

Program and All Other County Departments) (the “Department”). This Contract does not extend to any third parties any duties or benefits conferred in any manner hereunder or otherwise.

2. Company hereby promises and agrees to render and provide, during the term of this Contract, the following services as described in the Specifications on an as needed basis for Department or its designated agent:

- a. Storage of all new/additional records in new proper storage boxes;
- b. Pick up of files and/or boxes from County for storage on a daily basis at least twice a day (morning by 10:00 a.m. and afternoon by 3:00 p.m.) and on an emergency basis as described in the Specifications.
- c. Delivery of files and/or boxes requested by Department;
- d. Permanent destruction of files no longer required to be stored;
- e. Provision of replacement boxes at no charge to County;
- f. Storage of files/boxes kept on behalf of Department in a centralized location in close proximity to each other (i.e. one location);
- g. Bar-coding of all boxes sent to storage or retrieved from storage before delivery to County Department or before being refilled (bar-coding requirements are more specifically defined in page 5 (#26). **Hidalgo County WIC Program records need to be identified at the file level by the family identifications number, last name and be assigned a barcode.**)

The services described in items 2 (a-g) shall be referred to as the “Services”. Company agrees that in performing the Services it will use proper professional standards, comply with any and all appropriate laws and regulations and shall devote such time as is necessary to safely and efficiently provide the Services.

3. **Definitions:** For purposes of this Contract, the following terms shall mean:

- a. **“Request”** for a file or box shall consist of the Department providing a written form (see Exhibit G) to Company for the exact file/box sought for Retrieval and Delivery.
- b. **“Retrieval”** shall mean the actual transport of a file from storage which is then prepared for delivery to the Department. Any instance in which a file is

requested more than once because the Company failed to deliver or locate such file after the initial request, shall not be considered or counted as a separate retrieval regardless of the reason such delivery was not made.

- c. **“Delivery”** is defined as the actual carrying and turning over to the intended recipient of a file or box requested from storage.
- d. **“Pick Up”** shall mean the actual physical carrying and transporting of a file or box from the Department by the Company with the intent of filing and storing such file or box at the Company’s facility.
- e. **“Destruction of Files”** is defined to mean when a file meets the requirements to be removed from storage in accordance with State law, the Company shall notify the Department in writing of the file’s status. After receiving permission from the Department, the bidder shall be responsible for destroying the file in accordance with state guidelines. Such Destruction of Files shall transpire following a process by which Company formulates a retention schedule as required by State law and destroys the file following the foregoing process.

4. **Term.** This Contract shall be for a period beginning 2008 and ending on 2009 and may be extended at the sole discretion of County for an additional ninety (90) days (the “Grace Period”) for unforeseen delays in the award of a new bid or the County’s inability to obtain all records from the storage site.

5. **Renewal.** County may renew this Contract for two (2) additional one (1) year periods. Except as otherwise provided herein all terms and conditions will remain unchanged and in full force and effect. The option to renew, if exercised, shall be executed in the form of a change order to be issued no sooner than ninety (90) days prior to expiration of the contract and no later than thirty (30) days of the final day of the contract period.

6. **Hours of Service.** Hours for Services shall be normal business hours, 8:00 a.m. through 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, excluding holidays. However, Services must be available at a moment’s notice 24 hours a day, upon written notification by the

Department of an emergency situation (see Exhibit A).

7. **Payment.** As consideration for rendering the Service provided for in this Contract, the County agrees to pay Company the amounts specified in Exhibit "B" (see Bid Sheets) attached hereto payable against written invoice submitted by Company. The parties further agree that this Contract is on an "as-needed" basis as may be convenient and necessary for its proper records management operation and if at any time, the Department does not opt to request any Service in a particular month, no payment shall be due to Company for said month.

8. **Storage Box Specifications.** Contractor agrees to comply with the following box specifications for the storage of the Department's files:

Legal and Letter 12 W X 15 L X 10 H;
Separate Cover; Triple Walled (Width);
Double Walled (Length);
Double Bottom.

9. **Bar Coding Specifications.** Contractor agrees to use the _____ bar-coding system to bar-code all files delivered to County from storage and all files picked up from County for storage. Such system is compatible with the County's internal bar-coding system and must be available at all times during the performance of this Contract.

10. As a condition of this Contract, the storage facility where County records will be stored must be located entirely within Hidalgo County.

11. Company agrees to be solely responsible for the review and compliance of all applicable statutes or regulations related to storage of public records. All record storage management must also be conducted in accordance with applicable State of Texas Library Commission rules and regulations.

12. **Response Time.** The parties agree to the following response time by

Company:

- a. Files and boxes shall be picked up for storage within five (5) days of receipt of work order from the Department.
- b. Retrieval and Delivery of files from storage to the Department shall occur twice a day - by 10 a.m. and by 3 p.m. on the same day a request is made so long as such request is made no later than 1 p.m. For orders placed after 1 p.m., files and boxes shall be delivered on the next business day by 10 a.m.
- c. In the case there is an emergency request for the delivery of a file or box, such delivery shall be made within 2 business hours from the time of the request.
- d. Permanent destruction of files shall occur within five (5) working days of permission to destroy.

13. **Facility Condition.** Company shall provide a storage facility that is free of dust and dirt buildup. The structure shall preferably be a standalone structure, but if shared with other businesses, a firewall of approved construction shall separate the two entities. The facility shall maintain a good fire prevention program based on good housekeeping procedures including but not limited to: (1) Smoking and use of open flame devices in storage areas shall be prohibited; (2) The facility shall have appropriate fire detection and suppression systems with such procedures in place to ensure their effectiveness; (3) Such systems must include adequate smoke and fire early warning systems; (4) Sprinkler systems should be equipped with a warning mechanism to alert staff of activation and have a manual shut-off device to prevent unnecessary water damage to records; (5) Halon is preferred suppression system. The facility shall also be client and humidity controlled with humidity not exceeding sixty percent (60%) and the temperature shall not exceed 90 degrees Fahrenheit in the records storage area. Air quality must be

maintained in a manner that ensures that no contaminant that may cause damage to records (i.e. mold) exists.

14. **Pest Control and Inspections.** The Company agrees to maintain an adequate pest control program that includes at least two (2) termite, silverfish and carpenter ants inspections per year (at least once every six (6) months) by a qualified pest control service company. Proof of such inspections must be provided to the Department. Failure to provide proof of inspections within 10 days of such inspections may result in County terminating the contract without notice to vendor. The County shall be notified immediately if any insect infestation is detected inside the storage facility and immediate remediation measures shall be taken by Company to correct the infestation.

15. **Monthly Reports.** Department shall require Company to provide monthly activity reports reflecting the total number of containers in storage by media type, number of new containers (boxes) added; number of containers (boxes) permanently removed; number of boxes/files requested, number of boxes retrieved; number of boxes delivered and the number of boxes picked up for storage. In addition, the monthly report must include a list of files requested but not found. Monthly reports shall be due at the Department no later than the 10th day after the end of the month. During the first twelve (12) months of the Contract term, the Company agrees to provide County an inventory of all files stored on site.

16. **Security.** The Company shall provide protection against sabotage, theft and vandalism. All visitors to the storage facility shall be required to register upon entrance and monitored during their stay. Exits shall also be in areas that are closely monitored.

17. **On-Site Access.** Company shall work with Department on special projects

requiring temporary staging of records at the records storage facility. These projects are usually for the purpose of verifying contents before destruction, renumbering of boxes, conducting detailed searches, and for shifting files throughout a range of boxes. County agrees to provide a minimum of 24 hours notice for projects that involve staging of ten (10) or more boxes. Department also reserves the right to access the storage premises with reasonable written notice during regular working hours for the purposes of auditing, inspecting, and/or confirming files storage methods.

18. Company shall hold and maintain throughout the term of this Contract all licenses and permits required, or which may be required by any authority during the term hereof to provide the Services.

19. Company shall, at all times, provide a sufficient number of trucks, vehicles, personnel and equipment available to safely and efficiently provide the Services. All trucks or vehicles operated by the Company to perform the Services shall contain all equipment required by any authority to operate on streets and roads and all persons in the employ of Company who operate such trucks or vehicles shall have the required licenses, qualifications, skill and expertise to perform such Services and shall comply with all laws, rules and regulations prescribed by any agency or authority having jurisdiction with regard to the operation of such trucks or vehicles in providing the Services.

20. **Insurance.** Company shall provide insurance in force on all its vehicles and all persons connected with providing the Services under this Contract naming County as an additional insured with coverage and in the amounts described in Exhibit "C" attached hereto and incorporated herein for all purposes, and shall furnish to County certificates of such insurance coverage.

21. **Indemnification.** Company shall indemnify and hold harmless County, its elected officials, employees and agents from any and all claims, damages, losses, and expenses including attorney's fees, for the defense of any action against County arising out of, resulting from, or connected with the provision of the Services by Company under this Contract. Said indemnity shall cover any act or failure to act by the Company, its agents or employees.

22. **Non-Assignment.** This Contract shall not be assignable in whole or in part by either party without prior written consent of the other party.

23. **Conflict of Applicable Law.** Nothing in this Agreement shall be construed so as to require the commission of any act contrary to law, and whenever there is any conflict between and provision of their Agreement and any present or future law, ordinance or administrative, executive or judicial regulation, order or decree, or amendment thereof, contrary to which the parties have no legal right to contract, the latter shall prevail, but in such event the affected provision or provision of this Agreement shall be modified only to the extent necessary to bring them within the legal requirements and only during the times such conflict exists.

24. **Successors.** This Contract shall be binding upon and inure to the benefit of the parties hereto and their respective heirs, executors, administrators, legal representatives, successors, and assigns where permitted by this Contract.

25. **Independent Contractor.** The Company, at all times will act as an independent contractor providing the Services and will not act or hold itself out to third parties as an employee or agent of County in the provision of the Services. The County shall not control how the results or the details of the Services are provided and/or achieved. As an

Independent Contractor, Company shall supply its own tools, equipment, materials, supplies and/or labor as may be necessary to complete the Services and shall not rely on or require the County to supply any of the above, unless otherwise specified in this Contract.

26. Any notice required or permitted to be given hereunder shall be in writing and shall be delivered personally or sent by certified mail, postage prepaid, as set forth below:

If to County: The County of Hidalgo
 Attn: County Judge
 100 E. Cano
 Edinburg, Texas 78539

If to Company: _____

27. In case any one or more of the provisions contained in this Agreement shall for any reason be held to be invalid, illegal or unenforceable in any respect, such invalidity, illegality, or unenforceability shall not affect any other provision thereof and this Agreement shall be construed as if such invalid, illegal, or unenforceable provision had never been contained herein.

28. **Termination.** This Contract shall be in effect until (a) the Contract expires; or (b) performance of all specifications, requirements and services are completed; or (c) terminated by either party with thirty (30) days written notice with or without cause; or (d) upon award of contract to a new bidder, whichever comes first.

29. Upon the termination or expiration of the Contract, the Company shall make available to the County, any and all County records it holds in its possession in a timely manner but in no circumstances any longer than thirty (30) days upon termination or expiration of the Contract in order for the County to transport such files to its own facility or

another facility. All such files shall be made available to the County for transport at no additional cost to the County. **Company understands that all files held in storage on behalf of the County are important public records and are public property which must be returned to an appropriate County Official regardless of when and/or where they are located in the future.**

30. This Agreement shall be binding upon and inure to the benefit of and be enforceable by the parties hereto and their respective heirs, executors, administrators, legal representatives, successors, and assigns where permitted by this Agreement.

31. **TEXAS LAW TO APPLY. THIS CONTRACT SHALL BE CONSTRUED UNDER AND IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE LAWS OF THE STATE OF TEXAS, AND ALL OBLIGATIONS OF THE PARTIES CREATED HEREUNDER ARE PERFORMABLE IN HIDALGO COUNTY, TEXAS. THE PARTIES HEREBY CONSENT TO PERSONAL JURISDICTION IN HIDALGO COUNTY, TEXAS.**

32. **Liquidated Damages.** The Company acknowledges that the files and documents being stored are important public records, and that the ultimate safety and security of the documents and files rests with the Department. The Company and County agree that the loss of files or documents by the vendor will result in certain damages and costs to the County which are not accurately ascertainable. Therefore, in the event that a file is lost or destroyed as a result of the negligent or willful act of the Company or its agents, employees, officers or contractors, and said loss or destruction is not covered by insurance required to be maintained under other provisions of this Contract, the Company and County agree that Company shall pay to Hidalgo County, as liquidated damages, the sum of One Thousand Dollars and no/100ths (\$1,000.00) for each file or portion of a file

33. **Changes to Contract.** The County Purchasing Department may at any time, by written order, and without notice to the Company's sureties, make reasonable changes within the general scope of the contract in any of the following: (1) method of delivery or pickup of files; (2) place of deliveries; (3) corrections of errors of a general administrative nature or other mistakes; the correction of which does not affect the scope of the contract, or does not result in expense to Company; (4) description of services to be provided which do not result in additional expenses to the Company; (5) time of performance (i.e. hours of day, days of week, etc.). All other amendments to the Contract shall be agreed to by both parties and shall be made in writing by Contract amendment.

34. **Commitment of Current Revenues Only.** In the event that during any term hereof, the County's governing body does not appropriate sufficient funds to meet its obligations of this Contract, then the County may terminate this Contract upon sixty (60) days written notice to the Company. The County however, agrees to use its best efforts to secure funds necessary for the continued performance of this Contract. The County intends this provision to be a continuing right to terminate this Contract at the expiration of each budget period pursuant to the provisions of Tex. Loc. Govt. Code Ann. §271.903.

34. **Entire Agreement.** This Agreement contains the entire contract between the parties hereto and each party acknowledges that neither has made (either directly or through any agent or representative) any representation or agreement in connection with this Agreement not specifically set forth herein. This Agreement may be modified or amended only by agreement in writing executed by County and La Joya, and not otherwise.

WITNESS our hands in duplicate originals this _____ day of _____, 200__.

Approved by Commissioners' Court on, _____ day of _____, 200__.

COUNTY OF HIDALGO

ATTEST:

By: _____
Juan D. Salinas, III, County Judge

Arturo Guajardo Jr., County Clerk

COMPANY

By: _____
Printed Name: _____
Title: _____

APPROVED AS TO FORM:
Atlas & Hall, L.L.P.

By: _____