractors is deemed inadequate or insufficient by the Authority, the Authority may elect to provide the CME program directly or through another means.

**SECTION 405. MEDICAL QUALITY CONTROL.**

(a) **Medical Director.** The Medical Director of the EMS System shall also serve as medical director of Contractor's EMS or ALS First Responder Services. Contractor may not use or employ another Medical Director for the provision of Emergency Medical Services within Contractor's EMS District.

(b) **Rules and Regulations: Protocols.** Contractor shall fully comply with the Rules and Regulations, including the protocols established in the Medical Operations Manual.

(c) **Ride-Along.** Contractor shall allow the Medical Director and the Executive Director or their representative to ride in ALS First Responder Units during Responses to EMS Incidents. However, such representatives shall conduct themselves in a professional and courteous manner, shall not interfere with Contractor's employees in the performance of their duties, except as necessary to assure protocol compliance and good Patient care, and shall at all times be respectful of Contractor's employee/employer relationship. The Medical Director, Executive Director, or their representatives, shall provide proof of employment, proof of workers' compensation insurance and shall complete any waiver or release forms which may be required by the Contractor prior to riding in ALS First Responder Units.

(d) **On-Scene Patient Care.** Contractor shall comply at all times with the Authority's protocol for on-scene control of Patient care. If Contractor's Paramedic is requested to ride to the hospital with the Ambulance Contractor's Paramedic, Contractor's Paramedic shall comply. Contractor's Paramedic may also decide to ride to the hospital with Ambulance Contractor's Paramedic. Contractor shall be responsible for the return of the Paramedic from the hospital.

(e) **Special Events.** In the event Contractor provides either BLS or ALS medical coverage at a Special Event in their EMS District, Contractor shall be under the auspices of the Authority, the Medical Control Board and the Medical Director. In providing medical coverage at a Special Event, Contractor shall comply with the Rules and Regulations and with the protocols established in the Medical Operations Manual. Authority Funded Units will not be used for dedicated special events coverage without the written approval of the Executive Director. Contractor and Authority will notify each other of large scale Special Events, which may require additional resources or adversely affect the EMS System, to ensure coordinated event coverage.

(f) **Quality Assurance.** Contractor shall adhere to the quality assurance and quality management program established by the Medical Director and shall participate in quality assurance reviews.

**SECTION 406. MEDICAL CASE REVIEWS.** Medical Case Reviews may include access to data, records review, written and verbal statements by Field Personnel and EMS Coordinator, and attendance at interviews and informal and formal hearings, in accordance with the then current EMS Rules and Regulations and Florida Statute 401.425. Contractor shall cooperate in obtaining such records, verbal and written statements and ensure that its Field Personnel attend Medical Case Reviews when reasonably requested.

**SECTION 407. PERSONNEL.**

(a) **Training and Qualifications.** All Field Personnel employed by the Contractor in the performance of work under this Agreement shall be trained and qualified at a level consistent with the standard established by the Authority for delivering Patient care and shall hold appropriate credentials in their respective EMS profession.

(b) **Standard of Conduct.** Contractor's personnel shall conduct themselves in a professional and courteous manner at all times. Contractor shall address and correct any departures from this standard of conduct. Contractor's Field Personnel shall be easily identified as EMTs or Paramedics while on scene of an EMS Incident.

(c) **Part-Time Employment.** Contractor shall not unreasonably restrict its employees from seeking or performing part-time employment with Authority's Ambulance Contractor.



- (d) **EMS Coordinator.** Contractor shall designate a County Certified Paramedic as the EMS Coordinator who will be responsible for performing or supervising, at a minimum, for:
- (1) Reviewing Patient care records in accordance with procedures established by the Medical Director.
  - (2) Responding to EMS Incidents and overseeing Patient care in accordance with procedures established by the Medical Director.
  - (3) Monitoring Contractors' EMS personnel to ensure compliance with CME requirements.
  - (4) Monitoring Contractors' EMS personnel to ensure clinical competence and good customer service.
  - (5) Attending and actively participating in EMS related meetings and quality improvement committees.

**SECTION 408. STATE OF EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE, EMS EMERGENCY AND MUTUAL AID**

(a) **State of Emergency Assistance within Pinellas County.** Immediately upon notification by the Authority of a State of Emergency within Pinellas County, Contractor shall commit such resources as mutually agreed upon by the Parties, given the nature of the State of Emergency and shall assist in accordance with applicable plans and protocols mutually agreed upon by the Parties. During a State of Emergency, Contractor shall be released from the requirements of Section 403 and the time requirements of Section 704(a). When Contractor ceases providing assistance with the State of Emergency, Contractor shall resume normal operations as rapidly as is practical and notify the Authority's authorized representative that Contractor is able to resume normal operations considering exhaustion of personnel, need for restocking and other relevant considerations.

(b) **State of Emergency Assistance Outside of Pinellas County.** Contractor shall manage any State of Emergency assistance response outside of Pinellas County in a manner which does not prevent Contractor from rendering services in accordance with this Agreement.

(c) **EMS Emergency.** Immediately upon notification by the Authority of an EMS Emergency, Contractor shall assist in the locality where the EMS Emergency has occurred. The level of assistance provided by Contractor shall be mutually agreed upon by the Parties.

During an EMS Emergency, the Contractor shall be released from the requirements of Section 403. When Contractor ceases providing assistance during an EMS Emergency, Contractor shall resume normal operations as rapidly as is practical considering exhaustion of personnel, need for restocking, and other relevant considerations. During the course of an EMS Emergency, Contractor shall use best efforts to continue to provide local ALS emergency coverage.

(d) **Mutual Aid.** Mutual aid responses outside of Pinellas County, rendered by the Contractor outside of Pinellas County that are not due to a State of Emergency or EMS Emergency, shall be performed in accordance with the terms and conditions of this Agreement.

**SECTION 409. AUTOMATIC AID/CLOSEST UNIT RESPONSE.** Upon notification by the Regional 9-1-1 Center of an EMS Incident, Contractor shall provide ALS First Responder Services in accordance with the Automatic Aid/Closest Unit Response Agreement. The ALS First Responder Unit which is predetermined to be the closest to the emergency scene, by the Run Cards, shall be dispatched without regard to EMS District or jurisdictional boundaries. In the event that the Automatic Aid/Closest Unit Response Agreement is terminated, Contractor shall provide ALS First Responder Services in accordance with the then current Run Cards for all EMS Incidents. The Contractor's authorized representative will periodically, or at the request of the Authority, update their Run Cards to insure their accuracy and coordinate any changes with any affected Contractor(s).

**SECTION 410. MEDICAL SUPPLIES AND INVENTORY CONTROL.** Contractor shall establish and implement inventory control procedures for the stocking and use of medical supplies. Contractor shall report, as of September 30th during each year this Agreement is in effect, the balance of all medical supplies held by the Contractor in inventory. Such report will list the item's identification number, the item's description, and the quantity held. Contractor will report the quantity of medical supplies which are lost, damaged, or unaccounted for, due to Contractor's negligence, and medical supplies unusable due to inadequate stock rotation. Contractor agrees to not maintain more than thirty (30) days of medical supplies in stock based upon historical use. Contractor shall maintain inventory records that identify all ALS First Responder Unit supplies issued from stock, and will keep stock under lock so that access is limited to only authorized personnel. Contractor shall adhere to inventory control procedures that the

Authority may require, as long as they are reasonable and prudent. Contractor shall follow all federal, state and local laws and protocols in the distribution and handling of controlled substances. Contractor shall provide list of personnel authorized to receive controlled substances from the warehouse and any change to such list.

**SECTION 411. PATIENT CARE REPORTING SYSTEM.** Contractor shall cooperate with the Authority in refining and improving the fully-integrated, electronic patient care reporting system. This system shall meet the information needs of the Contractor, the Medical Director, the Medical Control Board and the Authority. Contractor shall gather and enter data into the Authority's electronic patient care reporting system for every Patient encountered and every EMS Incident responded to by the Contractor's Field Personnel. Operating costs of this information system shall be the responsibility of the Authority. The Executive Director shall determine the start date and implementation timeline to ensure seamless implementation in the EMS System.

The database of the Authority's patient care reporting system shall be fully comprehensive, including complete and integrated information on all EMS System activities beginning with the receipt of an EMS Incident; dispatch activities and Response Times; every Patient assessment and all treatment rendered while Contractor's Field Personnel are attending the Patient. Contractor shall require Field Personnel to comply with the completion of paper reports and the data entry requirements of the EMS System and insure the accuracy and completeness of such reports, as approved and periodically revised by the Authority. Authority agrees that the procedures used to implement and operate the electronic patient care reporting system shall be mutually agreed upon by the Parties.

Contractor shall have unlimited access, regardless of storage location or medium, to electronic patient care reports generated by the Contractor's EMS personnel and all dispatch-related data.

**SECTION 412. UTILIZATION OF REGIONAL 9-1-1 CENTER.**

(a) **Regional 9-1-1 Center.** Contractor shall utilize the Regional 9-1-1 Center for the dispatch of all BLS and ALS First Responder Units to EMS Incidents. Contractor shall utilize the Regional 9-1-1 Center's radio and data systems to include, but not limited to, computer aided dispatch (CAD) software, mobile communications terminal software, and the County's public safety and intergovernmental voice and data radio system.

Contractor shall provide and maintain all fire station alerting systems, base stations, pagers, fire station computers and peripherals, all mobile and portable radios except as provided in Section 503, and mobile communications terminals and radio modems to communicate with the Regional 9-1-1 Center's radio and data system following the County's technical specifications.

Authority shall provide and maintain, at no cost to the Contractor, all necessary broadband networking from Fire Stations to the Regional 9-1-1 Center's data system, and access to the County's 800MHz High Performance Data (HPD) system following the County's technical specifications.

Authority shall provide a mutually agreed upon appropriate planning phase, cost analysis, changes in the County's technical specifications, and implementation plan for any future upgrades or system changes.

Contractor shall ensure all frontline ALS First Responder Units are equipped with GPS enabled mobile communications terminals running mobile CAD software. Contractor shall ensure GPS enabled mobile communications terminals are kept in working order and repaired in a timely manner to ensure efficient and accurate dispatch.

(b) Requests for Emergency Medical Assistance. Should Contractor receive any request for emergency medical assistance, including walk-ins, Contractor shall record the address and telephone number of the caller, obtain the location and nature of the emergency, shall immediately respond to the request for emergency medical assistance, if appropriate, and shall immediately advise the 9-1-1 Center of the information received, and the Response initiated by Contractor, if any.

**SECTION 413. COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT.** Contractor is encouraged to make available to their local community, health promotions and prevention education (i.e., CPR training, public access defibrillation programs, drowning prevention, health risk assessments). The programs may be developed by the individual contractor or in coordination with the Medical Director or the Authority.

Contractor may elect to participate in the Authority's public education/prevention/community outreach/community paramedic programs that are established, as set forth in the EMS Rules and Regulations and approved by the Medical Director. Public Educators/Community Paramedics may be utilized to teach CPR, first aid, drowning prevention, fall prevention or any other type of EMS specific public education, or prevention program or established community paramedic/outreach program.

**SECTION 414. LICENSURE AND CERTIFICATION.** Contractor shall maintain the appropriate licensure with the Department as an ALS provider. Contractor or Contractor's employees, as the case may be, shall be responsible for payment of any fees associated with EMS and Paramedic certification and recertification using funds provided under this Agreement.

**SECTION 415. ACCURATE INFORMATION.** Any news releases, statements, or public information given by the Contractor's or Authority's personnel to the public or the media shall accurately reflect the design and operation of the EMS system.

## **ARTICLE V**

### **DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF AUTHORITY**

**SECTION 501. MEDICAL DIRECTION AND CONTROL.** The Authority shall be responsible for providing, or cause to be provided, Medical Direction and Medical Control to the Contractor.

**SECTION 502. CONTINUING MEDICAL EDUCATION.** Authority shall provide and make available to Contractor a Continuing Medical Education training program at multiple, regionally-located training sites and not at a single, centralized training site. Authority shall endeavor to utilize distance learning methodologies and technology to deliver CME training whenever possible.

**SECTION 503. MEDICAL COMMUNICATIONS EQUIPMENT.** Authority has provided, or shall provide, as applicable, one (1) 800 MHZ Mobile Radio, and one (1) 800 MHZ Portable Radio for each Authority Funded Unit approved on Appendix A. The radio equipment shall be installed in the Authority Funded Units by the Contractor and become Contractor's property. Contractor shall be responsible for such equipment, as provided for in Section 401(e) hereof. Authority shall be responsible for replacing such equipment at the end of a reasonable useful life, as determined by the Authority.

Such equipment was replaced through the County's "P25 Communications System Upgrade."

**SECTION 504. MEDICAL SUPPLIES.** The Authority shall provide and replace, as necessary, without cost to Contractor, the medical supplies used by Contractor in rendering Patient care under this Agreement. The Authority shall deliver, or cause to be delivered, all medical supplies, except controlled substances, every two weeks to Contractor's designated medical supply receiving location. Contractor's authorized representative shall sign for and pick up controlled substances at a central location designated by the Authority. The Authority shall not be responsible for costs of replacing inventory items lost, stolen, damaged or unaccounted for due to Contractor's negligence but the Authority shall be responsible for the costs of replacing inventory items lost, stolen damaged or unaccounted for due to a cause other than Contractor's negligence. Where applicable, Contractor shall relocate supplies nearing their expiration dates to ALS First Responder Units serving areas of higher demand within their EMS District. All medications and supplies shall be returned to the Authority not later than sixty (60) days after the respective expiration dates. If such medications and supplies are not returned to Authority within sixty (60) days after their respective expiration dates, or at the direction of the Medical Director, Contractor shall be charged for the replacement of such supplies. A fully comprehensive narcotic control system shall be provided by the Authority to include boxes, electronic locks, and web-based tracking software.

**SECTION 505. EXTRAORDINARY MODIFICATIONS.** Notwithstanding the provision of Section 401(b) hereof, Authority shall separately provide and fund any modifications to ALS First Responder Units or equipment which may be required by the Authority and which do not constitute routine maintenance, repair or replacement.

**SECTION 506. BILLING.** The Authority shall have sole responsibility for submitting claims for transports made by either the Authority or by Contractor.

**SECTION 507. ECG EQUIPMENT AND MAINTENANCE.** The Authority shall provide all electrocardiogram (ECG) monitoring/defibrillation equipment for Authority Funded and Contractor Funded Units including adequate spare equipment (up to 30% above the number of Units). Contractor agrees to continue using the Contractor's current equipment on any Contractor Funded

Units over its useful life which equipment will be maintained by the Authority and repaired or replaced at the Authority's option. The Authority shall be responsible for replacing such equipment at the end of a reasonable useful life, as determined by the Authority. At the point that the equipment is replaced with new equipment, the Contractor will transfer ownership of the equipment being replaced to the Authority who will trade in the used equipment to reduce the cost of replacement. Contractor shall be responsible for any repairs that are necessary due to Contractor's negligence.

**SECTION 508. BIOHAZARD WASTE COLLECTION.** The Authority shall provide or cause to be provided, the collection and disposal of all biohazard waste from ALS First Responder Stations on a periodic basis, no less than monthly. Contractor shall follow any procedures necessary for biohazard waste to be collected.

**SECTION 509. PATIENT CARE REPORTING SYSTEM EQUIPMENT.** Authority shall provide, as applicable, a ruggedized notebook or tablet computer for each Authority Funded and Contractor Funded Units including adequate spare equipment (up to 30% above the number of Units). The equipment shall be utilized on Authority Funded and Contractor Funded Units by the Contractor for the purpose of completing electronic patient care reports. Only Authority authorized software and peripherals may be utilized to ensure a highly reliable and coordinated system. Authority provided patient care reporting system equipment shall remain property of the Authority. Contractor shall be responsible for such equipment, as provided for in Section 401(g) hereof. Authority shall be responsible for maintaining such equipment and replacing it at the end of a reasonable useful life, as determined by the Authority. Contractor agrees to continue using the Contractor's current equipment on any Contractor Funded Units over its useful life which equipment will be maintained by the Authority and repaired or replaced at the Authority's option. The Authority shall be responsible for replacing such equipment at the end of a reasonable useful life, as determined by the Authority.

## **ARTICLE VI**

### **INSURANCE AND INDEMNIFICATION**

**SECTION 601. MINIMUM INSURANCE REQUIREMENTS.** Contractor shall be self-insured or shall pay for and maintain at least the following insurance coverage and limits as listed below. Insurance coverage and limits shall be evidenced by delivery to the Authority of: a certificate of

insurance executed by the insurer(s) listing coverage and limits, expiration dates and terms of policies and all endorsements whether or not required by the Authority, and listing all carriers issuing said policies; and, a certified copy of each policy, including all endorsements. Where applicable, Contractor shall submit to Authority a letter from Contractor's Risk Manager stating that Contractor is self-insured, or the amount of insurance per claim and per occurrence, any gap and the amount of excess insurance up to its coverage. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary contained in this Agreement, Contractor does not waive any immunity or limitation of liability it may have under the doctrine of sovereign immunity or Section 768.28 Florida Statutes. The following insurance requirements shall remain in effect throughout the term of this Agreement (unless Contractor is self-insured, in which case Contractor shall not be required to comply with the following insurance requirements):

- (a) Provide Workers' compensation insurance as required by Florida Law.
- (b) Provide commercial general liability, employers' liability and commercial vehicle liability insurance that reflects the limits of liability for governmental entities in accordance with Section 768.28(5), F.S., should the State Legislature change these limits, coverage consistent with the revised limits shall be obtained.
- (c) Professional Liability Insurance, including errors and omissions, with minimum limits of \$1,000,000 per occurrence; if occurrence form is available; or claims made form with "tail coverage" extending three (3) years beyond the ending date of this Agreement. In lieu of "tail coverage" the Contractor may submit annually to the Authority a current certificate of insurance proving claims made insurance remains in force throughout the same three (3) year period. This coverage is subject to statutory and regulatory requirements of Federal, State or local law.
- (d) Personal and/or Bodily Injury including death and property damage liability Insurance with minimum limits of \$1,000,000 Combined Single Limit insurance in excess of all primary coverage.

**SECTION 602. ADDITIONAL INSURANCE REQUIREMENTS.** To the extent that Contractor maintains insurance policies rather than being self-insured, each insurance policy shall include the following conditions by endorsement to the policy:



- (a) Each policy shall require that forty-five (45) days prior to expiration, cancellation, non-renewal or any material change in coverage or limits, a notice thereof shall be given to Authority. Contractor shall also notify Authority within twenty-four (24) hours after receipt of any notices of expiration, cancellation, non-renewal or material changes in coverage received by said Contractor from its insurer.
- (b) Companies issuing the insurance policy, or policies, shall have no recourse against Authority or County for payment of premiums or assessments for any deductibles which all are at the sole responsibility and risk of Contractor.
- (c) The Authority shall be endorsed to the required policy or policies as an additional insured, exclusive of professional liability insurance. The additional insured clause covers the actions of the Contractor while providing services under the terms of this Agreement.
- (d) The policy clause "Other Insurance" shall not apply to any insurance coverage currently held by the Authority or the County, to any such future coverage, or to County's Self-Insured Retention of whatever nature.

**SECTION 603. LIABILITY.** Contractor and Authority agree to be fully responsible for their own acts of negligence or their respective agents' acts of negligence when acting within the scope of their employment, and agree to be liable for any damages resulting from said negligence. Nothing herein is intended to serve as a waiver of sovereign immunity or the limits of liability contained in Section 768.28, Florida Statutes, by the Contractor, County or Authority. Nothing herein shall be construed as consent by Contractor or Authority to be sued by third parties in any manner arising out of this Agreement. Contractor is not liable for the causes of action arising out of the negligence of the Authority, its employees or agents, or arising out of the negligence of any persons or entities contracted by, appointed by, or approved by the Authority to provide services related to this Agreement (including but not limited to other Contractors, the Ambulance Contractor, Medical Control Board and Medical Director). This Section 603 shall survive expiration or earlier termination of this Agreement.

**ARTICLE VII**

**COMPENSATION AND OTHER FINANCIAL PROVISIONS**

**SECTION 701. COMPENSATION.**

(a) **FY 2017 – 2018.** Authority and Contractor have agreed to an amount reflecting Contractor's submitted budget for EMS services during Fiscal Year 2017 – 2018. The approved budget amounts for the Fiscal Year commencing October 1, 2017, shall be equal to that shown on Appendix A.

(b) **Budget Submissions for FY 2018 – 2019 through FY 2021 – 2022.** Contractor shall submit a budget by April 1<sup>st</sup> each year for the following Fiscal Year for the Authority's review and approval. Budgets shall be prepared in the same manner as the budget submitted for FY 2017-2018, so long as said budgets are less than a three (3) percent increase from the prior Fiscal Year, and the Authority shall pay Annual Compensation to Contractor in accordance with said approved budgets.

(c) **Funding for Rescue Unit, Medic Unit and Staff Vehicle Replacement.** Authority will provide funding for Authority funded rescue units, medic units and the proportionate share of EMS Coordinator staff vehicles. Fire engines and other fire apparatus are not subject to EMS vehicle replacement funding. Units will be replaced after at least five (5) years, but no more than seven (7) years, of frontline service. Contractor represents that its projected capital replacement needs are as shown in Appendix A. The Authority shall determine a standardized reimbursement amount for rescue units, medic units and staff vehicles each Fiscal Year based upon the then current market rate for such vehicles as stated in the EMS Authority's annual budget and capped therein. The amounts for FY17-18 are rescue units (\$200,000), medic units (\$100,000), and staff vehicles (\$50,000).

(d) **Payment.** Payments shall be paid monthly in arrears in (approximately) equal monthly installments.

(e) **Station/Overhead Allowable Costs.** Contractor shall be reimbursed for up to 1.0% of the Fiscal Year's approved budget in accordance with Resolution 14-65 for station and overhead costs. Such payment shall be made by the Authority to the Contractor after receipt of the audit attestation shown in Appendix D.

(f) **Extraordinary Budget Increase.** If any proposed budget submitted by Contractor to the Authority for the following Fiscal Year should exceed three (3) percent of the prior Fiscal Year's budget, Authority and Contractor agree to reopen this Section 701 to negotiate no later than May 1<sup>st</sup> of the then current Fiscal Year the Annual Compensation for the following Fiscal Year. For any Fiscal Year in which Section 701 is reopened to negotiate the Annual Compensation for the following Fiscal Year, if Authority and Contractor cannot reach agreement on the Annual Compensation by June 30<sup>th</sup>, this Agreement shall terminate on the last day of the then current Fiscal Year.

**SECTION 702. CME AND PUBLIC EDUCATION REIMBURSEMENT.**

(a) **Learning Management System.** The Authority shall reimburse annually, in the first payment in each Fiscal Year, the Contractor's cost for the use of the Learning Management System for its students. Such reimbursement shall be fifty percent (50%) of the costs of use of the Learning Management System up to \$50 per student per Fiscal Year (does not include payment for student training time). The reimbursement amount shall not exceed \$125,000.00 in any fiscal year.

(b) **Reimbursement for CME Instructors.** The Authority shall reimburse each Contractor for the actual cost of salary and benefits up to \$60.00 per hour for overtime or backfill costs for the Contractor's CME Instructor hours that are actually performed and preapproved in writing, through the published master EMS training calendar by the Authority. Contractor may establish a rate of pay for CME Instructor which shall be subject to the \$60.00 per hour cap. The Authority shall not reimburse Contractor for the personnel costs for students to attend Courses or CME Instructor hours that are not preapproved in writing. Contractor shall submit invoices to Authority utilizing Appendix E within twenty (20) days following the last day of each month. Contractor shall be reimbursed monthly in arrears. For each year during the term of this Agreement, the total compensation amounts shall be established through the Authority's budget process, but in no event, shall the cumulative compensation to all Contractors for all payments under this provision, and payment for the analogous training provisions of the Ambulance Services Agreement, as amended, for any Fiscal Year exceed the amount budgeted by the Authority. The reimbursement amount shall not exceed \$750,000.00 in any fiscal year. It is recognized by the Parties that no payment may be compelled or made without a budget amendment approved by the Authority for any compensation that exceeds the total compensation

authorized through the Authority approved budget for CME training. It is further agreed and understood among the Parties that the Authority may not compel the Contractors to incur expenses beyond the Authority's approved budget amount until such time as a budget amendment raising such budget is approved.

**(c) Reimbursement for Public Education/Prevention/Community Paramedic Programs.** The Authority shall reimburse each Contractor for the actual cost of salary and benefits up to \$60.00 per hour for overtime or backfill costs for the Contractor's Public Educator/Community Paramedic hours that are actually performed and preapproved in writing, through the published master EMS public education/prevention/community paramedic calendar, by the Authority. Contractor may establish a rate of pay for Public Educator/Community Paramedic which shall be subject to the \$60.00 per hour cap. The Authority shall not reimburse Contractor for the personnel costs for Public Educator/Community Paramedic hours that are not preapproved in writing. Contractor shall submit invoices to Authority utilizing Appendix E within twenty (20) days following the last day of each month. Contractor shall be reimbursed monthly in arrears. For each year during the term of this Agreement, the total compensation amounts shall be established through the Authority's budget process, but in no event, shall the cumulative compensation to all Contractors for all payments under this provision, and payment for the analogous training provisions of the Ambulance Services Agreement, as amended, for any Fiscal Year exceed the amount budgeted by the Authority. The reimbursement amount shall not exceed \$100,000.00 in any fiscal year. It is recognized by the Parties that no payment may be compelled or made without a budget amendment approved by the Authority for any compensation that exceeds the total compensation authorized through the Authority approved budget for Public Education/Community Paramedic programs. It is further agreed and understood among the Parties that the Authority may not compel the Contractors to incur expenses beyond the Authority's approved budget amount until such time as a budget amendment raising such budget is approved.

**SECTION 703. DEDUCTION FOR FAILURE TO PROVIDE FIRST RESPONDER UNIT.**

In the event Contractor fails to provide an ALS First Responder Unit, or substitutes a BLS First Responder Unit instead of an ALS First Responder Unit, for an extended period (as described below) of time and without the advance approval of the Authority, the Authority may deduct an

amount equal to the Contractor's Unit Hour Compensation multiplied by each hour or portion thereof for each day or portion thereof that the Contractor has failed to provide an ALS First Responder Unit. Such deduction shall be made from the following monthly Annual Compensation payment. For purposes of this Agreement, an extended period of time means, with respect to mechanical problems and personnel, more than four (4) consecutive hours in any given day, and with respect to training, more than ten (10) hours in any given day; provided however that Section 703 shall not be applicable when the Executive Director has waived the provisions of Section 703, or when Contractor has failed to provide an ALS First Responder Unit or substitutes a BLS First Responder Unit during periods of Uncontrollable Circumstances.

**SECTION 704. DEDUCTION FOR FAULTY DOCUMENTATION.**

(a) **Faulty Documentation.** In the event that the Contractor transports a Patient, in compliance with the then current Medical Operations Manual transport protocols, Contractor shall provide a billable Patient Care Report to the Authority within four (4) business days from the date of service. The report shall include, at a minimum, the medical reason for Transport, the Patient's condition, the Patient's demographic information, the Transport mileage, and all medical care rendered. Contractor's Field Personnel shall obtain the Patient's signature and any other signatures necessary to process a bill.

**SECTION 705. ADJUSTMENT FOR EXTRAORDINARY COST INCREASES.** Contractor may apply for and receive prospective compensation adjustments to the Annual Compensation as necessary to offset documented increases in Contractor's cost of production directly resulting from increases in the prices paid by Contractor for fuel due to Unforeseen Circumstances and subject to the following stipulations:

- (a) Contractor must document, using generally accepted accounting procedures, the actual financial impact of the increased fuel prices upon Contractor's costs of production.
- (b) Only the effects of increased direct fuel prices-excluding any effects of increased fuel consumption, overhead allocations and indirect costs-shall be considered.

**SECTION 706. FUNDS TO BE USED SOLELY FOR EMS FIRST RESPONSE.** Contractor recognizes that monies received hereunder are derived from the EMS Mill and that the EMS Mill, pursuant to referendum, has been dedicated solely to the provision of Emergency Medical Services. Contractor, therefore, agrees that funding provided under this Agreement will be used strictly for the provision of the services described herein.

Contractor shall have an Annual External Audit conducted by a Certified Public Accounting firm to verify the Authority funded EMS income, Authority funded EMS expenditures, and Authority funded EMS reserves. The Annual External Audit shall include the "EMS Financial Information Attestation Form" prepared by the Contractor and signed by the Contractor's auditor. The required "EMS Financial Information Attestation Form" is attached as Appendix D. Contractor shall provide to Authority the audited financial statement that includes the "EMS Financial Information Attestation Form" within ten (10) business days of Contractor's receipt of the Annual External Audit. The cost of the Annual External Audit will be expended from Contractor's EMS funds.

**SECTION 707. FUTURE/ADDITIONAL SERVICES.** Contractor and Authority understand that, in the future, health care delivery and Emergency Medical Services may evolve to include pathway management, an expanded scope of practice, primary care services or other activities where EMS resources provided under this Agreement may be used. Contractor and Authority shall discuss the manner in which such additional services shall be effected, evaluate the relationship of such services; and determine the impact of such services on the EMS system. Contractor's obligations shall be limited to those specifically set forth in this Agreement. Contractor shall not be responsible for providing any additional services unless Contractor agrees in writing to provide such additional services.

**SECTION 708. ADDITIONAL UNITS.**

(a) **Authority Funded.** During the term of the Agreement, the Authority may determine that additional Authority Funded Unit(s) are needed. Additionally, Contractor may request that consideration be given for approval of an additional Authority Funded Unit. If the Authority determines that additional Authority Funded Unit(s) are needed from Contractor, then Authority and Contractor shall negotiate a mutually agreeable compensation for such additional Authority Funded Unit(s). In those instances where the Contractor requests Authority to approve additional

Authority Funded Unit(s), the Authority shall meet with the Contractor to determine the need for the requested Authority Funded Unit(s). If approved, the Authority will negotiate a mutually-agreeable compensation for such additional Authority Funded Unit, Units or Unit Hours. Compensation for such additional Authority Funded Unit(s), or Unit Hours, shall begin upon approval by the Authority.

**(b) Contractor-Funded.** Contractor and Authority understand that the EMS System is a unified, integrated system requiring the cooperation of all providers in the EMS System. To insure coordinated implementation of any improvements to the EMS System and to insure the integrity of the EMS System, if Contractor desires to operate additional ALS First Responder Unit(s) as a Contractor Funded Unit, Contractor will obtain approval from the Authority in writing prior to operating the Contractor Funded Unit. Contractor may elect to cease operation of a Contractor Funded Unit at its sole discretion. Contractor is responsible for all costs associated with staffing and operating such Contractor Funded Units. The Authority shall provide Medical Control and medical equipment and supplies for authorized Contractor Funded Units.

**SECTION 709. AUDITS AND INSPECTIONS.** At any time during normal business hours, and as often as may reasonably be deemed necessary, representatives of the Authority or Medical Director may observe Contractor's operations. Contractor shall make available to Authority for its examination, its records with respect to all matters covered by this Agreement, and Authority may audit, examine, copy, and make excerpts or transcripts from such records, and may make audits of all contract, invoices, materials, payrolls, inventory records, records of personnel, daily logs, conditions of employment, and other data related to all matters covered by this Agreement to the extent permitted by law.

Contractor shall make available to the Medical Director its records with respect to all clinical matters covered by this Agreement and the Medical Director may audit, examine, copy and make excerpts or transcripts from such records and inspections to the extent permitted by law.

The Authority's right to observe and inspect operations or records in Contractor's business office shall, however, be restricted to normal business hours, and reasonable notification shall be given the Contractor in advance of any such visit.

Records relating to contract activities shall be retained for three (3) years from final payment in each year.

All representatives of the Authority, Medical Control Board and Medical Director who observe Contractor's operations or audit or examine Contractor's records shall conduct themselves in a polite manner; complete any training required by law; and not interfere with Contractor's employees' duties. Audits and inspections shall be done to the extent permitted by law.

**SECTION 710. FISCAL NON-FUNDING.** In the event sufficient budgeted funds are not available for a new Fiscal Year, the Authority shall timely notify Contractor of such occurrence prior to the end of the current Fiscal Year and this Agreement shall terminate on the last day of current Fiscal Year.

## **ARTICLE VIII**

### **TERM AND TERMINATION**

**SECTION 801. TERM.** The initial term of this Agreement shall be for two (2) years, commencing October 1, 2017 and ending at midnight September 30, 2019, unless this Agreement is earlier terminated as provided for herein in this Agreement. This Agreement may be extended for three (3) additional one (1) year periods following the initial term, provided that the Parties mutually agree in writing to such extension which is subject to Authority and Contractor approval prior to July 1st of each extension year. References in this Agreement to "Term" shall include the initial term of this Agreement and all extensions thereof.

**SECTION 802. TERMINATION.**

(a) **By Authority for Cause.** This Agreement may be terminated by the Authority for cause upon twenty (20) days written notice to Contractor. For purposes of this section 802(a), "cause" shall mean (1) the event that Contractor, for any reason, fails to meet the licensing requirements in the State of Florida pursuant to the provisions of Chapter 401, Florida Statutes, or (2) a material breach by Contractor of any term, covenant or warranty contained in this Agreement; provided, however, that in the case of a breach of any term, covenant or warranty, the Authority shall provide written notice of such breach and Contractor shall have the opportunity to cure such breach within twenty (20) days of receipt of such notice or within such additional period of time mutually agreed upon by the Parties.



(b) **By Contractor for Cause.** This Agreement may be terminated by Contractor for cause upon twenty (20) days written notice to the Authority. For purposes of this section 802(b), “cause” shall mean a material breach by the Authority of any term, covenant or warranty contained in this Agreement; provided, however, that in the case of a breach of any term, covenant or warranty, Contractor shall provide written notice of such breach and the Authority shall have the opportunity to cure such breach within twenty (20) days of receipt of such notice, or, within such additional period of time mutually agreed upon by the Parties.

(c) **By Authority or Contractor without Cause.** This Agreement may be terminated without cause by Contractor or the Authority upon six (6) months written notice to the other Party.

(d) **Provision of Emergency Medical Services upon Termination.** In the event of termination of this Agreement by either Contractor or the Authority, Contractor shall continue to participate in the EMS System and Emergency Medical Services shall be provided in Contractor’s EMS District in accordance with the Special Act and EMS Ordinance, and the Authority shall compensate Contractor in accordance with the Special Act.

**SECTION 803. RESOLUTION OF DISPUTES.** To the extent that Contractor and Authority cannot, after good faith attempts, resolve any controversy or dispute that may have arisen under this Agreement, except for any dispute concerning the Annual Compensation or §701, Contractor and Authority shall appoint an ad-hoc committee consisting of one mutually agreed upon representative from the Medical Control Board, the EMS Advisory Council, and the Pinellas County Fire Chiefs Association to facilitate a timely and effective resolution. The ad-hoc committee shall meet as often as necessary under the circumstances in an attempt to resolve the controversy or dispute. The committee shall review each Party’s submittal of its interpretation of the Agreement and may request additional information as necessary. The committee shall complete its review within sixty (60) days of the date that the Committee is notified of the controversy or dispute (unless the Parties mutually agree to extend this period of time) and submit any recommendation to the Pinellas County Administrator and Contractor. All recommendations and other actions of the committee shall be non-binding. After the committee has submitted its recommendation to the Pinellas County Administrator and Contractor, either Party may thereafter refer the matter to non-binding mediation in the State of Florida. If the Parties do not agree upon

representatives for the committee, if either Party chooses not to engage in mediation or if the Parties engage in mediation but mediation fails to resolve the dispute, either Party may pursue its legal remedies, including the Chapter 164 process, and, including, but not limited to, filing a complaint (including but not limited to a complaint for injunctive relief) in the appropriate court possessing competent jurisdiction.

**ARTICLE IX**  
**MISCELLANEOUS**

**SECTION 901. NON-DISCRIMINATION IN EMPLOYMENT.** The Contractor will not discriminate against any applicant for employment because of age, race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation or national origin. Contractor agrees that applicants will be employed, and that employees are treated during employment, (e.g. layoff or termination, promotion, demotion, transfer, rates of pay and compensation, and selection for training, including apprenticeship), without regard to age, race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation or national origin. The Contractor will post in conspicuous places, available to all employees and applicants for employment, notices setting forth the provisions of this nondiscrimination clause.

**SECTION 902. NOTICES.** All notices, consents and agreements required or permitted by this Agreement shall be in writing, and, as applicable, shall be transmitted by registered or certified mail, return receipt requested, with notice deemed to be given upon receipt; postage prepaid, and shall be addressed as follows:

**If to Authority:** Executive Director, Pinellas County EMS Authority  
Pinellas County Emergency Medical Services  
12490 Ulmerton Road – Suite 134  
Largo, Florida 33774

**If to Contractor:** See Appendix B

**SECTION 903. ENTIRE AND COMPLETE AGREEMENT.** Subject to Section 912, this Agreement, as amended, and all Appendices hereto, constitute the entire and complete agreement of the Parties with respect to the services to be provided hereunder. This Agreement, unless provided herein to the contrary, may be modified only by written agreement duly executed by the Parties with the same formality as this Agreement.

**SECTION 904. OTHER DOCUMENTS.** Each Party agrees to execute and deliver any instruments and to perform any acts that may be necessary or reasonably requested in order to give full effect to this Agreement.

**SECTION 905. APPLICABLE LAW.** Florida Law shall govern the validity, interpretation, construction and performance of this Agreement.

**SECTION 906. WAIVER.** Unless otherwise specifically provided by the terms of this Agreement, no delay or failure to exercise a right resulting from any breach of this Agreement shall impair such right or shall be construed to be a waiver thereof, but such may be exercised from time to time and as often as may be deemed necessary. Any waiver shall be in writing and signed by the Party granting such waiver. If any representation, warranty or covenant contained in this Agreement is breached by either Party and thereafter waived by the other Party, such waiver shall be limited to the particular breach so waived and shall not be deemed to waive any other breach under this Agreement.

**SECTION 907. SEVERABILITY.** In the event that any provision of this Agreement shall, for any reason, be determined to be invalid, illegal, or unenforceable in any respect, the Parties hereto shall negotiate in good faith and agree to such amendments, modifications, or supplements of or to this Agreement or such other appropriate actions as shall, to the maximum extent practicable in light of such determination, implement and give effect to the intentions of the Parties as reflected herein.

**SECTION 908. CONTRACTOR IS INDEPENDENT CONTRACTOR.** The Parties agree that throughout the term of this Agreement, and during the performance of any obligations hereunder, Contractor is an independent contractor in all respects and shall not be the agent, servant, officer, or employee of the Authority or Pinellas County.

**SECTION 909. NO THIRD-PARTY BENEFICIARIES; ASSIGNMENT.** This Agreement is not intended, nor shall it be construed, to inure to the benefit of any third person or entity not a party hereto, and no right, duty or obligation of the Contractor under this Agreement, shall be assigned to any person, private association or corporation, not-for-profit corporation, or public body without the prior written consent of the Authority.

**SECTION 910. HEADINGS.** Captions and headings in this Agreement are for ease of reference and do not constitute a part of this Agreement.

**SECTION 911. COUNTERPARTS.** This Agreement may be executed in more than one counterpart, each of which shall be deemed an original.

**SECTION 912. NO WAIVER OF RIGHTS UNDER SPECIAL ACT.** This Agreement, and specifically its provisions related to the Annual Compensation, is being entered into to resolve a dispute between the parties regarding the determination of the Annual Compensation to be paid to Contractor by the Authority. Authority and Contractor have worked together in good faith to reduce spending under the EMS Mill based upon the extraordinary economic times facing local governments at present. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary contained in this Agreement, it is the intent of Contractor and Authority that any actions or determinations taken in order to reach agreement herein not be seen as a waiver of any rights, claims or defenses that either the Contractor, or the Authority may have under the Special Act. Furthermore, Contractor does not necessarily agree that the Annual Compensation provided under this Agreement constitutes reasonable and customary cost reimbursement by the Authority as required by the Special Act, and, by entering into this Agreement does not waive any rights, claims or defenses that Contractor may have with regard to the determination of reasonable and customary costs in any year not governed by this Agreement. Therefore, the Annual Compensation paid to the Contractor pursuant to this Agreement shall not be used as evidence in any dispute regarding the reasonable and customary costs to be reimbursed by the Authority to the Contractor.

[Signature Page to Follow]

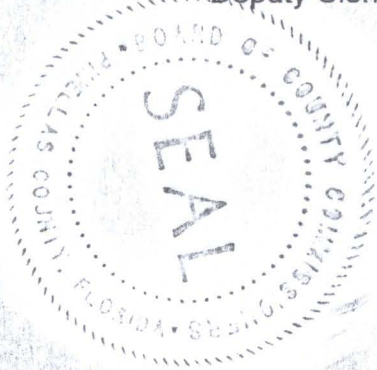
IN WITNESS WHEREOF the parties hereto, by and through their undersigned authorized officers have caused this Agreement to be executed on this 26 day of September, 2017.

ATTEST:  
KENNETH BURKE, CLERK

PINELLAS COUNTY EMERGENCY  
MEDICAL SERVICES AUTHORITY  
By and through its Board of County  
Commissioners

by: *Norman D. Loy*  
Deputy Clerk

by: *Janet C. Long*  
Chairman



APPROVED AS TO FORM

By: *[Signature]*  
Office of the County Attorney

Countersigned:

EAST LAKE TARPON  
SPECIAL FIRE CONTROL DISTRICT

by: *[Signature]*  
Chairman

by: *[Signature]*  
Secretary

Attest:

by: *Tamara Queen*  
Vice Chair

by: *[Signature]*  
Treasurer

**Appendix A**  
**ALS First Responder Profile**

<b>Contractor</b>	East Lake
<b>EMS District(s)</b>	East Lake EMS District
<b>Authority Funded Units</b>	Engine 56 Squad 57 Engine 58
<b>Contractor Funded Units</b>	None
<b>EMS Coordination</b>	EMS Coordinator – 1 FTE
<b>FY17-18 Annual Compensation</b>	\$1,595,751
<b>Projected Capital</b>	FY17-18 None FY18-19 None FY19-20 None FY20-21 None FY21-22 None

**Appendix B**  
**ALS First Responder Contractors**

CITY OF CLEARWATER  
112 S. Osceola Avenue  
Clearwater, FL 33756  
ATTN: City Manager

CITY OF DUNEDIN  
P O Box 1348  
Dunedin, FL 34697  
ATTN: City Manager

EAST LAKE TARPON  
SPECIAL FIRE CONTROL DISTRICT  
3375 Tarpon Lake Boulevard  
Palm Harbor, FL 34685  
ATTN: Chairman, Board of Commissioners

CITY OF GULFPORT  
2401 53rd Street South  
Gulfport, FL 33707  
ATTN: City Manager

CITY OF LARGO  
P O Box 296  
Largo, FL 33779-0296  
ATTN: City Manager

LEALMAN  
SPECIAL FIRE CONTROL DISTRICT  
4360 55th Avenue North  
St. Petersburg, FL 33714  
ATTN: Chairman, Board of Commissioners

CITY OF MADEIRA BEACH  
300 Municipal Drive  
Madeira Beach, FL 33708  
ATTN: City Manager

CITY OF OLDSMAR  
100 State Street West  
Oldsmar, FL 34677-3655  
ATTN: City Manager

PALM HARBOR  
SPECIAL FIRE CONTROL DISTRICT  
250 W. Lake Road  
Palm Harbor, FL 34684  
ATTN: Chairman, Board of Commissioners

CITY OF PINELLAS PARK  
P O Box 1100  
Pinellas Park, FL 33780-1100  
ATTN: City Manager

PINELLAS SUNCOAST  
FIRE & RESCUE DISTRICT  
304 First Street  
Indian Rocks Beach, FL 33785  
ATTN: Chairman, Board of Commissioners

CITY OF SAFETY HARBOR  
750 Main Street  
Safety Harbor, FL 34695-3597  
ATTN: City Manager

CITY OF ST. PETE BEACH  
155 Corey Avenue  
St. Pete Beach, FL 33706-1701  
ATTN: City Manager

CITY OF SEMINOLE  
9199 113<sup>th</sup> Street North  
Seminole, FL 33772-2806  
ATTN: City Manager

CITY OF SOUTH PASADENA  
7047 Sunset Drive South  
South Pasadena, FL 33707-2895  
ATTN: City Clerk

CITY OF TARPON SPRINGS  
324 Pine Street East  
Tarpon Springs, FL 34689  
ATTN: City Manager

CITY OF TREASURE ISLAND  
120 108th Avenue  
Treasure Island, FL 33706-4794  
ATTN: City Manager

**Appendix C**  
**EMS Equipment**

**Provided by the Authority:**

- All Medical Supplies and Equipment authorized by the Authority, except for equipment to be provided by Contractor listed below.
- Phillips MRx ECG Monitor/Defibrillator with the following clinical specifications: biphasic defibrillation, Q-CPR meter, pulse oximetry, waveform capnography, pacing, 12 lead acquisition and transmission, and non-invasive blood pressure monitoring as determined by the Medical Control Board and Authority for all Authority Funded ALS First Responder Units to include all patient cables, accessories, cases, battery chargers and batteries as needed.
- Phillips MRx ECG Monitor/Defibrillators in the same configuration above shall be utilized for reserve and spare equipment. The specific quantity shall be determined by the Authority.

**Provided By Contractor:**

- Rescue equipment required by the Department



Appendix D

**EMS FINANCIAL INFORMATION ATTESTATION FORM**

**Instructions:**

In accordance with the ALS First Responder Agreement, funds provided by the EMS Authority must be used solely for EMS Allowable Costs. Any unspent balance at the conclusion of a fiscal year must be accounted for and returned to the EMS Authority.

The following form is provided for consistent cost reporting and shall be submitted within ten (10) business days of Contractor's receipt of Annual External Audit.

**To be Completed by Contractor:**

City or Fire District (Contractor) \_\_\_\_\_  
Fiscal Year \_\_\_\_\_  
Name of Person Completing Form \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone Number and Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

1. EMS Funding Received by Contractor \$ \_\_\_\_\_
2. EMS Allowable Costs Incurred by Contractor \$ \_\_\_\_\_
3. Difference (If excess, amount due to Pinellas County) \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**PLEASE INCLUDE A COPY OF ANNUAL AUDIT AND  
SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION AS NEEDED.**

I certify the costs identified, in line 2 above, are related to EMS Authorized positions and units and comply with the EMS Allowable Cost Standards contained in Pinellas County EMS Resolution 09-38. I certify that I have reviewed payroll registers, salary and benefit actual expenditures, actual relief staffing costs incurred to maintain continuous staffing of Authority authorized positions, and actual costs of supervision, fuel, maintenance and repairs and other allowable costs.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature and Date, Contractor's External Auditor

