

# COUNTY of HIDALGO



HIDALGO COUNTY AUDITOR'S OFFICE  
Hidalgo County Administration Building  
2808 South Business Highway 281  
Edinburg, Texas 78539-6243  
PHONE: (956) 318-2511  
FAX: (956) 318-2577  
WEBSITE: [www.co.hidalgo.tx.us/auditor](http://www.co.hidalgo.tx.us/auditor)

EDINBURG, TEXAS 78539

August 26, 2020

The Honorable Richard Cortez, Hidalgo County Judge  
The Honorable David Fuentes, Commissioner, Precinct No. 1  
The Honorable Eduardo "Eddie" Cantu, Commissioner, Precinct No. 2  
The Honorable Jose M. Flores, Commissioner, Precinct No. 3  
The Honorable Ellie Torres, Commissioner, Precinct No. 4

## RE: Certification of Revenue

Dear Judge and Commissioners:

Pursuant to Local Government Code § 111.0706 SPECIAL BUDGET FOR GRANT OR AID MONEY:

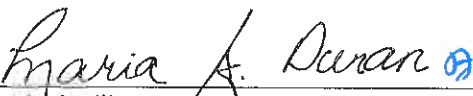
The county auditor shall certify to the commissioners court the receipt of all public or private grant or aid money that is available for disbursement in a fiscal year but not included in the budget for that fiscal year. On certification, the court shall adopt a special budget for the limited purpose of spending the grant or aid money for its intended purpose.

I, Maria Arcilia Duran, County Auditor of Hidalgo County, certify to the Hidalgo County Commissioners Court the receipt of an award from the Attorney General of Texas (OAG). These funds may now be made available by creating a new special budget or amending a current budget for its intended purposes.

AMOUNT  
\$30,122.51

PURPOSE  
Texas Vine Program OAG Contract No. 2111201

CERTIFIED BY:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Maria Arcilia Duran, CPA  
Hidalgo County Auditor

8-26-20  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

### HIDALGO COUNTY DISTRICT JUDGES

EMIS M. SINGLETERRY  
JUDGE, 62<sup>ND</sup> D.C.

BERNARDO MARRAS  
JUDGE, 67<sup>TH</sup> D.C.

J. R. "BOBBY" FLORES  
JUDGE, 159<sup>TH</sup> D.C.

ROSE GUERRA REYNA  
JUDGE, 205<sup>TH</sup> D.C.

MARLA CUELLAR  
JUDGE, 275<sup>TH</sup> D.C.

MARIO E. RAMIREZ, JR.  
JUDGE, 322<sup>ND</sup> D.C.

NOE GONZALEZ  
JUDGE, 370<sup>TH</sup> D.C.  
OVERSEER

LETICIA LOPEZ  
JUDGE, 389<sup>TH</sup> D.C.

L. KENO VASQUEZ  
JUDGE, 395<sup>TH</sup> D.C.

ISRAEL RAMON, JR.  
JUDGE, 430<sup>TH</sup> D.C.

RENEE R. BETANCOURT  
JUDGE, 448<sup>TH</sup> D.C.

YSMAEL D. FONSECA  
JUDGE, 454<sup>TH</sup> D.C.

# HIDALGO COUNTY texas

## DEPARTMENT OF BUDGET & MANAGEMENT

O: (956) 292-7025  
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2818 S. Business Hwy. 281  
Edinburg, Texas 78539

### MEMORANDUM

**To:** Maria Arcilia Duran, CPA, County Auditor

**From:** Sergio Cruz, Budget Officer *sc*

**Date:** Wednesday, August 26, 2020

**Subject:** Certification of Revenues – FY 2021 TEXAS VINE GRANT PROGRAM

**Cc:** Linda Fong, 1<sup>st</sup> Assistant County Auditor  
Deborah Fischer, Grants Accounting Supervisor  
Rossana Schettino, Grants Accountant II  
Ivan Cantu, Budget Analyst III

Please let this memo serve as a request for a Certification of Revenues letter from your office in relation to the FY 2021 Texas VINE Program with the Office of the Attorney General of Texas. The Statewide Automated Victim Notification Services (SAVNS) agreement term is from September 1, 2020 to August 31, 2021 in the amount of \$30,122.51.

Please be advised that an agenda item to appropriate these funds will be presented in the next Commissioners Court meeting of Tuesday, September 1, 2020 (AI-77065).

Thank you for your prompt attention to this matter. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at (956) 292-7025 ext. 5424 or Ivan Cantu, Budget Analyst III at ext. 5425.

AI-77065

Budget and Management  
44. A.

CC REGULAR AGENDA SPECIAL MTG Other

Meeting Date: 09/01/2020

Submitted For: Damaris San Miguel, BUDGET & MANAGEMENT

Submitted By: Ivan Cantu, BUDGET & MANAGEMENT

Department: BUDGET & MANAGEMENT

Information

CAPTION

**FY 2021 Texas VINE Grant Program (1283):**

1. Discussion, consideration, and approval to enter into the Statewide Automated Victim Notification Service (SAVNS) contract for FY 2021 (September 1, 2020-August 31, 2021) between Hidalgo County and the Office of the Attorney General of Texas with authorization for County Judge to execute the agreement electronically.
2. Approval of certification of revenues, as certified by the County Auditor for the FY 2021 Texas VINE Grant Program in the amount of \$30,122.51 and appropriation of the same.
3. Discussion, consideration, and approval to enter into a First Contract Renewal between Hidalgo County and Appriss, Inc. for FY 2021 (September 1, 2020-August 31, 2021) with authorization for County Judge to execute agreement.

BACKGROUND

OAG Contract No.: 2111201

Appriss First Contract Renewal Contract No: 20202144900-399-01

FY 2021 term: Sept. 1, 2020 to Aug. 31, 2021.

Fiscal Impact

CALENDAR YEAR: 2020 ACCT. #: 0-1283-415-00-200-005-1-336

FUNDS AVAILABLE Y/N?: Y MATCHING FUNDS Y/N?: N

BUDGETARY IMPACT:

Appropriation of the Texas VINE Program for FY 2021 Annual SAVNS grant contract with the Texas Attorney General, pending certification of revenues by the Co. Auditor. FY 2021 term is from 9-1-2020 to 8-31-2021.

Revenue acct #0-1283-334-10-200-005-1-000 *TEXAS VINE PROGRAM*  
*REVENUES*

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Attachments

FY 2021 OAG Agreement

FY 2021 Appriss Agreement

Appropriation

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Form Review

Inbox

Reviewed By

Date

Ivan Cantu (Originator)

Budget & Management

Final Approval

Form Started By: Ivan Cantu

Started On: 08/24/2020 02:33 PM



**RE: FY 2021 SAVNS Grant Contract**

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**Contract Number:** 2111201 ✓

**Grantee:** Hidalgo County

**Amount:** \$30,122.51 ✓

**Executed:**

**Term:** September 1, 2020 – August 31, 2021 ✓

**Budget Coding:**

ORG	PCA	Agy Obj
966	10352	5137

# SAVNS MAINTENANCE GRANT CONTRACT

OAG Contract No. 2111201

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

## SECTION 1. PURPOSE OF THE CONTRACT

The purpose of the OAG Statewide Automated Victim Notification Service (SAVNS) grant program is to assist Texas counties and other entities in maintaining a statewide system that will provide relevant offender release information, notification of relevant court settings or events to crime victims and other interested individuals, promote public safety, and support the rights of victims of crime. To ensure a standard statewide service to a variety of political subdivisions of the State of Texas, including counties, county Sheriffs, clerks and attorneys, district attorneys, and courts ("Participating Entities"), including GRANTEE, the OAG makes grant funds available for eligible expenses related to SAVNS services delivered to GRANTEE by the vendor certified by the OAG.

The OAG published a Request for Offer (RFO) for Statewide Automated Victim Services May 11, 2019. After an evaluation of offers, the OAG identified, certified, and entered into a contract with a single vendor to provide statewide automated victim notification services ("SAVNS Services"). The initial term of the OAG Vendor Certification and Service Agreement ("OAG Certification Agreement") is/was from September 1, 2019 to August 31, 2020 ("Initial Term"). On June 25, 2020, OAG exercised its right to renew the OAG Certification Agreement with the renewal term to begin on September 1, 2020 and end on August 31, 2022 ("First Renewal Term"). The vendor certified to provide the services is Appriss, Inc., ("Certified Vendor"), a Kentucky corporation authorized to do business in Texas.

## SECTION 2. TERM OF THE CONTRACT

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

## SECTION 3. GRANTEE'S CONTRACTUAL SERVICES

**3.1. Grantee Participating Entity Service Contract.** GRANTEE shall execute a service agreement with the Certified Vendor to provide services consistent with, and subject to the limitations contained in, the OAG Certification Agreement and documents incorporated therein.

Specifically, the Participating Entity Service Contract attached hereto as Exhibit B shall be used by GRANTEE in entering into a contractual relationship with the Certified Vendor. All grant funds provided under this Grant Contract shall be conditioned on the GRANTEE's use of the exemplar Participating Entity Service Contract, as attached hereto, and in addition to any requisite amendment, renewal, or extensions made or otherwise exercised by GRANTEE pursuant to Section 1 therein. GRANTEE further acknowledges and agrees that no changes or modifications may be made to the Participating Entity Service Contract or to any executed Participating Entity Service Contract between GRANTEE and the Certified Vendor, except as specifically authorized within this Grant Contract in Section 3.1.1 below, as otherwise separately authorized by the OAG in writing, or to accomplish an amendment, renewal, or extension made or otherwise exercised by GRANTEE pursuant to Section 1 therein. Notwithstanding the foregoing, GRANTEE is encouraged to negotiate and include additional terms and conditions individually tailored to meet the GRANTEE's unique needs related to the SAVNS program, only to the extent any such additional terms and conditions do not limit or otherwise conflict with the exemplar Participating Entity Service Contract as attached hereto as Exhibit B.

**3.1.1 Authorized Modifications to the Participating Entity Service Agreement.** GRANTEE is hereby authorized, without additional approval of the OAG, to include additional terms, conditions, or requirements related to the following sections of the Participating Entity Service Agreement as attached hereto as Exhibit B:

- a. 6 Additional Services: GRANTEE may require, negotiate, and include additional terms or conditions relating to the mutual agreement, provision, and payment for Additional Services that do not otherwise modify, impact, or limit the services required under the exemplar Participating Entity Service Agreement;
- b. Section 7.1 Performance Reports: GRANTEE may require reports relating to the performance standards and requirements of the SAVNS system under the exemplar Participating Entity Service Agreement;
- c. Section 7.2 Performance Remedies: GRANTEE may require additional terms or conditions relating to the calculation and withholding mechanism for Certified Vendor's failure to meet its performance requirements the exemplar Participating Entity Service Agreement;
- d. Sections 9.2(a) and 9.2(b)(iii) Standard of Care: GRANTEE may require Certified Vendor to comply with its own internal security standards, in addition to any security standards included in the exemplar Participating Entity Service Agreement, and incorporate such standards into the Participating Entity Service Agreement by reference;
- e. Sections 9.3(b), 9.3(c), and 9.3(d) Information Security: GRANTEE may require Certified Vendor to comply with its own internal security standards, in addition to any security standards included in the exemplar Participating Entity Service Agreement, and incorporate such standards into the Participating Entity Service Agreement by reference;
- f. Section 9.4(b)(iv) Security Breach Procedures: GRANTEE may require

- Certified Vendor to comply with its own internal security standards, in addition to any security standards included in the exemplar Participating Entity Service Agreement, and incorporate such standards into the Participating Entity Service Agreement by reference;
- g. Section 9.5 Oversight of Security Compliance: GRANTEE may require Certified Vendor to comply with its own internal security standards, in addition to any security standards included in the exemplar Participating Entity Service Agreement, and incorporate such standards into the Participating Entity Service Agreement by reference;
  - h. Section 10.4 Exclusions: GRANTEE may require Certified Vendor to comply with its own internal security standards, in addition to any security standards included in the exemplar Participating Entity Service Agreement, and incorporate such standards into the Participating Entity Service Agreement by reference;
  - i. Section 12.1 Limitation of Liability: The Certified Vendor may request a limitation of liability to be included. It is incumbent on the GRANTEE to determine if the proposed limitation is sufficient, permissible under applicable state and local law, and whether or not to include and incorporate such limitation into the Participating Entity Service Agreement;
  - j. Section 12.2 Indemnification: GRANTEE may require, negotiate, and include additional or alternative indemnification provisions, to the extent such provisions are permissible under applicable state and local law, either in addition to or in lieu of those included within the Participating Entity Service Agreement; and
  - k. Section 14.5 Dispute Resolution: GRANTEE may require specific dispute resolution provisions compliant with its local laws, regulations, and other policies applicable to the GRANTEE.

**3.1.2 Executed Copy of Financial Participating Entity Service Contract Required.** GRANTEE is hereby placed on immediate financial hold, consistent with Section 9.2 of this Grant Contract, and will remain on financial hold until OAG receives an executed copy of the Participating Service Contract along with any requisite amendment, renewal, or extensions made or otherwise exercised by GRANTEE pursuant to Section 1 therein in accordance with and as required by this section. To the extent the executed Participating Entity Service Contract includes any additional terms or conditions that limit or otherwise conflict with the exemplar Participating Entity Service Contract as attached here as Exhibit B, the GRANTEE will continue to remain on financial hold until GRANTEE provides OAG an executed Participating Service Contract in accordance with and as required by this section and consistent with the exemplar Participating Entity Service Contract as attached here as Exhibit B.

**3.2 Grantee Maintenance Plan.** GRANTEE agrees to establish and follow a “Maintenance Plan.” The Maintenance Plan, at a minimum, will be designed to accomplish the following: make

available offender information that is timely, accurate, and relevant to support the SAVNS Services; verify the Certified Vendor's performance according to the Participating Entity Service Contract; satisfactorily discharge GRANTEE's obligations as described in the Participating Entity Service Contract; and identify and dedicate GRANTEE staff, resources, and equipment necessary to maintain the SAVNS services in the Participating Entity Service Contract.

**3.3 GRANTEE Service Levels.** In addition to other service levels that the GRANTEE may impose, GRANTEE will inspect, monitor, and verify the performances required of the Certified Vendor as provided in the Participating Entity Service Contract as well as this Grant Contract. GRANTEE will execute a Participating Entity Service Contract with the Certified Vendor for the term of this Grant Contract. GRANTEE will verify that input data (the jail and court data elements used by the SAVNS system) is entered accurately and on a timely basis.

GRANTEE will allow on-site monitoring visits to be conducted by OAG or its authorized representative.

**3.4 Cooperation with Statewide Stakeholders.** GRANTEE will reasonably cooperate with and participate in Statewide Stakeholder meetings and efforts to monitor and improve the SAVNS services on a statewide basis. GRANTEE may reasonably agree to designate third-parties to assist the OAG, GRANTEE, and the other Statewide Stakeholders in the overall monitoring, inspection, and verification of the Certified Vendor's performances.

**3.5 E-Vine Upgrade and Cooperation for Implementation.** As part of the contract award and certification by the OAG, the Certified Vendor will begin transitioning to a new system to deliver the SAVNS services known as "E-Vine" with an expected completion by early FY 2023. E-Vine will provide the GRANTEE enhanced functionality and services such as a Service Provider Directory, an Offender Watch List, a Contact List, a quick escape button and Interactive Voice Response Technology. To facilitate this transition, funds for the E-VINE upgrade costs have been added to this Grant Contract. The Certified Vendor will perform work on the transition to E-Vine throughout the next three years and will bill E-Vine costs on a quarterly basis and in addition to the regular SAVNS maintenance fees. The OAG will advise GRANTEE of any associated transition activities as needed and GRANTEE shall reasonably cooperate with the Certified Vendor in these transition activities.

**3.6 Scope of Services.** For the purpose of this Grant Contract, the requirements, duties, and obligations contained in Section 3 of this Grant Contract are collectively referred to as the "Scope of Services." As a condition of reimbursement, GRANTEE agrees to faithfully, timely, and in a good and workman-like manner implement and maintain the services in compliance with the Scope of Services. GRANTEE shall bear full and sole responsibility for the integrity of the fiscal and programmatic management of its SAVNS program.

**3.7 Special Conditions.** The OAG may, at its sole discretion, impose additional requirements not specifically provided for in this Contract based on a need for information, ("Special Conditions") on GRANTEE, without notice and without amending this Grant Contract. The

imposition of any Special Conditions places GRANTEE on immediate financial hold, consistent with section 9.2, without further notice, until all Special Conditions are satisfied.

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

##### **4.1 General Matters**

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

**4.1.2 Cooperation; Additional Information.** GRANTEE shall cooperate fully with the OAG. In addition to the information contained in the required reports, other information may be required as requested by the OAG.

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

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

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

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

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

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

**4.1.6 Public Information Act.** GRANTEE acknowledges that information, documents, and communications created or exchanged in the provision of services required by this Grant Contract may be subject to the Texas Public Information Act, Chapter 552 of the Texas Government Code, and may be subject to required disclosure in a publicly accessible format at no charge to the State, pursuant to Section 2252.907 of the Texas Government Code.

## **4.2 Programmatic Reports**

**4.2.1 Service Reports.** GRANTEE shall submit service delivery reports, programmatic performance reports and other reports to the extent requested by OAG, in a format and on a timely basis, as established by the OAG. GRANTEE will submit other reports as requested by the OAG.

**4.2.2 Written Explanation of Variance.** GRANTEE shall provide a written explanation to the OAG on a quarterly basis to the extent that the performance of the SAVNS system, the Certified Vendor, or the GRANTEE varies from the projected performance thereof as provided in the Maintenance Plan required by Section 3.2 hereunder. In addition to the written explanation, GRANTEE shall promptly answer any questions from the OAG, whether in writing or otherwise, in connection with the quarterly and annual reports presented to the OAG.

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

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

**4.2.4 “Problem Log.”** GRANTEE shall establish a “Problem Log” that records all problems noted with the SAVNS system, including, but not limited to, system down time, system outages, and equipment failure. The Problem Log will provide when the problem was identified, to whom the problem was referred, steps taken to resolve the problem, and when the problem was resolved. GRANTEE shall provide OAG with any and all Problem Logs at OAG’s request.

### **4.3 Financial Matters**

**4.3.1 Annual Budgets.** With regard to the use of funds pursuant to this Grant Contract, GRANTEE will immediately review the budget for the fiscal year and the allowable expenditures, as shown on Exhibit A.

**4.3.2 Quarterly Requests for Reimbursement.** OAG grant funds will be paid on a cost-reimbursement basis no more frequently than quarterly pursuant to the process below. The OAG shall only reimburse actual and allowable allocable costs incurred and paid by GRANTEE during the term of this contract. The OAG is not obligated to reimburse expenses that were incurred prior to the commencement or after the termination or expiration of this contract. Any payments made by the OAG shall not exceed the actual and allowable allocable costs of GRANTEE to obtain services from the Certified Vendor for services within the “scope of services” of this contract. GRANTEE will submit to the OAG requests for reimbursement for the actual and allowable allocable costs incurred by GRANTEE to obtain services from the Certified Vendor for services within the “scope of services” of this Grant Contract. GRANTEE is responsible for submitting its invoices to the OAG in an accurate and timely manner. The requests for reimbursement must be accompanied by supporting documentation as required by the OAG. The OAG may from time to time require different or additional supporting documentation.

**a.** GRANTEE shall submit a request for reimbursement to the OAG for the prior quarter by the fifth (5th) of the next month following the end of each quarter. The four quarters for each fiscal year covered by the term of this Grant Contract end respectively on November 30, February 28, May 31, and August 31.

**b.** GRANTEE shall include a verification with its request for reimbursement stating that the GRANTEE received the services from the Certified Vendor during the preceding quarter and incurred the actual and allowable allocable costs for which GRANTEE seeks reimbursement.

**c.** If GRANTEE does not submit the required request for reimbursement and verification to the OAG within forty-five (45) days of the next month following the end of any quarter, the OAG will determine what steps will be taken next, including placing the grant contract on financial hold or terminating the grant contract. If an OAG grant contract is placed on financial hold or terminated, the GRANTEE remains responsible for any contractual obligation it has with Certified Vendor. The OAG will not be responsible for collection efforts on behalf of the Certified Vendor.

**4.3.3 Limited Pre-Reimbursement Funding to GRANTEE.** Notwithstanding Section 4.3.2 above, the OAG, may, at its sole discretion, provide limited pre-reimbursement funding for

reimbursable expenses to GRANTEE. This limited funding is not preferred and may be allowed upon submission of the following written documentation supporting the request:

- a. A fully executed Participating Entity Services Agreement with the Certified Vendor for the time period covered by this Grant Contract;
- b. An invoice from the Certified Vendor which includes the dates covered under this Grant Contract;
- c. A completed OAG form "Verification of Continuing Production Record" which shall be provided by the OAG upon request;
- d. An invoice to the OAG that complies with the requirements of the OAG; and
- e. A written justification, signed by the Authorized Official or the Authorized Official's designee, explaining the need for pre-reimbursement funding.

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

- a. **Record of Reimbursement.** GRANTEE will submit a reconciled record of its expenses for the prior fiscal year.
- b. **Equipment Inventory Report.** GRANTEE will submit an Equipment Inventory Report which provides a record of the current inventory of items purchased, disposed of, replaced or transferred for any equipment that was purchased with grant funds.

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

**4.3.5 Close Out Invoice** GRANTEE shall submit a final invoice not later than forty-five (45) days after the earlier of (1) the termination of this Grant Contract; or (2) the end of each state fiscal year covered by the term of this Grant Contract.

**4.3.6 Refunds and Deductions.** If the OAG determines that an overpayment of grant funds under this Grant Contract has occurred, such as payments made inadvertently, pre-reimbursement payments that were not expended, or payments made but later determined not to be actual and allowable allocable costs, the OAG may seek a refund from GRANTEE and/or the Certified Vendor. The OAG, in its sole discretion, may offset and deduct the amount of the overpayment

from any amount owed as a reimbursement under this Grant Contract, or may choose to require a payment directly from GRANTEE and/or the Certified Vendor rather than offset and deduct any amount. GRANTEE and/or the Certified Vendor shall promptly refund any overpayment to the OAG within thirty (30) calendar days of the receipt of the notice of the overpayment from the OAG unless an alternate payment plan is specified by the OAG.

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

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

**4.3.8 Direct Deposit.** GRANTEE may make a written request to the OAG to be placed on Direct Deposit status by completing and submitting to the OAG the State Comptroller's Direct Deposit Authorization Form. After the direct deposit request is approved by the OAG and the setup is completed on the Texas Identification Number System by the State Comptroller's Office, payment will be remitted by direct deposit and the OAG will discontinue providing GRANTEE with copies of reimbursement vouchers.

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

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

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

**5.2 Maximum Liability of OAG.** The maximum liability of the OAG is contained in the attached Exhibit A. Any change to the maximum liability is void unless supported by a written amendment to this Grant Contract executed between OAG and GRANTEE.

**5.3 Payment of Authorized Costs.** In accordance with the terms of this Grant Contract, the OAG will pay costs as explicitly authorized pursuant to this Grant Contract. The OAG is not obligated to pay unauthorized costs.

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

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

## SECTION 6. TERMINATION

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

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

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

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

**6.4 Refunds to OAG by GRANTEE.** If the GRANTEE terminates for convenience under Section 6.1, or if the OAG terminates under Sections 6.1 or 6.2 before the purpose of this Grant

Contract is accomplished, then the OAG may require the GRANTEE and/or the Certified Vendor to refund all or some of the grant funds paid under this Grant Contract. Such funds include those funds representing the number of months of SAVNS services that were previously invoiced and paid by the OAG under this Grant Contract.

**6.5 Notices to Certified Vendor.** Any termination of this Grant Contract will also be forwarded by the terminating party to the Certified Vendor.

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

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

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

**7.3 Audit Trails.** GRANTEE shall maintain appropriate audit trails to provide accountability for all reporting measures and requests for reimbursement. Audit trails maintained by GRANTEE will, at a minimum, identify the supporting documentation prepared by GRANTEE to permit an audit of its systems. GRANTEE's automated systems, if any, must provide the means whereby authorized personnel have the ability to audit and verify contractually required performances and to establish individual accountability for any action that can potentially cause access to, generation of, or modification of confidential information.

**7.4 Access and Audit.** At the request of the OAG, GRANTEE shall grant access to and make available all paper and electronic records, books, documents, accounting procedures, practices, and any other items relevant to the performance of this Grant Contract, compliance with applicable state or federal laws and regulations, and the operation and management of GRANTEE to the OAG or its designees for the purposes of inspecting, auditing, or copying such items. GRANTEE will direct any other entity, person, or contractor receiving funds directly under this Grant Contract or through a subcontract under this Grant Contract to likewise permit access to, inspection of, and reproduction of all books, records, and other relevant information of the entity, person, or contractor(s) that pertain to this Grant Contract. All records, books, documents, accounting

procedures, practices, and any other items, in whatever form, relevant to the performance of this Grant Contract, shall be subject to examination or audit. Whenever practical as determined at the sole discretion of the OAG, the OAG shall provide GRANTEE with up to five (5) business days' notice of any such examination or audit.

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

**7.6 Location.** Any audit of records shall be conducted at GRANTEE's principal place of business and/or the location(s) of GRANTEE's operations during GRANTEE's normal business hours. GRANTEE shall provide to OAG or its designees, on GRANTEE's premises (or if the audit is being performed of a subcontractor, the subcontractor's premises if necessary) private space, office furnishings (including lockable cabinets), telephone and facsimile services, utilities, and office-related equipment and duplicating services as OAG or its designees may reasonably require to perform the audits described in this Grant Contract.

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

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

be subject to change during the term of the contract, in the sole discretion of the OAG.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

applies.

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

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

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

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

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

Enforcement has certified that GRANTEE is in the process of achieving compliance.

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

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

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

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

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

**timely written notice to each other of any such claim.**

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

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

GRANTEE shall obtain from subrecipients, contractors, and subcontractors (if any) all rights and data necessary to fulfill the GRANTEE's obligations to the OAG under this Grant Contract. If a proposed subrecipient, contractor, or subcontractor refuses to accept terms affording the OAG such rights, Grantee shall promptly bring such refusal to the attention of the OAG Program Manager for the contract and not proceed with the agreement in question without further authorization from the OAG.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

**11.13 Texas Public Information Act.** Information, documentation, and other material in connection with this Grant Contract or the underlying grant may be subject to public disclosure pursuant to Chapter 552 of the Texas Government Code (the "Public Information Act"). In accordance with Section 2252.907 of the Texas Government Code, GRANTEE is required to make any information created or exchanged with OAG, the State of Texas, or any state agency pursuant to the contract, and not otherwise excepted from disclosure under the Texas Public Information Act, available in a format that is accessible by the public at no additional charge to OAG, the State of Texas, or any state agency.

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

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

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

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

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

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

**12.5 Non-waiver.** The failure of any Party to insist upon strict performance of any of the terms

or conditions herein, irrespective of the length of time of such failure, shall not be a waiver of that party's right to demand strict compliance in the future. No consent or waiver, express or implied, to or of any breach or default in the performance of any obligation under this Grant Contract shall constitute a consent or waiver to or of any breach or default in the performance of the same or any other obligation of this Grant Contract.

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

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

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

**OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY  
GENERAL**

Hidalgo County

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

\_\_\_\_\_  
Printed Name: Richard Cortez  
Authorized Official

**SAVNS MAINTENANCE GRANT CONTRACT**

**OAG Contract No. 2111201**

**EXHIBIT A**

**Population Size:** Large

The total liability of the OAG for any type of liability directly or indirectly arising out of this Grant Contract and in consideration of GRANTEE'S full, satisfactory and timely performance of all its duties, responsibilities, obligations, liability, and for reimbursement by the OAG for expenses, if any, as set forth in this Grant Contract or arising out of any performance herein shall not exceed the following:

<b>Annual Cost for Jail</b>	<b>Annual Cost for Courts</b>	<b>Annual E-Vine Upgrade Cost</b>	<b>MAXIMUM REIMBURSABLE COSTS</b>
\$24,478.16	\$4,068.60	\$1,575.75	\$30,122.51

The annual costs listed above will be billed by the Vendor on a quarterly basis pursuant to the terms of Participating entity Service Agreement (Exhibit B). The OAG is not obligated to pay for services prior to the commencement or after the termination of this Grant Contract.

**Exhibit B**  
**FIRST CONTRACT RENEWAL**  
**PARTICIPATING ENTITY SERVICES AGREEMENT FOR THE**  
**STATEWIDE AUTOMATED VICTIM NOTIFICATION SERVICE (SAVNS)**

**Contract No.**

WHEREAS, the Office of the Attorney General (OAG) is the Texas State agency tasked with certifying a statewide vendor to provide a Statewide Automated Victim Notification Service (SAVNS) to a variety of political subdivisions of the State of Texas, including counties, county Sheriffs, clerks and attorneys, district attorneys, and courts ("Participating Entities");

WHEREAS OAG certified and contracted with **Appriss Inc. ("Vendor")** as the statewide vendor to provide SAVNS to each of the Participating Entities ("OAG Certification Agreement");

WHEREAS [NAMED ENTITY] as a Participating Entity and VENDOR executed a Participating Services Agreement identified as Contract No. [INSERT CONTRACT NUMBER] under which VENDOR would provide SAVNS to [NAMED ENTITY] (the "Contract");

WHEREAS SECTION 1 of the Contract permitted the [NAMED ENTITY] to, in its sole and absolute discretion, renew the Contract, for four (4) additional one (1) year renewal terms (each a "Renewal Term") to the extent the OAG Certification Agreement, remains in effect;

WHEREAS the OAG exercised its option to renew the OAG Certification Agreement, extending the term thereof to August 31, 2022;

NOW, THEREFORE, THIS **FIRST CONTRACT RENEWAL** is exercised by [NAMED ENTITY] as follows:

The Contract is set to terminate on August 31, 2020. The Contract is hereby renewed, with this First Contract Renewal Term ("First Renewal Term") to begin on September 1, 2020 and end of August 31, 2021. Pursuant to Section 1 of the Contract, this First Renewal Term and any subsequent renewals, shall be subject to all specifications and terms and conditions of the Contract, the OAG Certification Agreement, and the Incorporated Documents as defined in Section 2 therein.

**[NAMED ENTITY] by:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Signature*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Date*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Name*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Title*

**Acknowledged by Appriss, Inc.**

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Signature*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Date*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Name*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Title*

### Certificate Of Completion

Envelope Id: D2440A7D90E2498DB7E38E623A2C2D50	Status: Sent
Subject: Please DocuSign: FY 2021 SAVNS Grant Contract	
Template ID:	
Source Envelope:	
Document Pages: 22	Signatures: 0
Certificate Pages: 7	Initials: 0
AutoNav: Enabled	Envelope Originator:
EnvelopeId Stamping: Disabled	Karly Watson
Time Zone: (UTC-06:00) Central Time (US & Canada)	PO Box 12548
	Austin, TX 78711-2548
	Karly.Watson@oag.texas.gov
	IP Address: 204.64.50.216

### Record Tracking

Status: Original	Holder: Karly Watson	Location: DocuSign
8/19/2020 5:20:18 PM	Karly.Watson@oag.texas.gov	

### Signer Events

Signature	Timestamp
Richard Cortez countyjudge@co.hidalgo.tx.us Hidalgo County Judge Hidalgo County Security Level: Email, Account Authentication (None) <b>Electronic Record and Signature Disclosure:</b> Accepted: 8/21/2020 6:10:57 PM ID: 403fdf9b-eb59-4152-8402-a2f53d80ea45	Sent: 8/19/2020 5:20:21 PM Viewed: 8/21/2020 6:10:57 PM

Melissa Foley  
Melissa.Foley@oag.texas.gov  
Security Level: Email, Account Authentication  
(None)  
**Electronic Record and Signature Disclosure:**  
Not Offered via DocuSign

Gene McCleskey  
Gene.McCleskey@oag.texas.gov  
Security Level: Email, Account Authentication  
(None)  
**Electronic Record and Signature Disclosure:**  
Accepted: 1/14/2019 12:34:26 PM  
ID: 6a746d16-8742-4c15-ace2-f36a64c991b6

Financial Litigation - FLD Attorney Review

Signing Group: Financial Litigation - FLD Attorney Review  
Security Level: Email, Account Authentication  
(None)  
**Electronic Record and Signature Disclosure:**  
Not Offered via DocuSign

Joshua Godbey

Signing Group: Joshua Godbey  
Security Level: Email, Account Authentication  
(None)  
**Electronic Record and Signature Disclosure:**  
Not Offered via DocuSign

Signer Events	Signature	Timestamp
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Bruce Williamson  
Bruce.Williamson@oag.texas.gov  
Security Level: Email, Account Authentication  
(None)  
**Electronic Record and Signature Disclosure:**  
Not Offered via DocuSign

Mark Penley  
Mark.Penley@oag.texas.gov  
Security Level: Email, Account Authentication  
(None)  
**Electronic Record and Signature Disclosure:**  
Not Offered via DocuSign

In Person Signer Events	Signature	Timestamp
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Editor Delivery Events	Status	Timestamp
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Agent Delivery Events	Status	Timestamp
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Intermediary Delivery Events	Status	Timestamp
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Certified Delivery Events	Status	Timestamp
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Carbon Copy Events	Status	Timestamp
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Karly Watson  
karly.watson@oag.texas.gov  
Security Level: Email, Account Authentication  
(None)  
**Electronic Record and Signature Disclosure:**  
Not Offered via DocuSign

FLD Contracts  
FLDcontracts@oag.texas.gov  
Security Level: Email, Account Authentication  
(None)  
**Electronic Record and Signature Disclosure:**  
Not Offered via DocuSign

Accounting - DocuSign Contracts  
ACC\_DocuSign\_Contracts@oag.texas.gov  
Signing Group: Accounting - DocuSign Contracts  
Inbox  
Security Level: Email, Account Authentication  
(None)  
**Electronic Record and Signature Disclosure:**  
Not Offered via DocuSign

Joshua Alexander  
Joshua.Alexander@oag.texas.gov  
Security Level: Email, Account Authentication  
(None)  
**Electronic Record and Signature Disclosure:**  
Not Offered via DocuSign

Witness Events	Signature	Timestamp
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Notary Events	Signature	Timestamp
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Envelope Summary Events	Status	Timestamps
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<b>Envelope Summary Events</b>	<b>Status</b>	<b>Timestamps</b>
Envelope Sent	Hashed/Encrypted	8/19/2020 5:20:21 PM

<b>Payment Events</b>	<b>Status</b>	<b>Timestamps</b>
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<b>Electronic Record and Signature Disclosure</b>
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If you decide to receive notices and disclosures from us electronically, you may at any time change your mind and tell us that thereafter you want to receive required notices and disclosures only in paper format. How you must inform us of your decision to receive future notices and disclosure in paper format and withdraw your consent to receive notices and disclosures electronically is described below.

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If you elect to receive required notices and disclosures only in paper format, it will slow the speed at which we can complete certain steps in transactions with you and delivering services to you because we will need first to send the required notices or disclosures to you in paper format, and then wait until we receive back from you your acknowledgment of your receipt of such paper notices or disclosures. To indicate to us that you are changing your mind, you must withdraw your consent using the DocuSign 'Withdraw Consent' form on the signing page of a DocuSign envelope instead of signing it. This will indicate to us that you have withdrawn your consent to receive required notices and disclosures electronically from us and you will no longer be able to use the DocuSign system to receive required notices and consents electronically from us or to sign electronically documents from us.

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Unless you tell us otherwise in accordance with the procedures described herein, we will provide electronically to you through the DocuSign system all required notices, disclosures, authorizations, acknowledgements, and other documents that are required to be provided or made available to you during the course of our relationship with you. To reduce the chance of you inadvertently not receiving any notice or disclosure, we prefer to provide all of the required notices and disclosures to you by the same method and to the same address that you have given us. Thus, you can receive all the disclosures and notices electronically or in paper format through the paper mail delivery system. If you do not agree with this process, please let us know as described below. Please also see the paragraph immediately above that describes the consequences of your electing not to receive delivery of the notices and disclosures electronically from us.

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You may contact us to let us know of your changes as to how we may contact you electronically, to request paper copies of certain information from us, and to withdraw your prior consent to receive notices and disclosures electronically as follows:

To contact us by email send messages to: [servicedesk@oag.texas.gov](mailto:servicedesk@oag.texas.gov)

**To advise Office of the Attorney General of your new e-mail address**

To let us know of a change in your e-mail address where we should send notices and disclosures electronically to you, you must send an email message to us at [servicedesk@oag.texas.gov](mailto:servicedesk@oag.texas.gov) and in the body of such request you must state: your previous e-mail address, your new e-mail address. We do not require any other information from you to change your email address.

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To request delivery from us of paper copies of the notices and disclosures we previously provided to you electronically, you must send us an e-mail to [servicedesk@oag.texas.gov](mailto:servicedesk@oag.texas.gov) and in the body of such request you must state your e-mail address, full name, US Postal address, and telephone number. We will bill you for any fees at that time, if any.

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To inform us that you no longer want to receive future notices and disclosures in electronic format you may:

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- ii. send us an e-mail to [servicedesk@oag.texas.gov](mailto:servicedesk@oag.texas.gov) and in the body of such request you must state your e-mail, full name, US Postal Address, and telephone number. We do not need any other information from you to withdraw consent. The consequences of your withdrawing consent for online documents will be that transactions may take longer time to process.

**Required hardware and software**

Supported Browsers:	DocuSign supports the latest stable release (except where noted) of the following browsers: Chrome, Firefox, Safari, Internet Explorer 11+, Windows Edge
PDF Reader:	Acrobat® or similar software may be required to view and print PDF files
Screen Resolution:	1024 x 768 minimum (for desktops and laptops
Enabled Security Settings:	Allow per session cookies. Users accessing the Internet behind a Proxy Server must enable HTTP 1.1 settings via proxy connection. Firewall settings must allow access to the following server: <a href="https://docucdn-a.akamaihd.net">https://docucdn-a.akamaihd.net</a> . DocuSign leverages Akamai as a content delivery service to enhance our application's performance.

\*\* These minimum requirements are subject to change. If these requirements change, you will be asked to re-accept the disclosure. Pre-release (e.g. beta) versions of operating systems and browsers are not supported.

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To confirm to us that you can access this information electronically, which will be similar to other electronic notices and disclosures that we will provide to you, please verify that you were able to read this electronic disclosure and that you also were able to print on paper or electronically save this page for your future reference and access or that you were able to e-mail this disclosure and consent to an address where you will be able to print on paper or save it for your future reference and access. Further, if you consent to receiving notices and disclosures exclusively in electronic format on the terms and conditions described above, please let us know by clicking the 'I agree' button below.

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available to me by Office of the Attorney General during the course of my relationship with you.

**FIRST CONTRACT RENEWAL  
PARTICIPATING ENTITY SERVICES AGREEMENT FOR THE  
STATEWIDE AUTOMATED VICTIM NOTIFICATION SERVICE (SAVNS)**

**Contract No. 20202144900-399-01**

WHEREAS, the Office of the Attorney General (OAG) is the Texas State agency tasked with certifying a statewide vendor to provide a Statewide Automated Victim Notification Service (SAVNS) to a variety of political subdivisions of the State of Texas, including counties, county Sheriffs, clerks and attorneys, district attorneys, and courts ("Participating Entities");

WHEREAS OAG certified and contracted with **Appriss Inc. ("Vendor")** as the statewide vendor to provide SAVNS to each of the Participating Entities ("OAG Certification Agreement");

WHEREAS Hidalgo County, TX ("Named Entity") as a Participating Entity and VENDOR executed a Participating Services Agreement identified as Contract No. 20192044900-399-01 under which VENDOR would provide SAVNS to Named Entity (the "Contract");

WHEREAS SECTION 1 of the Contract permitted the Named Entity to, in its sole and absolute discretion, renew the Contract, for four (4) additional one (1) year renewal terms (each a "Renewal Term") to the extent the OAG Certification Agreement, remains in effect;

WHEREAS the OAG exercised its option to renew the OAG Certification Agreement, extending the term thereof to August 31, 2022;

NOW, THEREFORE, THIS **FIRST CONTRACT RENEWAL** is exercised by Named Entity as follows:

The Contract is set to terminate on August 31, 2020. The Contract is hereby renewed, with this First Contract Renewal Term ("First Renewal Term") to begin on September 1, 2020 and end of August 31, 2021. Pursuant to Section 1 of the Contract, this First Renewal Term and any subsequent renewals, shall be subject to all specifications and terms and conditions of the Contract, the OAG Certification Agreement, and the Incorporated Documents as defined in Section 2 therein.

**Named Entity by:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Signature*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Date*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Name*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Title*

**Acknowledged by Appriss Inc.**



8/17/2020

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Signature*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Date*

Joshua P. Bruner

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Name*

EVP Operations, GM Victim Services & Programs

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Title*

AI-77065

Budget and Management 44. A.

CC REGULAR AGENDA SPECIAL MTG

Other

**Meeting Date:** 09/01/2020**Submitted For:** Damaris San Miguel, BUDGET & MANAGEMENT**Submitted By:** Ivan Cantu, BUDGET & MANAGEMENT**Department:** BUDGET & MANAGEMENT**Information****CAPTION****FY 2021 Texas VINE Grant Program (1283):**

1. Discussion, consideration, and approval to enter into the Statewide Automated Victim Notification Service (SAVNS) contract for FY 2021 (September 1, 2020-August 31, 2021) between Hidalgo County and the Office of the Attorney General of Texas with authorization for County Judge to execute the agreement electronically.
2. Approval of certification of revenues, as certified by the County Auditor for the FY 2021 Texas VINE Grant Program in the amount of \$30,122.51 and appropriation of the same.
3. Discussion, consideration, and approval to enter into a First Contract Renewal between Hidalgo County and Appriss, Inc. for FY 2021 (September 1, 2020-August 31, 2021) with authorization for County Judge to execute agreement.

**BACKGROUND**

OAG Contract No.: 2111201

Appriss First Contract Renewal Contract No: 20202144900-399-01

FY 2021 term: Sept. 1, 2020 to Aug. 31, 2021.

**Fiscal Impact****CALENDAR YEAR:** 2020**ACCT. #:** 0-1283-415-00-200-005-1-336**FUNDS AVAILABLE Y/N?:** Y**MATCHING FUNDS Y/N?:** N**BUDGETARY IMPACT:**

Appropriation of the Texas VINE Program for FY 2021 Annual SAVNS grant contract with the Texas Attorney General, pending certification of revenues by the Co. Auditor. FY 2021 term is from 9-1-2020 to 8-31-2021.

Revenue acct #0-1283-334-10-200-005-1-000 TEXAS VINE PROGRAM REVENUES

**Attachments**FY 2021 OAG AgreementFY 2021 Appriss Agreement**Form Review****Inbox****Reviewed By****Date**

Ivan Cantu (Originator)

Budget &amp; Management

Final Approval

Form Started By: Ivan Cantu

Started On: 08/24/2020 02:33 PM

