

THE STATE OF TEXAS §
§
COUNTY OF HIDALGO §

SERVICE CONTRACT
C-21-0792-00-00

THIS CONTRACT is made and entered into this ____ day of _____, 2022 by and between the County of Hidalgo, Texas ("County"), and _____. ("Company").

WHEREAS, Company responded to notices for sealed bids for **“Burial Services and Plots for Unidentified Pauper Remains”** (the "Services"). A copy of the procurement packet, including applicable specifications, is attached hereto as **Exhibit “A”**, and is incorporated herein for all purposes (“Procurement Packet”); and

WHEREAS, Company submitted a sealed bid to provide services in accordance with the specifications as a sealed bid, a copy of Company’s response to the Procurement Packet is attached hereto as **Exhibit “B”** (the “Response” or the “Bid Page”), and is incorporated herein for all purposes; and

WHEREAS, Company represents that it is qualified and desires to perform such services; and

WHEREAS, in recognition of and in consideration of Company's agreement to perform the Services in accordance with the Procurement Packet, the Commissioners Court of County awarded the bid to Company.

NOW, THEREFORE, in mutual consideration of the foregoing and the further consideration of the following, the parties hereto agree as follows:

1. County and Company hereby agrees that this Contract is entered into in order to provide the **“Burial Services and Plots for Unidentified Pauper Remains”** to **Hidalgo County**. This Contract does not extend to any third parties any duties or benefits conferred in any manner hereunder or otherwise.

2. During the term of this Contract, Company shall be obligated and hereby promises and agrees to render and provide the Services in accordance with specifications and terms contained in Exhibit “A” Procurement Packet and Exhibit “B” Company’s Response. Services shall be performed within Hidalgo County following a request for Services by the **Health and Human Services Department Officer** or his designated agent. Company agrees in performing the Services that it will use proper professional standards, comply with any and all appropriate laws and

regulations in providing the Services, and devote such time as is necessary to safely and efficiently provide the Services. Further, Hidalgo County reserves the right to request these services from other sources other than the successful vendor and shall not be in violation of any terms or conditions of said contract.

3. **Term.** This Contract shall be for a period of two (2) years beginning, **March 26, 2022** and ending on **March, 25 2024** and may be extended at the sole discretion of the County for an additional one (1) year term, unless this Contract is terminated pursuant to the provisions herein, whichever occurs first. Hidalgo County also reserves the right to continue this bid for an additional sixty (60) day grace period at the end of the contract term for unforeseen delay of award for the next term and under the same rates, terms and conditions.

4. **Independent Contractor.** The Company must comply with all applicable Hidalgo County policies and with any applicable federal, state, or local laws, regulations, orders, or ordinances applicable to the Services provided by Company under this Agreement. Notwithstanding the foregoing sentence, Company represents and maintains that it is an Independent Contractor and is not an employee of Hidalgo County, Texas or any agency thereof, and represents and warrants that it does not desire or request any fringe benefits provided to employees of Hidalgo County, Texas, and/or any agency thereof, including, but not limited to benefits associated with Hidalgo County's civil service program. Company agrees to be responsible for any federal income tax, withholding, or social security tax liability that might arise from payments received hereunder.

5. **Licenses/Certifications.** As a condition of this Contract, 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. If such license or permit is suspended or revoked, this Agreement shall automatically be terminated and Company shall immediately notify the County. Company shall provide the County with all current state certifications and licenses with applicable seals, and any other applicable licenses and certifications required by the State of Texas.

6. **Vehicles.** 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. Company shall provide a sufficient number of trucks, vehicles, personnel, and equipment available to safely and efficiently provide the Services.

7. **Consideration.** As consideration for rendering the Service provided for in this Contract, the County agrees to pay Company the amounts specified in Exhibit "B" attached hereto

payable against written invoice submitted by Company in accordance with the Texas Prompt Payment Act, Tex. Govt. Code Ch. 2251.

8. **Insurance.** Consistent with its status as an independent contractor and at its sole expense, Company agrees that throughout the duration of the work under this contract and any extension hereof, it shall provide and maintain any and all insurances and abide by any requirements which are specified in the Procurement Packet/Specifications and/or which may be necessary in providing Services or are otherwise required by law. Insurance policies shall cover, but are not limited to, Company's activities and all persons, vehicles, equipment and property connected with providing Services, to include theft or loss. The amount of insurance required shall be in accordance with amounts specified by the County or as prescribed by law, but in no event shall any amount be less than the minimum amounts prescribed by law, including, but not limited to the Texas Tort Claims Act. These requirements do not establish limits of Company's liability. Any and all applicable insurance requirements and amounts are incorporated herein by reference for all purposes. Company is responsible for ensuring all required insurance policies are valid for the duration of the contract. All insurance policies are to be issued by an insurance company authorized to do business in the State of Texas and acceptable to County. Company shall cause all subcontractors utilized by Company to also comply with these specifications. Company shall furnish to County certificate(s) of coverage, and all renewals throughout the duration of the Project, issued by the insurer that such insurance is in full force and effect. (See **Exhibit "C"** attached hereto and incorporated herein for all purposes). For each applicable policy, Company shall name the County as an additional insured. Company shall notify County a minimum of thirty (30) days in advance of cancellation of all or part of a policy. Company shall make any other insurance documentation available to County upon request.

9. **INDEMNIFICATION.** COMPANY SHALL INDEMNIFY AND HOLD HARMLESS COUNTY, ITS ELECTED OFFICIALS, EMPLOYEES, AND AGENTS FROM ANY AND ALL CLAIMS, DAMAGES, LOSSES, AND EXPENSES INCLUDING REASONABLE ATTORNEY'S FEES FOR THE DEFENSE OF ANY ACTION AGAINST COUNTY TO THE EXTENT ARISING OUT OF, RESULTING FROM, OR CONNECTED WITH THE NEGLIGENT PROVISION OF THE SERVICES BY COMPANY UNDER THIS CONTRACT. SAID INDEMNITY SHALL COVER ANY INTENTIONAL MISCONDUCT, NEGLIGENT ACT, OR FAILURE TO ACT BY THE COMPANY, ITS AGENTS, OR EMPLOYEES. THIS INDEMNIFICATION CLAUSE SHALL SURVIVE THIS AGREEMENT AND BE ENFORCEABLE AS A SEPARATE AGREEMENT IN THE EVENT ITS SURVIVAL AND ENFORCEMENT BECOME NECESSARY.

10. **Assignment.** Except as otherwise herein provided, Company may not assign the obligations or rights under this Agreement to any person without the prior written consent of County.

11. **Conflict with Applicable Laws.** 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 any provision of this 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 Agreement, the latter shall prevail, but in such event, the affected provision or provisions of this Agreement shall be modified only to the extent necessary to bring them to legal requirements and only during the time such conflict exists. 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 hereof and this Agreement shall be construed as if such invalid, illegal, or unenforceable provision had never been contained herein.

12. **No Waiver.** No waiver by County of any breach of any provision of this Agreement shall be deemed to be a waiver of any preceding or succeeding breach of the same or any other provision hereof.

13. **Notice.** Except as may be otherwise specifically provided in this Agreement, all notices, demands, requests, or communications required or permitted hereunder shall be in writing and shall either be (i) personally delivered against a written receipt, or (ii) sent by registered or certified mail, return receipt requested, postage prepaid and addressed to the parties at the addresses set forth below, or at such other addresses as may have been theretofore specified by written notice delivered in accordance herewith:

If to County: The County of Hidalgo
 Attn: County Judge
 100 E. Cano, 2nd Floor
 Edinburg, Texas 78539

If to Company: Company
 Attn:
 Address
 City, State 00000

Each notice, demand, request, or communication which shall be delivered or mailed in the manner described above shall be deemed sufficiently given for all purposes at such time as it is personally delivered to the addresses or if mailed at such time as it is deposited in the United States mail.

14. **Termination.** This Agreement may be terminated by County without cause upon thirty (30) days written notice.

15. **Successors.** 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.

16. **Governing Law.** This Agreement 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 Company hereby consents to personal jurisdiction in Hidalgo County, Texas.

17. **Commitment of Current Revenues Only.** In the event that, during any term hereof, the Commissioners Court does not appropriate sufficient funds to meet the obligations of County under this Agreement, County may terminate this Agreement upon ninety (90) days written notice to Company. County agrees, however, to use reasonable efforts to secure funds necessary for the continued performance of this Agreement. The parties intend this provision to be a continuing right to terminate this Agreement at the expiration of each budget period of County. Agreements for the acquisition, including lease of real or personal property under Tex. Loc. Govt. Code §271.903: In the event that, during any term hereof, the Commissioner's Court does not appropriate sufficient funds to meet the obligations of County under this Agreement, County may terminate this Agreement upon ninety (90) days written notice to Company, County agrees, however, to use a best efforts attempt to obtain and appropriate funds for payment of the Agreement. The parties intend this provision, if applicable, to be a continuing right to terminate this at the expiration of each budget period of County in accordance with Tex. Loc. Govt. Code §271.903 (Vernon Supp. 1996).

18. **Immunities.** Nothing in this Agreement is intended to and County does not hereby waive, release or relinquish any right to assert any of the defenses County enjoys by virtue of the state or federal constitution, laws, rules or regulations, and any sovereign, official or qualified immunity available to County as to any claim or action of any person, entity, or individual against County.

19. **Headings.** The headings and captions contained in this Agreement are solely for convenient reference and shall not be deemed to affect the meaning or interpretation of any provision or paragraph hereof.

20. **Gender and Number.** All pronouns used in this Agreement shall include the other gender, whether used in the masculine, feminine or neuter gender, and the singular shall include the plural whenever and as often as may be appropriate

21. **Authority to Execute.** The execution and performance of this Agreement by County and Company have been duly authorized by all necessary laws, resolutions, or corporate action, and this Agreement constitutes the valid and enforceable obligations of County and Company in accordance with its terms.

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

23. **Nondiscrimination.** Company, including subcontractors, assignees and successors in interest, ensures that no person shall on the grounds of race, religion, color, national origin, sex, age, or disability, or any other protected class under law, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be otherwise subjected to discrimination or retaliation in any federally or non-federally funded program or activity when providing any services described herein under this contract/agreement. Applicable nondiscrimination statements and provisions of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended, were provided as part of the initial procurement packet and are incorporated herein and made a part of this agreement for all purposes.

24. **Additional Documents.** The parties hereto covenant and agree that they will execute each such other and further instruments and documents as are or may become necessary or convenient to effectuate and carry out the terms of this contract/agreement.

25. **Required Contract Provision for Contracts Subject to Federal Award (if applicable).** Pursuant to 2 CFR 200.327, a non-federal entity's contracts must contain the applicable provisions described in appendix II to 2 CFR 200-Contract Provisions for non-Federal Entity Contracts under Federal Awards. Additionally, County contracts under Federal award which are subject to assistance from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) are also required to contain additional contract clauses. The applicable required contract clauses were provided as part of the initial procurement packet and are incorporated herein and made part of this agreement for all purposes.

DRAFT

[SIGNATURE PAGE TO FOLLOW]

WITNESS our hands in duplicate originals this _____ day of _____, 2022.
COUNTY OF HIDALGO

By: _____

_____,
County Judge

ATTEST:

Arturo Guajardo, Jr., County Clerk

COMPANY: _____

By: _____

Printed Name: _____

Title: _____

Approved By Commissioners Court On: _____

APPROVED AS TO FORM:
Office of the Criminal District Attorney

By: Amanda D. Austin
Assistant District Attorney
Civil Litigation Division

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EXHIBIT "A"

**REQUEST FOR SEALED BIDS
PACKET**

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EXHIBIT "B"
BID PAGE

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EXHIBIT "C"
INSURANCE REQUIREMENTS