

STATE OF FLORIDA DIVISION OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

Ron DeSantis, Governor

Kevin Guthrie, Executive Director

STATEWIDE MUTUAL AID AGREEMENT - 2023

This Agreement is an acknowledgment of receipt by the Florida Division of Emergency Management ("the Division") and the local government ("Participating Party") signing this Agreement. Execution of this agreement replaces all previous iterations and is active until a new agreement is drafted and requested by The Division.

This Agreement is based on the existence of the following conditions:

- A. The State of Florida is vulnerable to a wide range of emergencies and disasters that are likely to cause the disruption of essential services and the destruction of the infrastructure needed to deliver those services.
- B. Such emergencies and disasters often exceed the emergency response and recovery capabilities of any one county or local government.
- C. Such incidents may also give rise to unusual and unanticipated physical and technical needs which a local government cannot meet with existing resources, but that other local governments within the State of Florida may be able to provide.
- D. The Emergency Management Act, chapter 252, *Florida Statutes*, provides each local government of the state the authority to develop and enter into mutual aid agreements within the state for reciprocal emergency aid in case of emergencies too extensive to be dealt with unassisted, and through such agreements ensure the timely reimbursement of costs incurred by the local governments which render such assistance.
- E. Pursuant to chapter 252.32, *Florida Statutes*, the Division renders mutual aid among the political subdivisions of the state to carry out emergency management functions and responsibilities.
- F. Pursuant to chapter 252, *Florida Statutes*, the Division has the authority to coordinate and direct emergency management assistance between local governments and concentrate available resources where needed.

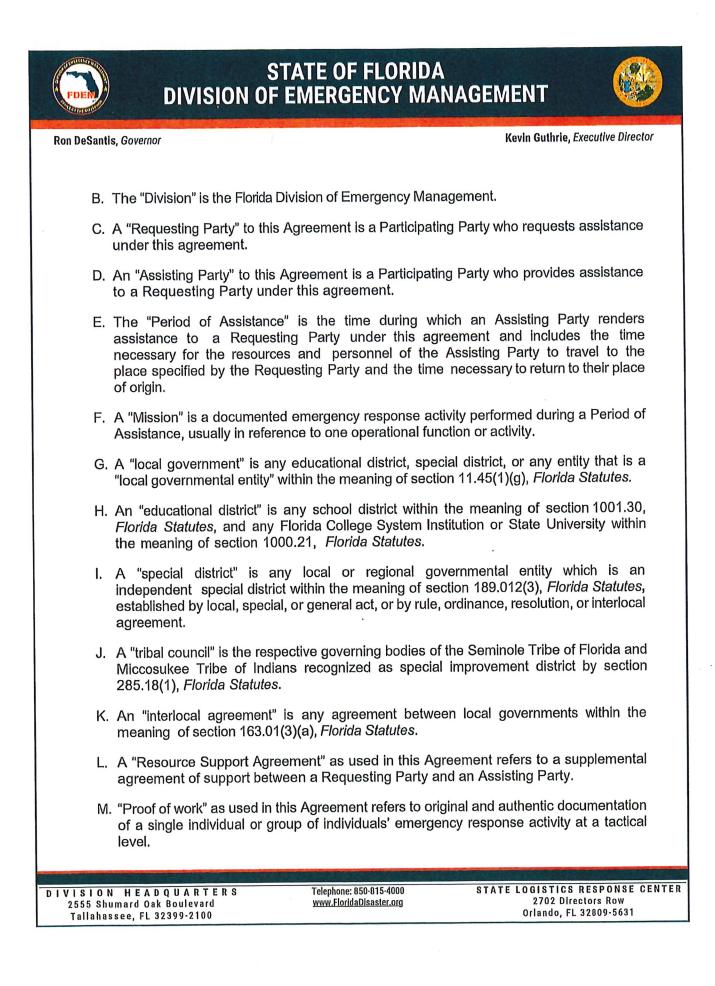
Based on the existence of the foregoing conditions, the Parties agree to the following articles:

ARTICLE I: DEFINITIONS

As used in this Agreement, the following expressions shall have the following meanings:

A. The "Agreement" is this Agreement, which shall be referred to as the Statewide Mutual Aid Agreement ("SMAA").

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Tallahassee, FL 32399-2100		Orlando, FL 32809-5631



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- N. "Proof of payment" as used in this Agreement refers to original and authentic documentation of an emergency response expenditure made by an Assisting Party.
- O. A "Reimbursement Package" as used in this Agreement refers to a full account of mission response documentation supported by proof of work and proof of payment.
- P. Any expressions not assigned definitions elsewhere in this Agreement shall have the definitions assigned them by the Emergency Management Act, Chapter 252, *Florida Statutes*.

ARTICLE II: APPLICABILITY OF THE AGREEMENT

Any Participating Party, including the Division, may request assistance under this Agreement for a "major disaster" or "catastrophic disaster" as defined in section 252.34, *Florida Statutes*, minor disasters, and other such emergencies as lawfully determined by a Participating Party.

ARTICLE III: INVOCATION OF THE AGREEMENT

In the event of an emergency or anticipated emergency, a Participating Party may request assistance under this Agreement from any other Participating Party or the Division if, in the judgement of the Requesting Party, its own resources are inadequate to meet the needs of the emergency or disaster.

- A. Any request for assistance under this Agreement may be oral, but within five (5) calendar days must be confirmed in writing by the Requesting Party. All requests for assistance under this Agreement shall be transmitted by the Requesting Party to another Participating Party or the Division. If the Requesting Party transmits its request for Assistance directly to a Participating Party other than the Division, the Requesting Party and Assisting Party shall keep the Division advised of their activities.
- B. The Division shall relay any requests for assistance under this Agreement to such other Participating Parties as it may deem appropriate and coordinate the activities of the Assisting Parties to ensure timely assistance to the Requesting Party. All such activities shall be carried out in accordance with the State's Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan.

ARTICLE IV: RESPONSIBILITIES OF REQUESTING PARTIES

To the extent practicable, all Requesting Parties shall provide the following information to their respective county emergency management agency, the Division, and the intended Assisting Party or Parties. In providing such information, Requesting Parties should utilize Section I of the

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Resource Support Agreement (RSA) Form, available via the <u>Division approved documents</u> <u>SharePoint site</u>¹.

- A. A description of the Mission to be performed by the Assisting Party;
- B. A description of the resources and capabilities needed to complete the Mission successfully;
- C. The location, date, and time personnel and resources from the Assisting Party should arrive at the incident site, staging area, facility, or other location designated by the Requesting Party;
- D. A description of the health, safety, and working conditions expected for deploying personnel;
- E. Lodging and meal availability;
- F. Any logistical requirements;
- G. A description of any location or facility outside the territorial jurisdiction of the Requesting Party needed to stage incoming resources and personnel;
- H. The location date, and time for personnel of the Requesting Party to meet and receive the personnel and equipment of the Assisting Party; and
- I. A technical description of any communications equipment needed to ensure effective information sharing between the Requesting Party, any Assisting Parties, and all relevant responding entities.

ARTICLE V: RESPONSIBILITIES OF ASSISTING PARTIES

Each Party shall render assistance under this Agreement to any Requesting Party to the extent practicable that its personnel, equipment, resources, and capabilities can render assistance. If upon receiving a request for assistance under this Agreement a Party determines that it has the capacity to render some or all of such assistance, it shall provide the following information without delay to the Requesting Party, the Division, and the Assisting Party's County emergency management agency. In providing such information, the Assisting Party should utilize the Section II of the Resource Support Agreement (RSA) Form, available via the Division approved documents SharePoint site.

¹ FDEM approved documents such as activity logs and mutual aid forms can be found at: https://portal.floridadisaster.org/projects/FROC/FROC_Documents/Forms/Allitems.aspx?View=%7B6F3CF7BD%2DC0A4%2D4BE2%2DB809%2DC8009D7D068 6%7D

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- A. A description of the personnel, equipment, supplies, services and capabilities it has available, together with a description of the qualifications of any skilled personnel;
- B. An estimate of the time such personnel, equipment, supplies, and services will continue to be available;
- C. An estimate of the time it will take to deliver such personnel, equipment, supplies, and services to the location(s) specified by the Requesting Party;
- D. A technical description of any communications and telecommunications equipment available for timely communications with the Requesting Party and other Assisting Parties;
- E. The names and contact information of all personnel whom the Assisting Party has designated as team leaders or supervisors; and
- F. An estimated cost for the provision of assistance.

ARTICLE VI: RENDITION OF ASSISTANCE

The Requesting Party shall afford the emergency response personnel of all Assisting Parties, while operating within the jurisdictional boundaries of the Requesting Party, the same powers, duties, rights, and privileges, except that of arrest unless specifically authorized by the Requesting Party, as are afforded the equivalent emergency response personnel of the Requesting Party. Emergency response personnel of the Assisting Party, but during the Period of Assistance, the resources and responding personnel of the Assisting Party will perform response activities under the operational and tactical control of the Requesting Party.

A. Unless otherwise agreed upon between the Requesting and Assisting Party, the Requesting Party shall be responsible for providing food, water, and shelter to the personnel of the Assisting Party. For Missions performed in areas where there are insufficient resources to support responding personnel and equipment throughout the Period of Assistance, the Assisting Party shall, to the fullest extent practicable, provide their emergency response personnel with the equipment, fuel, supplies, and technical resources necessary to make them self-sufficient throughout the Period of Assistance, the Requesting Party may specify that Assisting Parties send only self-sufficient personnel and resources but must specify the length of time self-sufficiency should be maintained.

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- B. Unless the Requesting Party has specified the contrary, it shall, to the fullest extent practicable, coordinate all communications between its personnel and the responding personnel of the Assisting Parties, and shall determine and share the frequencies and other technical specifications of all communications equipment to be used, as appropriate, with the deployed personnel of the Assisting Parties.
- C. Personnel of the Assisting Party who render assistance under this Agreement shall receive the usual wages, salaries, and other compensation as are normally afforded to personnel for emergency response activities within their home jurisdiction, and shall have all the immunities, rights, interests, and privileges applicable to their normal employment. If personnel of the Assisting Party hold local licenses or certifications limited to the jurisdiction of issue, then the Requesting Party shall recognize and honor those licenses or certifications for the duration of the Period of Assistance.

ARTICLE VII: REIMBURSEMENT

After the Period of Assistance has ended, the Assisting Party shall have 45 days to develop a full reimbursement package for services rendered and resources supplied during the Period of Assistance. All expenses claimed to the Requesting Party must have been incurred in direct response to the emergency as requested by the Requesting Party and must be supported by proof of work and proof of payment.

To guide the proper documentation and accountability of expenses, the Assisting Party should utilize the Claim Summary Form, available via the <u>Division approved documents SharePoint site</u> as a guide and summary of expense to collect information to then be formally submitted for review by the Requesting Party.

To receive reimbursement for assistance provided under this agreement, the Assisting Party shall provide, at a minimum, the following supporting documentation to the Requesting Party unless otherwise agreed upon between the Requesting and Assisting Parties:

- A. A complete and authentic description of expenses incurred by the Assisting Party during the Period of Assistance;
- B. Copy of a current and valid Internal Revenue Service W-9 Form;
- C. Copies of all relevant payment and travel policies in effect during the Period of Assistance;
- D. Daily personnel activity logs demonstrating emergency response activities performed for all time claimed (for FDEM reimbursement Division approved activity logs will be required for personnel activity claims);

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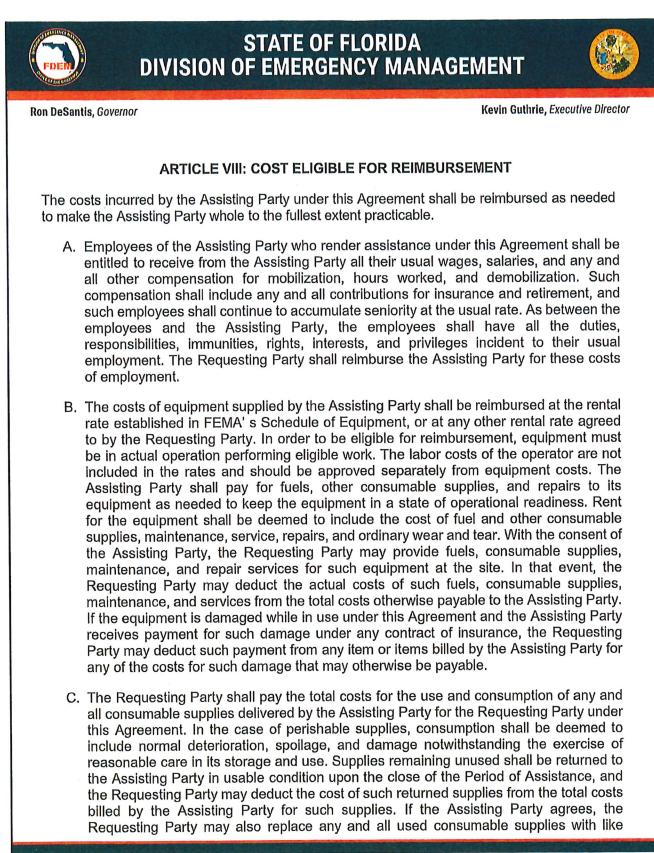
- E. Official payroll and travel reimbursement records for all claimed personnel expenses;
- F. Neat and comprehensive fringe benefit calculations for each position class or category of claimed personnel;
- G. Written justification for all additional expenses/purchases incurred during the Period of Assistance;
- H. Proof of payment for additional/miscellaneous expenses incurred during the Period of Assistance
- Equipment activity logs demonstrating equipment use and operation in support of emergency response activities for all time claimed (for FDEM reimbursement Division approved forms will be required for equipment activity claims);
- J. Proof of reimbursement to all employees who incurred emergency response expenses with personal money;
- K. Justification for equipment repair expenses; and
- L. Copies of any applicable supporting agreements or contracts with justification.

If a dispute or disagreement regarding the eligibility of any expense arises, the Requesting Party, Assisting Party, or the Division may elect binding arbitration. If binding arbitration is elected, the Parties must select as an arbitrator any elected official of another Participating Party, or any other official of another Participating Party whose normal duties include emergency management, and the other Participating Party shall also select such an official as an arbitrator, and the arbitrators thus chosen shall select another such official as a third arbitrator.

The three (3) arbitrators shall convene by teleconference or videoconference within thirty (30) calendar days to consider any documents and any statements or arguments by the Division, the Requesting Party, or the Assisting Party concerning the protest, and shall render a decision in writing not later than ten (10) business days after the close of the hearing. The decision of a majority of the arbitrators shall bind the parties and shall be final.

If the Participating Parties do not elect binding arbitration, this agreement and any disputes arising thereunder shall be governed by the laws of the State of Florida and venue shall be in Leon County, Florida. Nothing in this Agreement shall be construed to create an employer-employee relationship or a partnership or joint venture between the participating parties. Furthermore, nothing contained herein shall constitute a waiver by either Party of its sovereign immunity or the provisions of section 768.28, Florida Statutes. Nothing herein shall be construed as consent by either Party to be sued by third parties.

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supplies in usable condition and of like grade, quality and quantity within the time allowed for reimbursement under this Agreement.

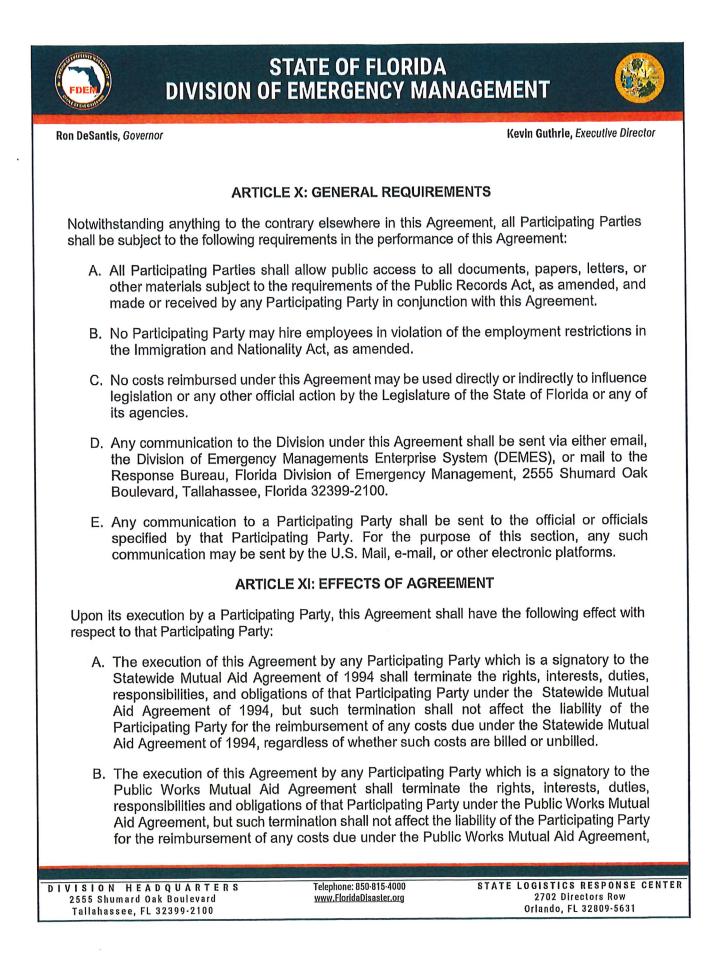
D. The Assisting Party shall keep records to document all assistance rendered under this Agreement. Such records shall present information sufficient to meet the audit requirements specified in the regulations of FEMA and any applicable circulars issued by the State of Florida. Upon reasonable notice, the Assisting Party shall make its records available the Requesting Party for inspection or duplication between 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. on all weekdays, except for official holidays.

ARTICLE IX: INSURANCE

Each Participating Party shall determine for itself what insurance to procure, if any. With the exceptions in this Article, nothing in this Agreement shall be construed to require any Participating Party to procure insurance.

- A. Each Participating Party shall procure employers' insurance meeting the requirements of the Workers' Compensation Act, as amended, affording coverage for any of its employees who may be injured while performing any activities under the authority of this Agreement, and shall be provided to each Participating Party.
- B. Any Participating Party that elects additional insurance affording liability coverage for any activities that may be performed under the authority of this Agreement shall be provided to each Participating Party.
- C. Subject to the limits of such liability insurance as any Participating Party may elect to procure, nothing in this Agreement shall be construed to waive, in whole or in part, any immunity any Participating Party may have in any judicial or quasi-judicial proceeding.
- D. Each Participating Party which renders assistance under this Agreement shall be deemed to stand in the relation of an independent contractor to all other Participating Parties and shall not be deemed to be the agent of any other Participating Party.
- E. Nothing in this Agreement shall be construed to relieve any Participating Party of liability for its own conduct and that of its employees.
- F. Nothing in this Agreement shall be construed to obligate any Participating Party to indemnify any other Participating Party from liability to third parties.

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regardless of whether such costs are billed or unbilled.

- C. Upon the activation of this Agreement by the Requesting Party, this Agreement shall supersede any other existing agreement between it and any Assisting Party to the extent that the former may be inconsistent with the latter.
- D. Upon its execution by any Participating Party, this Agreement will continue in effect for one (1) year from its date of execution by that Participating Party, and it shall automatically renew each year after its execution, unless within sixty (60) calendar days before the renewal date the Participating Party notifies the Division, in writing, of its intent to withdraw from the Agreement.
- E. The Division shall transmit any amendment to this Agreement by sending the amendment to all Participating Parties not later than five (5) business days after its execution by the Division. Such amendment shall take effect not later than sixty (60) calendar days after the date of its execution by the Division and shall then be binding on all Participating Parties. Notwithstanding the preceding sentence, any Participating Party who objects to the amendment may withdraw from the Agreement by notifying the Division in writing of its intent to do so within that time in accordance with section E of this Article.
- F. A Participating Party may rescind this Agreement at will after providing the other Participating Party a written SMAA withdrawal notice. Such notice shall be provided at least 30 days prior to the date of withdrawal. This 30-day withdrawal notice must be: written, signed by an appropriate authority, duly authorized on the official letterhead of the Participating Party, and must be sent via email, the Division of Emergency Managements Enterprise System (DEMES), or certified mail.

ARTICLE XII: INTERPRETATION AND APPLICATION OF AGREEMENT

The interpretation and application of this Agreement shall be governed by the following conditions:

- A. The obligations and conditions resting upon the Participating Parties under this Agreement are not independent, but dependent.
- B. Time shall be of the essence of this Agreement, and of the performance of all conditions, obligations, duties, responsibilities, and promises under it.
- C. This Agreement states all the conditions, obligations, duties, responsibilities, and promises of the Participating Parties with respect to the subject of this Agreement, and there are no conditions, obligations, duties, responsibilities, or promises other than those expressed in this Agreement.

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- D. If any sentence, clause, phrase, or other portion of this Agreement is ruled unenforceable or invalid, every other sentence, clause, phrase, or other portion of the Agreement shall remain in full force and effect, it being the intent of the Division and the other Participating Parties that every portion of the Agreement shall be severable from every other portion to the fullest extent practicable. The Division reserves the right, at its sole and absolute discretion, to change, modify, add, or remove portions of any sentence, clause, phrase, or other portion of this Agreement that conflicts with state law, regulation, or policy. If the change is minor, the Division will notify the Participating Party of the change and such changes will become effective immediately; therefore, please check these terms periodically for changes. If the change is substantive, the Participating Parties may be required to execute the Agreement with the adopted changes. Any continued or subsequent use of this Agreement following the posting of minor changes to this Agreement shall signify implied acceptance of such changes.
- E. The waiver of any obligation or condition in this Agreement by a Participating Party shall not be construed as a waiver of any other obligation or condition in this Agreement.

NOTE: This iteration of the State of Florida Statewide Mutual Aid Agreement will replace all previous versions.

The Division shall provide reimbursement to Assisting Parties in accordance with the terms and conditions set forth in this Article for missions performed at the direct request of the Division. Division reimbursement eligible expenses must be in direct response to the emergency as requested by the State of Florida. All required cost estimations and claims must be executed through the DEMES Mutual Aid Portal and assisting agencies must use all required <u>FDEM forms</u> for documentation and cost verification. If a Requesting Party has not forwarded a request through the Division, or if an Assisting Party has rendered assistance without being requested to do so by the Division, the Division shall not be liable for the costs of any such assistance.

FDEM reserves the right to deny individual reimbursement requests if deemed to not be in direct response to the incident for which asset was requested.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Parties have duly executed this Agreement on the date specified below:

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STATE OF FLORIDA DIVISION OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT		
Ron DeSantis, Governor	Kevin Guthrie, Executive Director	
FOR ADOPTION BY A COUNTY		
STATE OF FLORIDA DIVISION OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT		
_{ву:} <mark>Ф</mark> Ian Guidicelli	Date: <u>1/16/2024</u>	
Kevin Guthrie, Executive Director or lan Guidicelli, Authorized Designee		
ATTEST: CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT John A. Crawford, Ex-Officio Clerk Oterk, DXXXequativx & Xeaux	BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF Nassau COUNTY, STATE OF FLORIDA W John F. Martin Vice-Chairman John F. Martin Vice-Chairman Date: 11-13-23 Approved as to Form: By: County Attorney	
	ne: 850-815-4000 STATE LOGISTICS RESPONSE CENTER ridaDisaster.org 2702 Directors Row Orlando, FL 32809-5631	



STATE OF FLORIDA DIVISION OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

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Kevin Guthrie, Executive Director

SAMPLE AUTHORIZING RESOLUTION FOR ADOPTION OF STATEWIDE MUTUAL AID AGREEMENT

RESOLUTION NO.

WHEREAS, the State of Florida Emergency Management Act, Chapter 252, authorizes the State and its political subdivisions to provide emergency aid and assistance in the event of a disaster or emergency; and

WHEREAS the statutes also authorize the State to coordinate the provision of any equipment, services, or facilities owned or organized by the State or it political subdivisions for use in the affected area upon the request of the duly constituted authority of the area; and

WHEREAS this Resolution authorizes the request, provision, and receipt of interjurisdictional mutual assistance in accordance with the Emergency Management Act, Chapter 252, among political subdivisions within the State; and

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved by _____

that in order to maximize the prompt, full and effective use of resources of all participating governments in the event of an emergency or disaster we hereby adopt the Statewide Mutual Aid Agreement which is attached hereto and incorporated by reference.

ADOPTED BY: _____

DATE:

I certify that the foregoing is an accurate copy of the Resolution adopted by

_____ on_____.

BY: _____

TITLE: _____

DATE:

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Nassau County

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This Amendment is between the State of Florida, Department of State, Division of CentralOffice hereinafter referred to as the "Division" and Nassau County, hereinafter referred to as the "Grantee".

The parties entered into a grant agreement for the implementation of a African-American Cultural and Historical Grant grant, for Evan's Rendezvous Infrastructure Repairs. The parties now mutually desire to amend certain terms and conditions of the grant agreement.

In consideration of the covenants contained herein, it is agreed:

All section of the original grant agreement not specifically amended by this or a prior written amendment and all prior written amendments are hereby reaffirmed.

The following sections are hereby revised as follows:

Original Length of Agreement

7/1/2021 - 06/30/2023

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Amended Length of Agreement

7/1/2021 -12/31/2023

Additional Conditions

12. Grant Reporting Requirements:

f) Sixth Report is due by July 15, for the period ending June 30 (third year of the grant period).

g) Seventh Report is due by October 15, for the period ending September 30 (third year of the grant period).

h) Final Report. The Grantee must submit a Final Report to the Division within one month of the Grant Period End Date set forth in Section 2 above. All final reports must document the completion of all deliverables/tasks, expenses and activities that occurred by the Grant Period End Date. The Grantee may expend funds only for allowable costs resulting from obligations incurred during the specified agreement period. Expenditures of state or federal financial assistance must be in compliance with the laws, rules, and regulations applicable to expenditures of state and federal funds, including, but not limited to, this Agreement, the *Reference Guide for State Expenditures*, 2 CFR Part 200.

"This agreement is reinstated as if it had not expired and amended to reflect the extension dates set forth herein, effective as of the Date both parties have executed the Amendment."

AUTHORIZATION

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Klynt A. Farmer, Chairman

Authorized official for the Grantee

Alissa Lotane, Director

Authorized official for the Division

Authorized official Signature

8-28-23 Date

Division Authorized official Signature

10/31/23

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APPENDIX A

STATEWIDE MUTUAL AID AGREEMENT - 2023

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RESOLUTION 2023- <u>198</u>

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF NASSAU COUNTY, FLORIDA, ADOPTING THE STATEWIDE MUTUAL AID AGREEMENT.

WHEREAS, the State of Florida Emergency Management Act, Chapter 252, authorizes the State and its political subdivisions to provide emergency aid and assistance in the event of a disaster or emergency; and

WHEREAS, the statutes also authorize the State to coordinate the provision of any equipment, services, or facilities owned or organized by the State or it political subdivisions for use in the affected area upon the request of the duly constituted authority of the area; and

WHEREAS, this Resolution authorizes the request, provision, and receipt of interjurisdictional mutual assistance in accordance with the Emergency Management Act, Chapter 252, among political subdivisions within the State; and

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved by the Board of County Commissioners of Nassau County, Florida that in order to maximize the prompt, full and effective use of resources of all participating governments in the event of an emergency or disaster we hereby adopt the statewide Mutual Aid Agreement which is attached hereto and incorporated by reference.

ADOPTED THIS <u>13th</u> DAY OF <u>November</u>, 2023 BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF NASSAU COUNTY, FLORIDA.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

ATTEST as to Chairman's Signature:

JOHN A. CRAWFORD Its: Ex-Officio Clerk

Approved as to form:

DENISE C. MAY County Attorney

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