

**Cooperative Agreement  
between  
The Office of the Attorney General  
of the State of Texas  
and  
Williamson County, Texas**

**CONTRACT NO. 13-C0099**

**1. INTRODUCTION & PURPOSE**

- 1.1. This document encompasses furnishing Registry Only court order information relating to Child Support, Protective Orders and Family Violence under the Texas Family Code, Title 4, Subtitle B and Suits Affecting the Parent-Child Relationship under the Texas Family Code, Title 5, Subtitle B for use in the State and Federal Case Registries ("State Case Registry") and local handling of inquiries on (including any necessary research) and receiving information about Child Support Cases where child support payments are remitted to the Texas State Disbursement Unit (TXSDU) ("Local Customer Service"). A County may contract to provide State Case Registry services only. However a county contracting to provide Local Customer Service must also contract to provide State Case Registry.
- 1.2. Williamson ("County") is contracting with the Office of the Attorney General ("OAG") to furnish Registry Only court order information relating to Child Support, Protective Orders and Family Violence under the Texas Family Code, Title 4, Subtitle B and Suits Affecting the Parent-Child Relationship under the Texas Family Code, Title 5, Subtitle B for use in the State and Federal Case Registries and handle inquiries on (including any necessary research) and receive information about Child Support Cases where child support payments are remitted to the TXSDU.
- 1.3. This Contract and its attachments (all of which are made a part hereof and expressly included herein) is entered into under the authority of Texas Family Code Section 231.002.
- 1.4. The term "OAG Systems" when used in this Contract encompasses the OAG Child Support Case Management System (commonly referred to as TXCSES and TXCSES Web) and any applicable automated systems used by the OAG's Vendor for the TXSDU including all of their subsystems, functions, processes, and security requirements.
- 1.5. Unless specified otherwise in this Contract, all procedures required to be followed by the County will be made available to the County on the OAG child support portal at <http://portal.cs.oag.state.tx.us>.

**2. CONTRACT PERIOD**

- 2.1. This Contract shall commence on September 1, 2012 and shall terminate on August 31, 2014, unless terminated earlier by provisions of this Contract.

**3. REQUIREMENTS OF THE OAG AND THE COUNTY**

**3.1. State Case Registry Activities**

- 3.1.1. County shall provide to OAG new and modified child support court orders entered after the effective date of the Contract for Registry Only child support court order information relating to Suits Affecting the Parent-Child Relationship.
  - 3.1.1.1. County shall use the original court ordered documents to obtain the relevant information for entry to the OAG Systems or may use the "Record of Support" published in the Texas Family Law Manual, or a similar form completed by the District Clerk or Local Registry's office that summarizes the relevant court ordered child support information.

- 3.1.1.2. County must provide, if available, the following data elements:
  - 3.1.1.2.1. participant type (dependent, custodial parent, non-custodial parent)
  - 3.1.1.2.2. family violence indicator, if applicable
  - 3.1.1.2.3. name of each participant (last and first)
  - 3.1.1.2.4. sex code for each participant
  - 3.1.1.2.5. social security number for each custodial parent and non-custodial parent and/or date of birth for each participant
  - 3.1.1.2.6. cause number
  - 3.1.1.2.7. cause county code
  - 3.1.1.2.8. start date of cause
  - 3.1.1.2.9. order modification date
  - 3.1.1.2.10. address lines 1, 2, and 3, City, State, Zip (custodial parent only).
- 3.1.1.3. County shall provide data elements and/or information updates to the OAG Systems for Registry Only child support court orders signed on or after October 1, 1998.
- 3.1.1.4. County shall enter updates on OAG Systems for new case and /or member information provided by the custodial parent, non-custodial parent, employer, court or attorney of record to the County. This includes but is not limited to address information, changes in custody, protective orders, court order terminations of all types, child emancipation, multiple payees or payors, case closure and order transfers.
- 3.1.1.5. County shall endeavor to provide all available new case information necessary to process child support payments received by the State Disbursement Unit within five (5) business days of the "date received time stamp" indicating that the order was received by the District Clerk or Local Registry's office. While this Timeliness Performance Standard is established as a goal for counties rather than a requirement, the OAG intends to monitor and report County performance toward meeting the Standard.
- 3.1.1.6. The provisions of 3.1.1.5 notwithstanding, County shall provide essential new case information necessary to process child support payments received by the State Disbursement Unit within five (5) business days of notification by the Texas TXSDU that a payment was received.
- 3.1.1.7. County shall provide updated information on existing cases within three (3) business days of receipt.
- 3.1.1.8. County shall ensure that the Family Violence Indicator (FVI) is updated on Registry Only cases in TXCSES Web within three (3) business days of a protective order being filed. If a Full Service case exists the county shall provide the local OAG field office with a copy of the protective order within three (3) business days of it being filed.
- 3.1.1.9. County shall provide new and updated case information by data entry directly onto OAG Systems, unless agreed to otherwise in writing by the OAG Contract Manager.
- 3.1.1.10. County shall ensure that payments on cases that have been redirected from the County registry to the TXSDU are paid to the TXSDU and that disbursements on such cases are no longer made by the County. The District Clerk or the Domestic Relations Office (as

applicable) shall send all erroneously received child support payments to the TXSDU within one day of receipt.

3.1.1.11. County agrees that all court orders must direct child support payments to the (TXSDU) in accordance with Section 154.004 of the Texas Family Code and 42 USC 654b of the Code of Federal Regulations. Where the County identifies a pattern of court orders from a particular court or attorney that fail to comply with Section 154.004 of the Texas Family Code and 42 USC 654b of the Code of Federal Regulations, the County will notify the OAG of same.

3.1.1.12. County shall work with the TXSDU to perform the required due diligence to place child support payments into the hands of custodial parents.

## 3.2. LOCAL CUSTOMER SERVICE

### 3.2.1. County Customer Service Unit Resources and Services

3.2.1.1. The term "Child Support Cases" when used in this Section and its Subsections means: Registry Only cases (a Registry Only case is a case where the payment is remitted to the State Disbursement Unit by an employer pursuant to an original order signed on or after January 1, 1994) and all IV-D cases (also known as "Full Service Cases").

3.2.1.2. County shall provide the resources necessary to accomplish the following allowable categories of customer service activity on Child Support Cases in accordance with the requirements of the Confidentiality and Security Section below: Payment Inquiry, Payment Research, Employer Payment Related Calls, OAG Payment Related Calls, Withholding Inquiry (Employer, Custodial Parent, Non-Custodial Parent).

3.2.1.2.1. These activities include but are not limited to:

3.2.1.2.1.1. Researching payments on Child Support Cases that should have been but were not received by the OAG.

3.2.1.2.1.2. Researching disbursements on Child Support Cases that should have been but were not received by the custodial parent.

3.2.1.2.1.3. Providing payment records on Child Support Cases to the court, the guardian ad litem for the child, the custodial and non-custodial parent and their attorneys, a person authorized by the custodial or non-custodial parent to have the payment history information, and a District or County attorney for purposes of pursuing prosecution for criminal non-support of a child.

3.2.1.2.1.4. Providing a certified copy of the court order timely to the OAG upon request.

3.2.1.2.2. The County Customer Service unit shall take inquiries and receive information by, but not limited to, e-mail, letters, phone calls, facsimiles and walk-ins.

3.2.2. Resources as used in this Customer Service Unit Resources and Services section include, but are not limited to, personnel, office space, equipment, phones and phone lines.

### 3.2.3. Customer Service Unit Documentation

3.2.3.1. County shall follow OAG procedures relating to data integrity, set forth in Attachment D, when accepting changes to case information *i.e.*, procedures to properly identify the caller.

- 3.2.3.2. County shall perform the Customer Service Unit services using the following guidelines:
  - 3.2.3.2.1. Respond to written inquiries within five (5) County business days,
  - 3.2.3.2.2. take action on information received within three (3) County business days,
  - 3.2.3.2.3. document case record of action or information received at time of receipt,
  - 3.2.3.2.4. follow up to a telephone inquiry within three (3) County business days,
  - 3.2.3.2.5. return phone calls within three (3) County business days,
  - 3.2.3.2.6. see a customer the same day or schedule appointment within three (3) County business days of request.
- 3.2.3.3. County shall use OAG processes and procedures for forwarding misdirected inquiries between the County, and the OAG and the OAG's designated agent where necessary by providing the toll free number to the OAG's Call Center (800-252-8014).
- 3.2.3.4. The electronic files associated with customer service activity that the County may receive and process are:
  - 3.2.3.4.1. Full Service and Registry Only Collections, technical document name: Interface Control Document 012 (ICD012).
  - 3.2.3.4.2. Registry Only Disbursement Data, technical document name: Interface Control Document 013 (ICD013).
  - 3.2.3.4.3. Full Service and Registry Only Collection Adjustments, technical document name Interface Control Document 015 (ICD015).
  - 3.2.3.4.4. Registry Only Case Data from Local Registries, technical document name: Interface Control document 050 (ICD050).
- 3.2.4. The electronic file associated with customer service activity that the County may transmit is:
  - 3.2.4.1. OAG Systems and Local Registries Customer Service Activities, technical document name: Interface Control Document 035 (ICD035).
- 3.2.5. In the event of a failed transmission, or if a file is unable to be processed, County shall correct the problem and retransmit within one (1) business day of notification by the OAG.
- 3.2.6. County shall record on its automated system all financial data available from the OAG required to support the accurate dissemination of payment record information contemplated by this Contract or the County shall access, as needed, an OAG/TXCSES payment history record, as available, from the OAG TXCSES Web application.

### 3.3. ACCESSING OAG SYSTEMS

#### 3.3.1. County Responsibilities

- 3.3.1.1. Work with the OAG or its designated agent to acquire, when needed, (at no cost to the County) from the OAG or its designated agent one personal computer, including the necessary software, to access the OAG Systems. County will work with the OAG or its designated agent to obtain the database access required. County is responsible for connecting the hardware to its own County network and for the cost associated therewith.
- 3.3.1.2. County must make necessary programming changes to its own automated child support system to accomplish the local customer service activities in this Contract. If the County employs a

Vendor for maintenance and changes to its automated child support system. County must coordinate efforts between the County Vendor and the OAG or its designated agent.

- 3.3.1.3. Should the County desire to retain their legacy case management system, whether in-house or vendor based, the County is required to maintain strict data synchronization with the OAG Systems. To accomplish this, the County must demonstrate sufficient resources and ability to receive and process into the County legacy system daily data updates from the OAG in ICD050 format.
- 3.3.1.4. County will be authorized to implement the data synchronization process upon completion of demonstrated ability and a documented system test.
- 3.3.1.5. Whether the County retains their legacy case management system or if data synchronization with the OAG Systems is not feasible the County shall enter all case member information directly onto the designated OAG System unless agreed to otherwise in writing by the OAG Contract Manager.
- 3.3.1.6. The ICD050 computer file specifications and format will be made available to the County on the OAG child support portal. If these specifications change during the term of the Contract, the changes will be made available on the OAG child support portal and an e-mail notice of such availability will be sent to the County Liaison. The County shall be responsible for implementing the changes to the electronic file specifications when and as required for OAG Systems processing, within a reasonable time frame.
- 3.3.1.7. To the extent necessary to fulfill its obligations under this Contract, County shall maintain, at no cost to the OAG, County hardware and software compatibility with the OAG Computer Systems and OAG file format needs, to include OAG software and OAG computer hardware and related equipment upgrades. OAG will provide County with as much notice as possible of intended OAG Computer Systems upgrades.
- 3.3.1.8. County is responsible for all the necessary phone lines. For those counties that do not have internet access the OAG will ensure that internet service is established for at least one personal computer. However, if the County is not covered by a local Internet Service Provider local telephone coverage area, then the County is responsible for any unavoidable long distance telephone charges that occur.

### 3.4. OAG Responsibilities

- 3.4.1. OAG will work with the County to make sure the County has one personal computer, including the necessary software, to access the OAG Systems. For those counties that do not have internet access, the OAG will ensure that internet service is established for at least one personal computer. However, if the County is not covered by a local Internet Service Provider local telephone coverage area, then the County is responsible for any unavoidable long distance telephone charges that occur.

## 4. REIMBURSEMENT

- 4.1. OAG shall monitor County OAG Systems State Case Registry and, if applicable, Local Customer Service activities (direct data entry or electronic file) and summarize for monthly reimbursement amounts.
- 4.2. OAG shall forward a Summary and Reimbursement Voucher for any particular month's activities to the County for review and approval by the 25<sup>th</sup> day of the following month.
- 4.3. If the County approves the Summary and Reimbursement Voucher, the County signs the voucher and returns it to OAG for payment within ten (10) County business days. County's signature constitutes

approval of the voucher and certification that all services provided during the period covered by the voucher are included on the voucher. The OAG shall process the invoice for payment in accordance with the state procedures for issuing state payments and the Texas Prompt Payment Act.

4.3.1. County shall submit the invoice to:

Contract Manager, State Case Registry and Local Customer Service  
Mail Code: 062  
Office of the Attorney General  
PO Box 12017  
Austin, TX 78711-2017

4.3. If County does not approve the Summary and Reimbursement Voucher, it shall return the voucher to the OAG within ten (10) County business days of receipt, detailing the basis of any disputed item, and include supporting documentation. The OAG shall review the returned voucher. If the dispute is resolved in the County's favor the OAG shall make payment as set forth in the preceding subsection. If the dispute is not resolved in the County's favor, the OAG shall make payment in accordance with the voucher originally sent to the County and forward a letter of explanation to the County.

4.4.1. OAG Rights Upon Loss of Funding

4.4.1.1. Legislative Appropriations

4.4.1.1.1. All obligations of the OAG are subject to the availability of legislative appropriations and, for federally funded procurements, to the availability of federal funds applicable to this procurement (see Provision of Funding by the United States, subsection below). The parties acknowledge that the ability of the OAG to make payments under this Contract is contingent upon the continued availability of funds for the Child Support Enforcement Strategy and the State Disbursement Unit Strategy (collectively "Strategies"). The parties acknowledge that funds are not specifically appropriated for this Contract and the OAG's continual ability to make payments under this Contract is contingent upon the funding levels appropriated to the OAG for the Strategies for each particular appropriation period. The OAG will use all reasonable efforts to ensure that such funds are available. The parties agree that if future levels of funding for the OAG Child Support Enforcement Strategy and/or the State Disbursement Unit Strategy are not sufficient to continue operations without any operational reductions, the OAG, in its discretion, may terminate this Contract, either in whole or in part. In the event of such termination, the OAG will not be considered to be in default or breach under this Contract, nor shall it be liable for any further payments ordinarily due under this Contract, nor shall it be liable for any damages or any other amounts which are caused by or associated with such termination. The OAG shall make best efforts to provide reasonable written advance notice to County of any such termination. In the event of such a termination, County shall, unless otherwise mutually agreed upon in writing, cease all work immediately upon the effective date of termination. OAG shall be liable for payments limited only to the portion of work the OAG authorized in writing and which the County has completed, delivered to the OAG, and which has been accepted by the OAG. All such work shall have been completed, per the Contract requirements, prior to the effective date of termination.

4.4.2. Provision of Funding by the United States

4.4.2.1. It is expressly understood that any and all of the OAG's obligations and liabilities hereunder are contingent upon the existence of a state plan for child support enforcement approved by the United States Department of Health and Human Services providing for the

statewide program of child support enforcement, pursuant to the Social Security Act, and on the availability of Federal Financial Participation for the activities described herein. In the event that such approval of the state plan or the availability of Federal Financial Participation should lapse or otherwise terminate, the OAG, in its discretion, may terminate this contract, either in whole or in part. In the event of such termination, the OAG will not be considered to be in default or breach under this contract, nor shall it be liable for any further payments ordinarily due under this contract, nor shall it be liable for any damages or any other amounts which are caused by or associated with such termination. The OAG shall make best efforts to provide reasonable written advance notice to Contractor of any such termination. In the event of such a termination, County shall, unless otherwise mutually agreed upon in writing, cease all work immediately upon the effective date of termination. OAG shall be liable for payments limited only to the portion of work the OAG authorized in writing and which the County has completed, delivered to the OAG, and which has been accepted by the OAG. All such work shall have been completed, per the Contract requirements, prior to the effective date of termination.

#### 4.5. Reimbursement Rates

##### 4.5.1. State Case Registry

4.5.1.1. The OAG shall be financially liable to the County for the federal share of the County's Contract associated cost. Federal share means the portion of the County's Contract associated cost that the federal Office of Child Support Enforcement reimburses the state as federal financial participation under Title IV-D; for purpose of reference only the federal share on the effective date of this Contract is 66%. The County agrees that for the purposes of this Contract all of the County's Contract associated costs for any given calendar month is equal to the number of new and modified Registry Only Court Orders (together with all required data elements) provided to the OAG during the calendar month multiplied by a per new and modified Registry Only Court Order fee of \$12.81 plus the number of Registry Only Court Orders updated during the calendar month multiplied by a per Registry Only Court Order updated fee of \$4.07 per Registry Only Court Order updated. Thus:  $[(\text{Calendar Month new and modified Registry Only Court Orders provided} \times \$12.81) + (\text{Calendar Month Registry Only Court Orders updated} \times \$4.07)] \times \text{Federal Share} = \text{OAG Liability}$ .

##### 4.5.2. Local Customer Service

4.5.2.1. The OAG shall be financially liable to the County for the federal share of the County's Contract associated cost. Federal share means the portion of the County's Contract associated cost that the federal Office of Child Support Enforcement reimburses the state as federal financial participation under Title IV-D; for purpose of reference only the federal share on the effective date of this Contract is 66%. The County agrees that for the purposes of this Contract all of the County's Contract associated costs for any given calendar month is equal to the number of inquiries on IV-D cases handled by County personnel during the calendar month, plus the number of inquiries on Registry Only cases (See Section 3.2.1 for the meaning of Registry Only cases) minus the Federal Disallowance Percentage, multiplied by a per inquiry fee of \$4.19 per inquiry. For purpose of reference only the Federal Disallowance Percentage for SFY 2011 annualized is 19%. Thus:  $(\text{Calendar Month IV-D Inquiries Handled by County Personnel}) + (\text{Calendar Month Registry Only Inquiries Handled by County Personnel} - \text{Federal Disallowance Percentage}) \times (\$4.19) \times (\text{Federal Share}) = \text{OAG Liability}$ .

#### 4.6. Limitation of OAG Liability

4.6.1. The OAG shall be liable only for Contract associated costs incurred after commencement of this Contract and before termination of this Contract.

- 4.6.2. The OAG may decline to reimburse Allowable Costs which are submitted for reimbursement more than sixty (60) calendar days after the State Fiscal Year calendar quarter in which such costs are incurred.
  - 4.6.3. County shall refund to the OAG within thirty (30) calendar days any sum of money which has been paid to the County which the OAG and County agree has resulted in an overpayment to County, provided that such sums may be offset and deducted from any amount owing but unpaid to County.
  - 4.6.4. The OAG shall not be liable for reimbursing the County if the County fails to comply with the State Case Registry Activities, the County Customer Service Unit Resources and Services, and/or the Customer Service Unit Documentation Sections above in accordance with the requirements of those sections.
  - 4.6.5. The OAG shall not be liable for reimbursing the County for any activity currently eligible for reimbursement as of right without the necessity for a prior existing contract e.g. sheriff/processor fees. Nor shall the OAG be liable for reimbursing the County for any activities eligible for reimbursement under another contract or Cooperative Agreement with the OAG e.g. customer service related to cases in the same County's Integrated Child Support System ("ICSS") caseload, when the County has an ICSS contract with the OAG. Nor shall the OAG be liable for reimbursing the County for information correcting erroneous information previously provided by the County.
  - 4.6.6. Notwithstanding any other provision of this Contract, the maximum liability of the OAG under this Contract is **Forty Six Thousand Dollars and No Cents (\$46,000.00)**.
- 4.7. Assignment of Claims
    - 4.7.1. County hereby assigns to the OAG any claims for overcharges associated with this Contract under 15 U.S.C. §1, et seq., and Tex. Bus. & Comm. Code §15.01, et seq.

## 5. CONTRACT MANAGEMENT

### 5.1. Written Notice Delivery

- 5.1.1. Any notice required or permitted to be given under this Contract by one party to the other party shall be in writing and shall be addressed to the receiving party at the address hereinafter specified. The notice shall be deemed to have been given immediately if delivered in person to the recipient's address hereinafter specified. It shall be deemed to have been given on the date of certified receipt if placed in the United States mail, postage prepaid, by registered or certified mail with return receipt requested, addressed to the receiving party at the address hereinafter specified.

#### 5.1.1.1. County

The address of the County for all purposes under this Contract and for all notices hereunder shall be:

The Honorable Lisa David (or his/her successor in office)  
Williamson County District Clerk  
P.O. Box 24  
Georgetown, TX 78627-0024

#### 5.1.1.2. OAG

The address of the OAG for all purposes under this Contract and for all notices hereunder shall be:

Alicia G. Key (or her successor in office)  
Deputy Attorney General for Child Support  
Office of the Attorney General  
PO Box 12017  
Austin, TX 78711-2017

With copies to:

Joseph Fiore (or his successor in office)  
Managing Attorney, Contracts Attorneys, Child Support Division  
Office of the Attorney General  
PO Box 12017  
Austin, TX 78711-2017

and

Allen Broussard (or his successor in office)  
Manager, Government Contracts  
Office of the Attorney General  
PO Box 12017  
Austin, TX 78711-2017

#### 5.2. Controlled Correspondence

- 5.2.1. After execution of this Contract, for a communication between the County and the OAG to be considered authoritative and binding it must be in writing and generated in accordance with procedures mutually agreed to by the County and the OAG. The OAG has procedures in place to number and track such communications as Controlled Correspondence. Any communication not generated in accordance with such procedures and not signed out by a designated position shall not be binding upon the parties and shall be of no effect. The OAG IV-D Director and the Contract Manager are designated as authorized signatories for all Controlled Correspondence with the County on behalf of the OAG. Unless otherwise notified by the County, the OAG shall consider the District Clerk or Local Registry's office, as the County signatory to this Contract, as authorized signatories for all Controlled Correspondence on behalf of the County. In the case of any inconsistency or conflict between such procedures and a Contract provision, the Contract provision shall control. Controlled Correspondence shall not be used to change pricing or alter the provisions of this Contract. Any such change requires a Contract amendment. Controlled Correspondence may be used to document interpretations of the provisions of this Contract.

#### 5.3. Inspections, Monitoring and Audits

- 5.3.1. The OAG may monitor and/or conduct fiscal and/or program audits and/or investigations of the County's program performance at reasonable times. The OAG may at its option or at the request of County provide technical assistance to assist County in the operation of this program. County shall provide physical access without prior notice to all sites used for performance of service under this Contract to the OAG, United States Department of Health and Human Services, Comptroller General of the United States, and State Auditor of Texas. County shall grant to the OAG, the United States Department of Health and Human Services, Comptroller General of the United States, and State Auditor of Texas access, without prior notice, to all books, documents, and records of the County pertinent to this Contract. The County books, documents, and records may be inspected, monitored, evaluated, audited and copied. County shall cooperate fully with

the OAG, United States Department of Health and Human Services, Comptroller General of the United States, and State Auditor of Texas in the conduct of any audit and/or investigation including the providing of any requested books, documents, and records. County shall retain all financial records, supporting documents, statistical records, and any other records, documents, papers, logs, audit trails or books (collectively referred to as records) relating to the performances called for in this Contract. County shall retain all such records for a period of three (3) years after the expiration of the term of this Contract, or until the OAG or the United States are satisfied that all audit claim, negotiation, and litigation matters are resolved, whichever period is longer. Reports or other information relating to this program prepared by the County or at the request of the County shall be furnished to the OAG within ninety (90) days of availability. The requirements of this Subsection shall be included in all subcontracts.

#### 5.4. Reimbursement of Audit Penalty

- 5.4.1. If funds are disallowed as a result of an audit finding contained in an audit (by County or County's independent auditor, the OAG, the State Auditor, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, the Comptroller General of the United States, or any of their duly authorized representatives) that County has failed to follow federal requirements for the IV-D program, then County agrees that the County shall refund to OAG the amount disallowed within thirty (30) calendar days of the date of the written OAG request for refund; provided further that such amounts may be offset and deducted from any funds payable under this Agreement.

#### 5.5. Remedies for Non-Performance

- 5.5.1. Failure of the County to perform the contracted for services as required by this Contract shall be considered unsatisfactory performance. Any finding of unsatisfactory performance shall be communicated to the County in writing by the OAG Contract Manager. If the County wants to dispute the finding, a written dispute must be received by the OAG Contract Manager no later than fifteen (15) calendar days from the date the County received the written finding of unsatisfactory performance. The written dispute must detail why the County believes the finding is erroneous and must contain all supporting documentation. The OAG Contract Manager will review the dispute submission to determine the validity of the original finding of unsatisfactory performance. The determination of the OAG Contract Manager shall be final and shall conclude the review process. The OAG Contract Manager's determination shall be communicated to the County in writing. If a written dispute of the original finding of unsatisfactory performance is not received by the OAG Contract Manager by the time set forth above, the finding of unsatisfactory performance shall be deemed validated and the County shall have waived its right to dispute the finding.
- 5.5.2. If the finding of unsatisfactory performance is validated, the County shall be requested to provide the OAG Contract Manager with a corrective action plan. A corrective action plan, acceptable to the OAG Contract Manager, must be provided within a reasonable time period as specified by the OAG Contract Manager. Failure to provide an acceptable corrective action plan within the specified time period shall result in a withholding of payments due to County under this Contract until such time that an acceptable corrective action plan is provided.
- 5.5.3. If the County does not return to satisfactory status within four months of receiving notice that an unsatisfactory performance finding has been validated, OAG may withhold payments due to County under this Contract until the County is once again performing satisfactorily. If the unsatisfactory status persists for a total of six months after receiving notice of the validated unsatisfactory performance finding, OAG may terminate this Contract (in accordance with the Termination Section below) without payment to County for any costs incurred by County from the time that OAG commenced withholding payments due to County being in an unsatisfactory status. Where payments are to resume due to County having provided an acceptable corrective action plan or having attained satisfactory performance status the first payment after resumption shall include all costs accrued during the period when payments to the County were withheld.

## 5.6. Training on OAG Systems

- 5.6.1. Any County staff performing functions under this Contract must be trained on OAG Systems. Classroom Training on OAG Systems will be scheduled upon request from the County, by the end of the quarter following such request. Classroom Training will be provided by OAG Regional Trainers at each of the OAG Regional Training Centers. County shall be responsible for any and all costs associated with this training, including, but not limited to, costs for travel, lodging, meals and per diem; provided, however that the OAG shall be responsible for the cost of training materials and equipment required to complete the training class. County is responsible for scheduling the training with the OAG and shall direct training requests to:

Larry Acevedo  
Office of the Attorney General  
Mail Code 053  
PO Box 12017  
Austin, TX 78711-2017  
email address: CSD-TRN@texasattorneygeneral.gov

## 5.7. Assignment

- 5.7.1. County will not assign its rights under this Contract or delegate the performance of its duties under this Contract without prior written approval from the OAG.

## 5.8. Liaison

- 5.8.1. County and OAG each agree to maintain specifically identified liaison personnel for their mutual benefit during the term of the Contract. The liaison(s) named by County shall serve as the initial point(s) of contact for any inquiries made pursuant to this Contract by OAG and respond to any such inquiries by OAG. The liaison(s) named by OAG shall serve as the initial point(s) of contact for any inquiries made pursuant to this Contract by County and respond to any such inquiries by County. The liaison(s) shall be named in writing at the time of the execution of this Contract. Subsequent changes in liaison personnel shall be communicated by the respective parties in writing.

## 5.9. Subcontracting

- 5.9.1. It is contemplated by the parties hereto that County shall conduct the performances provided by this Contract substantially with its own resources and through the services of its own staff. In the event that County should determine that it is necessary or expedient to subcontract for any of the performances specified herein, County shall subcontract for such performances only after County has transmitted to the OAG a true copy of the subcontract County proposes to execute with a subcontractor and has obtained the OAG's written approval for subcontracting the subject performances in advance of executing a subcontract. County, in subcontracting for any performances specified herein, expressly understands and acknowledges that in entering into such subcontract(s), the OAG is in no manner liable to any subcontractor(s) of County. In no event shall this provision relieve County of the responsibility for ensuring that the performances rendered under all subcontracts comply with all terms of this Contract.

#### 5.10. Dispute Resolution Process for County Breach of Contract Claim

- 5.10.1. The dispute resolution process provided for in Chapter 2260 of the Government Code shall be used, as further described herein, by the OAG and County to attempt to resolve any claim for breach of contract made by County.
- 5.10.2. County's claim for breach of this Contract that the parties cannot resolve in the ordinary course of business shall be submitted to the negotiation process provided in Chapter 2260, subchapter B. of the Government Code. To initiate the process, the County shall submit written notice, as required by subchapter B, to the Director, Child Support Division, Office of the Attorney General, P.O. Box 12017 (Mail Code 033), Austin, Texas 78711-2017. Said notice shall specifically state that the provisions of Chapter 2260, subchapter B, are being invoked. A copy of the notice shall also be given to all other representatives of the OAG and the County otherwise entitled to notice under this Contract. Compliance by the County with subchapter B is a condition precedent to the filing of a contested case proceeding under Chapter 2260, subchapter C, of the Government Code.
- 5.10.3. The contested case process provided in Chapter 2260, subchapter C, of the Government Code is the County's sole and exclusive process for seeking a remedy for any and all alleged breaches of contract by the OAG if the parties are unable to resolve their disputes under the immediate preceding subsection.
- 5.10.4. Compliance with the contested case process provided in subchapter C is a condition precedent to seeking consent to sue from the Legislature under Chapter 107 of the Civil Practices and Remedies Code. Neither the execution of this Contract by the OAG nor any other conduct of any representative of the OAG relating to the Contract shall be considered a waiver of sovereign immunity to suit.
- 5.10.5. The submission, processing and resolution of the County's claim is governed by the published rules adopted by the OAG pursuant to Chapter 2260, as currently effective, hereafter enacted or subsequently amended.
- 5.10.6. Neither the occurrence of an event nor the pendency of a claim constitutes grounds for the suspension of performance by the County, in whole or in part.

#### 5.11. Reporting Fraud, Waste or Abuse

- 5.11.1. County must report any suspected incident of fraud, waste or abuse associated with the performance of this Contract to any one of the following listed entities:
  - 5.11.1.1. the Contract Manager
  - 5.11.1.2. the Deputy Director for Contract Operations, Child Support Division
  - 5.11.1.3. the Director, Child Support Division the Deputy Director, Child Support Division
  - 5.11.1.4. the OAG Ethics Advisor
  - 5.11.1.5. the OAG's Fraud, Waste and Abuse Prevention Program ("FWAPP") Hotline (866-552-7937) or the FWAPP E-mailbox (FWAPP@oag.state.tx.us)
  - 5.11.1.6. the State Auditor's Office hotline for fraud (1-800-892-8348).
- 5.11.2. The report of suspected misconduct shall include (if known):
  - 5.11.2.1. the specific suspected misconduct
  - 5.11.2.2. the names of the individual(s)/entity(ies) involved

- 5.11.2.3. the date(s)/location(s) of the alleged activity(ies)
  - 5.11.2.4. the names and all available contact information (phone numbers, addresses) of possible witnesses or other individuals who may have relevant information; and
  - 5.11.2.5. any documents which tend to support the allegations.
- 5.11.3. The words fraud, waste or abuse as used in this Section have the following meanings:
- 5.11.3.1. Fraud is the use of one's occupation for obtaining personal benefit (including benefit for family/friends) through the deliberate misuse or misapplication of resources or assets.
  - 5.11.3.2. Waste is the extravagant careless or needless expenditure of funds or consumption of property that results from deficient practices, system controls, or decisions.
  - 5.11.3.3. Abuse is the misuse of one's position, title or authority to obtain a personal benefit (including benefit for family/friends) or to attempt to damage someone else.

## **6. CONFIDENTIALITY AND SECURITY**

### **6.1. Confidentiality and Security Provisions**

#### **6.1.1. General**

- 6.1.1.1. Both OAG and County recognize and assume the duty to protect and safeguard confidential information. Confidential information specifically includes personally identifiable information such as Social Security Number, full name, date of birth, home address, account number, and case status. Each entity acknowledges that the loss of confidentiality, integrity and availability of information assets is a risk which can be minimized by effective security safeguards and enforced compliance with information security policies, standards and procedures.
- 6.1.1.2. OAG recognizes that County has existing statutory responsibilities to maintain confidentiality of records related to state district courts (juvenile, family, probate, civil and criminal), county courts and national and state criminal records (FBI, NCIC, TCIC). OAG also recognizes that County has existing processes and procedures that ensure the security and confidentiality of this information and data and is subject to security audits or assessments by these authorities.
- 6.1.1.3. This agreement requires County to retrieve data from the courts and other sources and create data within TXCSES or TXCSES Web.
- 6.1.1.4. County acknowledges and agrees to protect OAG Data as confidential. All references to "OAG Data" shall mean all data and information (i) originated by OAG and/or submitted to County by or on behalf of OAG, or (ii) which County accesses from OAG systems in connection with provision of the Agreement Services. OAG Data does not include data and information originated by County in the performance of its duties. Upon request by OAG, County shall execute and deliver any documents that may be necessary or desirable under any law to preserve or enable OAG to enforce its rights with respect to OAG Data. OAG rights and privileges applicable to OAG Data shall survive expiration or any termination of this Agreement, and shall be perpetual. Tex. Gov't Code Chapter 552 defines the exclusive mechanism for determining whether OAG Data are subject to public disclosure. However, data that is publicly known and generally available to the public is not subject to these Confidentiality and Security Provisions.

- 6.1.1.5. If any term or provision of this Confidentiality and Security Provision, shall be found to be illegal or unenforceable, it shall be deemed independent and divisible, and notwithstanding such illegality or unenforceability, all other terms or provisions in this Confidentiality and Security Provision, shall remain in full force and effect and such illegal or unenforceable term or provision shall be deemed to be deleted.
- 6.1.1.6. County shall develop and implement access protection lists. The access protection lists shall document the name and other identifying data for any individual, authorized pursuant to County's request, to access, use or disclose OAG Data, as well as any special conditions and limitations applicable to each authorization. County shall remove individuals from or change the access rights of individuals on the access protection list immediately upon such individual no longer requiring access. At least quarterly, OAG shall send County a list of TXCSES Web users and County shall review and update its access protection lists and ensure that the access protection lists accurately reflect the individuals and their access level currently authorized. County shall notify OAG of the authorized personnel that should have access rights to OAG Data and information in the method prescribed by OAG. County will immediately notify OAG when an individual's access to OAG systems is no longer relevant. OAG, in its sole discretion, may deny or revoke an individual's access to OAG Data and information and any of its systems.
- 6.1.1.7. County shall perform background reviews, to include a criminal history record review, on all County employees who will have access to OAG Data and information, and any OAG system. County shall certify to OAG that such reviews have been conducted and that in County's opinion the aforesaid employees are deemed trustworthy. County may request OAG to perform such reviews. In such an instance, County shall provide OAG with any required information, consent and authorization to perform the reviews and OAG shall perform the reviews at its own expense.
- 6.1.1.8. All references to "Agreement Services" shall include activities within the scope of this Agreement.
- 6.1.1.9. County shall comply with all applicable statutory and regulatory provisions requiring that information be safeguarded and kept confidential. These statutes and regulatory provisions include but are not limited to 42 U.S.C. §§ 653 and 654; 45 CFR §§ 307.10, 307.11 and 307.13; 26 U.S.C. 6103 (IRC 6103); IRS Publication 1075 (Rev.8-2010) and § 231.108 of the Texas Family Code, each as currently written or as may be amended, revised or enacted. County shall also comply with OAG policy, processes and procedures concerning the safeguarding and confidentiality of information, and computer security (including any requirements set forth in Attachment F, entitled "United States Internal Revenue Service Requirements for the Safeguarding of Federal Tax Information Including Federal Tax Returns and Return Information"). The requirements of these Confidentiality and Security Provisions shall be included in, and apply to, subcontracts and agreements the County has with anyone performing Agreement Services on County's behalf.
- 6.1.1.10. This Agreement is between County and OAG, and is not intended to create any independent cause of action by any third party, individual, or entity against OAG or County.

## 6.2. OAG Data Usage and Storage

- 6.2.1. County agrees to maintain physical security for OAG data by maintaining an environment designed to prevent loss or unauthorized removal of data. County shall ensure that all persons having access to data obtained from OAG Systems are thoroughly briefed on related security procedures, use restrictions, and instructions requiring their awareness and compliance. County shall ensure that all County personnel having access to OAG Data receive annual reorientation

sessions when offered by the OAG and all County personnel that perform or are assigned to perform Agreement Services shall annually re-execute, and/or renew their acceptance of, all applicable security documents and to ensure that they remain alert to all security requirements. County personnel shall only be granted access to OAG Systems after they have received all required security training, read the OAG Data Security Policy Manual (Attachment A), signed the acknowledgment (and County has given the signed acknowledgment to the OAG Contract Manager) and read and accepted the OAG Automated Computer System Access Statement of Responsibility (Attachment B) and the Child Support online Login Policy (Attachment C).

- 6.2.2. OAG Data are not allowed on mobile/remote/portable storage devices; nor may storage media be removed from the facility used by County. Any exception to this prohibition must have OAG prior approval. Such approval may only be granted by Controlled Correspondence or Contract amendment. This prohibition does not apply to County Information Systems backup procedure. County Information Systems backup procedure is subject to the United States Internal Revenue Service requirements set forth in IRS Publication 1075 (Rev.8-2010) and Attachment F entitled "United States Internal Revenue Service Requirements for the Safeguarding of Federal Tax Information Including Federal Tax Returns and Return Information".
- 6.2.3. County stipulates, covenants, and agrees that it will not access, use or disclose OAG Data beyond its limited authorization or for any purpose not necessary for the performance of its duties under this Agreement. Without OAG's approval (in its sole discretion), County will not: (i) use OAG Data other than in connection with providing the Agreement Services; (ii) disclose, sell, assign, lease, or otherwise provide OAG Data to third parties, including any local, state, or Federal legislative body; (iii) commercially exploit OAG Data or allow OAG Data to be commercially exploited; or (iv) create, distribute or use any electronic or hard copy mailing list of OAG Customers for purposes other than in connection with providing the Agreement Services. However, nothing in this agreement is intended to restrict County from performing its other authorized duties. For example, the duty to disseminate copies of court orders to requesting parties that necessarily includes data such as names and addresses. In the event that County fails to comply with this subsection, OAG may exercise any remedy, including immediate termination of this Agreement.
  - 6.2.3.1. County agrees that it shall comply with all state and federal standards regarding the protection and confidentiality of OAG Data as currently effective, subsequently enacted or as may be amended. OAG Data accessed shall always be maintained in a secure environment (with limited access by authorized personnel both during work and non-work hours) using devices and methods such as, but not limited to: alarm systems, locked containers of various types, fireproof safes, restricted areas, locked rooms, locked buildings, identification systems, guards, or other devices reasonably expected to prevent loss or unauthorized removal of manually held data. County shall also protect against unauthorized use of passwords, keys, combinations, access logs, and badges. Whenever possible, computer operations must be in a secure area with restricted access. In situations such as remote terminals, or office work sites where all of the requirements of a secure area with restricted access cannot be maintained, the equipment shall receive the highest level of protection. This protection must include (where communication is through an external not-organization-controlled network [e.g. the Internet]) multifactor authentication that is compliant with NIST SP 800-63, Electronic authentication Guidance level 3 or 4, and shall be consistent with IRS Publication 1075 Section 4.7 Alternate Work Sites.

### 6.3. OAG Data Retention and Destruction, and Public Information Requests

- 6.3.1. Any destruction or purging of OAG Data shall be destroyed and/or purged in accordance with state and federal statutes, rules and regulations. Within ten (10) business days of destruction or purging, County will provide the OAG with a completed OAG-Child Support Division

“Certificate of Destruction for Contractors and Vendors” (Attachment H; a copy of which is attached hereto and included herein).

- 6.3.2. In the event of Agreement expiration or termination for any reason, County shall ensure the security of any OAG Data remaining in any storage component to prevent unauthorized disclosures. Within twenty (20) business days of Agreement expiration or termination, County shall provide OAG with a signed statement detailing the nature of the OAG Data retained, type of storage media, physical location(s), and any planned destruction date.
- 6.3.3. County expressly does not have any actual or implied authority to determine whether any OAG Data are public or exempted from disclosure. County is not authorized to respond to public information requests which would require disclosure of otherwise confidential information on behalf of the OAG. County agrees to forward to the OAG, by facsimile within one (1) business day from receipt all request(s) for information associated with the County’s services under this Agreement. County shall forward via fax any information requests to:

Public Information Coordinator  
Office of the Attorney General  
Fax (512) 494-8017

#### 6.4. Security Incidents

##### 6.4.1. Response to Security Incidents

- 6.4.1.1. County shall respond to detected security incidents. The term “security incident” means an occurrence or event where the confidentiality, integrity or availability of OAG Data may have been compromised. County shall maintain an internal incident response plan to facilitate a quick, effective and orderly response to information security incidents. The incident response plan should cover such topics as:

- 6.4.1.1.1. Initial responders
- 6.4.1.1.2. Containment
- 6.4.1.1.3. Management Notification
- 6.4.1.1.4. Documentation of Response Actions
- 6.4.1.1.5. Expedious confirmation of system integrity
- 6.4.1.1.6. Collection of audit trails and similar evidence
- 6.4.1.1.7. Cause analysis
- 6.4.1.1.8. Damage analysis and mitigation
- 6.4.1.1.9. Internal Reporting Responsibility
- 6.4.1.1.10. External Reporting Responsibility
- 6.4.1.1.11. OAG Contract Manager’s and OAG CISO’s name, phone number and email address.

- 6.4.2. Attachment G is County’s current internal incident response plan. Any changes to this incident response plan require OAG approval (which approval shall not be unreasonably withheld) and may be made by Controlled Correspondence.

## 6.5. Notice

- 6.5.1. Within one (1) hour of concluding that there has been, any OAG Data security incident County shall initiate damage mitigation and notify the OAG Chief Information Security Officer ("OAG CISO") and the OAG Contract Manager, by telephone and by email, of the security incident and the initial damage mitigation steps taken. Current contact information shall be contained in the Plan.
- 6.5.2. Within twenty-four (24) hours of the discovery, County shall conduct a preliminary damage analysis of the security incident; commence an investigation into the incident; and provide a written report to the OAG CISO, with a copy to the OAG Contract Manager fully disclosing all information relating to the security incident and the results of the preliminary damage analysis. This initial report shall include, at a minimum: time and nature of the incident (e.g., OAG data loss/corruption/intrusion); cause(s); mitigation efforts; corrective actions; and estimated recovery time.
- 6.5.3. Each day thereafter until the investigation is complete, County shall: (i) provide the OAG CISO, or the OAG CISO's designee, with a daily oral or email report regarding the investigation status and current damage analysis; and (ii) confer with the OAG CISO, or the OAG CISO's designee, regarding the proper course of the investigation and damage mitigation.
- 6.5.4. Whenever daily oral reports are provided, County shall provide, by close of business each Friday, an email report detailing the foregoing daily requirements.

## 6.6. Final Report

- 6.6.1. Within five (5) business days of completing the damage analysis and investigation, County shall submit a written Final Report to the OAG CISO with a copy to the OAG Contract Manager, which shall include:
  - 6.6.1.1. a detailed explanation of the cause(s) of the security incident;
  - 6.6.1.2. a detailed description of the nature of the security incident, including, but not limited to, extent of intruder activity (such as files changed, edited or removed; Trojans), and the particular OAG Data affected; and
  - 6.6.1.3. a specific cure for the security incident and the date by which such cure shall be implemented, or if the cure has been put in place, a certification to OAG that states the date County implemented the cure and a description of how the cure protects against the possibility of a recurrence.
- 6.6.2. If the cure has not been put in place by the time the report is submitted, County shall within thirty (30) calendar days after submission of the final report, provide a certification to OAG that states the date County implemented the cure and a description of how the cure protects against the possibility of a recurrence.
- 6.6.3. If County fails to provide a Final Report and Certification within forty-five (45) calendar days, or as otherwise agreed to, of the security incident, County agrees that OAG may exercise any right, remedy or privilege which may be available to it under applicable law of the State and any other applicable law. The exercise of any of the foregoing remedies will not constitute a termination of this Agreement unless OAG notifies County in writing prior to the exercise of such remedy.

## 6.7. Independent Right to Investigate

- 6.7.1. OAG reserves the right to conduct an independent investigation of any security incident, and should OAG choose to do so, County shall cooperate fully, making resources, personnel and

systems access available. If at all possible, OAG will provide reasonable notice to County that it is going to conduct an independent investigation.

## 6.8. Security Audit

### 6.8.1. Right to Audit, Investigate and Inspect the Facilities, Operations, and Systems Used in the Performance of Agreement Services.

6.8.1.1. County shall permit OAG, the State Auditor of Texas, the United States Internal Revenue Service, the United States Department of Health and Human Services and the Comptroller General of the United States to:

6.8.1.1.1. monitor and observe the operations of, and to perform security investigations, audits and reviews of the operations and records of, the County;

6.8.1.1.2. inspect its information system in order to access security at the operating system, network, and application levels; provided, however, that such access shall not interfere with the daily operations of managing and running the system; and

6.8.1.1.3. enter into the offices and places of business of County and County's subcontractors for a security inspection of the facilities and operations used in the performance of Agreement Services. Specific remedial measures may be required in cases where County or County's subcontractors are found to be noncompliant with physical and/or OAG data security protection.

6.8.1.2. When OAG performs any of the above monitoring, observations, and inspections, OAG will provide County with reasonable notice that conforms to standard business audit protocol. However prior notice is not always possible when such functions are performed by the State Auditor of Texas, the United States Internal Revenue Service, the United States Department of Health and Human Services and the Comptroller General of the United States. In those instances the OAG will endeavor to provide as much notice as possible but the right to enter without notice is specifically reserved.

6.8.1.3. Any audit of documents shall be conducted at County's principal place of business and/or the location(s) of County's operations during County's normal business hours and at OAG's expense. County shall provide on County's premises, (or if the audit is being performed of a County's subcontractor, the County's subcontractor's premises, if necessary) the physical and technical support reasonably necessary for OAG auditors and inspectors to perform their work.

6.8.1.4. County shall supply to the OAG and the State of Texas any data or reports rendered or available in conjunction with any security audit of County or County's subcontractors, if such data or reports pertain, in whole or in part, to the Agreement Services. This obligation shall extend to include any report(s) or other data generated by any security audit conducted up to one (1) year after the date of termination or expiration of the Agreement.

## 6.9. Remedial Action

### 6.9.1. Remedies Not Exclusive and Injunctive Relief

6.9.1.1. The remedies provided in this section are in addition to, and not exclusive of, all other remedies available within this Agreement, or at law or in equity. OAG's pursuit or non-pursuit of any one remedy for a security incident(s) does not constitute a waiver of any other remedy that OAG may have at law or equity.

- 6.9.1.2. If injunctive or other equitable relief is available, then County agrees that OAG shall not be required to post bond or other security as a condition of such relief.

#### 6.10. Notice to Third Parties

- 6.10.1. Subject to OAG review and approval, County shall provide notice to individuals whose personal, confidential, or privileged data were compromised or likely compromised as a result of the security incident, with such notice to include: (i) a brief description of what happened; (ii) to the extent possible, a description of the types of personal data that were involved in the security breach (e.g., full name, SSN, date of birth, home address, account number, etc.); (iii) a brief description of what is being done to investigate the breach, mitigate losses, and to protect against any further breaches; (iv) contact procedures for those wishing to ask questions or learn additional data, including a telephone number, website, if available, and postal address; and, (v) instructions for accessing the Consumer Protection Identity Theft section of the OAG website. County and OAG shall mutually agree on the methodology for providing the notice. However, the notice method must comply with Section 521.053, Texas business and Commerce Code (as currently enacted or subsequently amended). Provided further that County must also comply with Section 521.053's "consumer reporting agency" notification requirements.
- 6.10.2. County shall be responsible for responding to and following up on inquiries and requests for further assistance from persons notified under the preceding section.
- 6.10.3. If County does not provide the required notice, OAG may elect to provide notice of the security incident. County and OAG shall mutually agree on the methodology for providing the notice. However, the notice method must comply with Section 521.053, Texas business and Commerce Code (as currently enacted or subsequently amended). Costs (excluding personnel costs) associated with providing notice shall be reimbursed to OAG by County. If County does not reimburse such cost within thirty (30) calendar days of request, OAG shall have the right to collect such cost. Additionally, OAG may collect such cost by offsetting or reducing any future payments owed to County.

#### 6.11. Commencement of Legal Action

- 6.11.1. County shall not commence any legal proceeding on OAG's behalf outside the scope of the Agreement Services without OAG's express written consent. OAG shall not commence any legal proceedings on County's behalf without County's express written consent.

### 7. AMENDMENT

- 7.1. This Contract shall not be amended or modified except by written amendment executed by duly authorized representatives of both parties. Any alterations, additions or deletions to the terms of this Contract which are required by changes in federal or state law are automatically incorporated into this Contract without written amendment to this Contract and shall be effective on the date designated by said federal or state law.

## 8. TERMINATION OF CONTRACT

### 8.1. Termination

- 8.1.1. Either party to this Contract shall have the right to either terminate this Contract in its entirety or in part. However, a County continuing to contract to provide Local Customer Service services must also continue to contract to provide State Case Registry services. The Contract, or portion of the Contract, may be terminated by the terminating party notifying the other party in writing of such termination and the proposed date of the termination no later than thirty (30) calendar days prior to the effective date of such termination.

### 8.2. Survival of Terms

- 8.2.1. Termination of this Contract for any reason shall not release the parties from any liability or obligation set forth in this Contract that is expressly stated to survive any such termination or by its nature would be intended to be applicable following any such termination.

## 9. TERMS AND CONDITIONS

### 9.1. Federal Terms and Conditions

#### 9.1.1. Compliance with Law, Policy and Procedure

- 9.1.1.1. County shall perform its obligations hereunder in such a manner that ensures its compliance with OAG, policy, processes and procedure. It shall also comply with all state and federal laws, rules, regulations, requirements and guidelines applicable to County: (1) performing its obligations hereunder and to assure with respect to its performances hereunder that the OAG is carrying out the program of child support enforcement pursuant to Title IV, Part D of the federal Social Security Act of 1935 as amended; (2) providing services to the OAG as these laws, rules, regulations, requirements and guidelines currently exist and as they are amended throughout the term of this Contract. County understands and agrees that from time to time OAG may need to change its policy, processes or procedures and that such change shall not entitle County to any increased cost reimbursement under this Contract; provided, however, that County may exercise its right to terminate the Contract in accordance with the Termination Section above. OAG shall provide County e-mail notice of any change in OAG policy, processes or procedures.

#### 9.1.2. Civil Rights

- 9.1.2.1. County agrees that no person shall, on the ground of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, disability, political affiliation, or religious belief, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, be subjected to discrimination under, or be denied employment in the administration of, or in connection with, any program or activity funded in whole or in part with funds provided by this Contract. County shall comply with Executive Order 11246, "Equal Employment Opportunity" as amended by Executive Order 11375, "Amending Executive Order 11246 relating to Equal Employment Opportunity" and as supplemented by regulations at 41 C.F.R. Part 60, "Office of Federal Contract Compliance Programs, Equal Employment Opportunity, Department of Labor." County shall ensure that all subcontracts comply with the above referenced provisions.

- 9.1.3. Certification Regarding Debarment, Suspension, Ineligibility, and Voluntary Exclusion from Participation in Contracts Exceeding \$100,000.00.

9.1.3.1. County certifies by entering into this Contract, that neither it nor its principals are debarred, suspended, proposed for debarment, declared ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from participation in this transaction by any federal department or agency.

9.1.3.2. The certification requirement of this provision shall be included in all subcontracts that exceed \$100,000.

#### 9.1.4. Environmental Protection (Contracts in Excess of \$100,000.00)

9.1.4.1. County shall be in compliance with all applicable standards, orders, or requirements issued under section 306 of the Clean Air Act (42 USC 1857(h)) Section 508 of the Clean Water Act (33 USC 1368) Executive Order 11738, and Environmental Protection Agency regulations (40 CFR part 15). The requirements of this provision shall be included in all subcontracts that exceed \$100,000.

#### 9.1.5. Certain Disclosures Concerning Lobbying [Contracts in excess of \$100,000]

9.1.5.1. Certain Counties shall comply with the provisions of a federal law known generally as the Lobbying Disclosure Acts of 1989, and the regulations of the United States Department of Health and Human Services promulgated pursuant to said law, and shall make all disclosures and certifications as required by law. County must submit at the time of execution of this Contract a Certification Regarding Lobbying (Attachment E). This certification certifies that the County will not and has not used federally appropriated funds to pay any person or organization for influencing or attempting to influence any officer or employee of any Federal agency, a member of Congress, officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a member of Congress in connection with obtaining any Federal Contract, grant or any other award covered by 31 U.S.C. 1352. It also certifies that the County will disclose any lobbying with non-Federal funds that takes place in connection with obtaining any Federal award by completing and submitting Standard Form LLL.

9.1.5.2. The requirements of this provision shall be included in all subcontracts exceeding \$100,000.

#### 9.2. News Releases or Pronouncements

9.2.1. News releases, advertisements, publications, declarations, and any other pronouncements pertaining to this Contract by County, using any means or media, must be approved in writing by the OAG prior to public dissemination.

#### 9.3. Date Standard

9.3.1. Four-digit year elements will be used for the purposes of electronic data interchange in any recorded form. The year shall encompass a two digit century that precedes, and is contiguous with, a two digit year of century (e.g. 1999, 2000, etc.). Applications that require day and Month information will be coded in the following format: CCYYMMDD. Additional representations for week, hour, minute, and second, if required, will comply with the international standard ISO 8601: 1988, "Data elements and interchange formats--Information interchange--Representation of dates and times."

#### 9.4. Headings

9.4.1. The headings for each section of this Contract are stated for convenience only and are not to be construed as limiting.

9.5. Agreement Relating to Debts or Delinquencies Owed to the State

9.5.1. As required by §2252.903, Government Code, the County agrees that any payments due under this Contract shall be directly applied towards eliminating any debt or delinquency including, but not limited to, delinquent taxes, delinquent student loan payments, and delinquent child support.

9.6. Certification Concerning Dealings with Public Servants

9.6.1. County, by signing this contract, certifies that it has not given nor intends to give at any time hereafter any economic opportunity, future employment, gift, loan, gratuity, special discount, trip, favor, or service to a public servant in connection with this transaction.

9.7. Personnel Comportment

9.7.1. County and County subcontractor personnel and agents shall be courteous and professional in all communications during their performance of the requirements of this contract. Any actions deemed unprofessional must be remedied to the satisfaction of the OAG Contract Manager. The OAG reserves the right, in its sole discretion, to require the immediate removal and replacement of any County and/or County subcontractor personnel and agents deemed by the OAG to be discourteous, unprofessional, unsuitable or otherwise objectionable. Any replacement personnel assigned by County to perform services under this contract must have qualifications for the assigned position that equal or exceed those of the person being replaced.

9.8. Non-Waiver of Rights

9.8.1. Failure of a party to require performance by another party under this Contract will not affect the right of such party to require performance in the future. No delay, failure, or waiver of either party's exercise or partial exercise of any right or remedy under this Contract shall operate to limit, impair, preclude, cancel, waive or otherwise affect such right or remedy. A waiver by a party of any breach of any term of this Contract will not be construed as a waiver of any continuing or succeeding breach. Should any provision of this Contract be invalid or unenforceable, the remainder of the provisions will remain in effect.

9.9. No Waiver of Sovereign Immunity

9.9.1. The parties expressly agree that no provision of this 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.

9.10. Severability

9.10.1. If any provision of this contract is construed to be illegal or invalid, such construction will not affect the legality or validity of any of its other provisions. The illegal or invalid provision will be deemed severable and stricken from the contract as if it had never been incorporated herein, but all other provisions will continue in full force and effect.

9.11. Applicable Law and Venue

9.11.1. Applicable Law and Venue: County agrees that this Contract in all respects shall be governed by and construed in accordance with the laws of the State of Texas, except for its provisions regarding conflicts of laws. County also agrees that the exclusive venue and jurisdiction of any legal action or suit brought by County concerning this Contract is, and that any such legal action or suit shall be brought, in a court of competent jurisdiction in Travis County, Texas. OAG agrees that any legal action or suit brought by OAG concerning this Contract shall be brought in a court of competent jurisdiction in Williamson County. All payments under this Contract shall be due and payable in Travis County, Texas.

9.12. Entire Contract

9.12.1. This instrument constitutes the entire Contract between the parties hereto, and all oral or written contracts between the parties relating to the subject matter of this Contract that were made prior to the execution of this Contract have been reduced to writing and are contained herein.

9.13. Counterparts

9.13.1. This Contract may be executed in one or more counterparts, each of which shall be deemed an original, but all of which together shall constitute one and the same instrument.

9.14. Attachments

- 9.14.1. Attachment A: OAG Information Security Policy Manual
- 9.14.2. Attachment B: OAG Automated Computer System Access - Statement of Responsibility
- 9.14.3. Attachment C: Child Support Online Login Policy
- 9.14.4. Attachment D: Data Integrity Procedures Changes to Case Information
- 9.14.5. Attachment E: Certification Regarding Lobbying
- 9.14.6. Attachment F: IRS Publication 1075 (Rev.8-2010)
- 9.14.7. Attachment G: Incident Response Plan
- 9.14.8. Attachment H: Certificate of Destruction for Contractors and Vendors

**THIS CONTRACT IS HEREBY ACCEPTED**

**OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL**

**WILLIAMSON COUNTY**

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Alicia G. Key  
Deputy Attorney General for Child Support

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The Honorable Dan A. Gattis  
County Judge, Williamson County