STATEMENT OF PROCEEDINGS FOR THE

REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

OF THE COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES HELD IN ROOM 381B

OF THE KENNETH HAHN HALL OF ADMINISTRATION

500 WEST TEMPLE STREET, LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90012

Tuesday, March 29, 2011

9:30 AM

9. Recommendation: Instruct the Mayor to sign a sole-source agreement with Mercer to provide employee benefits consulting services to conduct the County's annual insurance plan renewal with Delta Dental, and assist with a Request For Proposal for Group Variable Universal Life Insurance and Supplemental Income Benefits. (11-1323)

On motion of Supervisor Yaroslavsky, seconded by Supervisor Antonovich, this item was approved.

Ayes: 5 - Supervisor Molina, Supervisor Ridley-Thomas, Supervisor Yaroslavsky, Supervisor Knabe and Supervisor Antonovich

Attachments: Board Letter

Agreement No. 77494

The foregoing is a fair statement of the proceedings of the regular meeting held March 29, 2011, by the Board of Supervisors of the County of Los Angeles and ex officio the governing body of all other special assessment and taxing districts, agencies and authorities for which said Board so acts.

ATTEST: SACHI A. HAMAI
EXECUTIVE OFFICER
CLERK OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

By LaChelle Smitherman, Deputy

Sachi A. Hamai, Executive Officer
Executive Officer-Clerk
of the Board of Supervisors

By Sachi A. Hamai

Sachi A. Hamai
Executive Officer

County of Los Angeles
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICE
Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
500 West Temple Street, Room 713, Los Angeles, California 90012
(213) 974-1101
http://ceo.lacounty.gov

WILLIAM T FUJIOKA
Chief Executive Officer

Board of Supervisors
GLORIA MOLINA
First District

MARK RIDLEY-THOMAS
Second District

ZEV YAROSLAVSKY
Third District

DON KNABE
Fourth District

MICHAEL D. ANTONOVICH
Fifth District

March 29, 2011

ADOPTED
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

9 March 29, 2011

Sachi A. Hamai
SACHI A. HAMAI
EXECUTIVE OFFICER

The Honorable Board of Supervisors
County of Los Angeles
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
500 West Temple Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Dear Supervisors:

APPROVAL TO ENTER INTO A SOLE SOURCE AGREEMENT FOR EMPLOYEE BENEFITS CONSULTING SERVICES WITH MERCER (ALL SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICTS – 3 VOTES)

SUBJECT

The Chief Executive Office (CEO) and Department of Human Resources (DHR) are seeking Board approval to enter into a Sole Source Agreement with Mercer to provide employee benefits consulting services.

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT YOUR BOARD:

1. Approve the attached agreement with Mercer to provide consulting services to conduct the County's annual insurance plan renewal with Delta Dental, and assist with a Request for Proposal for Group Variable Universal Life Insurance and Supplemental Income Benefits.

2. Instruct the Mayor to execute the agreement.

PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTION

Approval of this recommendation will provide the CEO and DHR assistance with two specific projects that have significant financial impact, and will protect County investments to date in these projects. The first project is to conduct the annual Delta Dental insurance plan renewal, which includes working with both Delta Dental and the County to adjust reserves on a group by group basis. The second project is to assist with Supplemental Income Benefit (SIB) and Group Variable Universal Life (GVUL) insurance Request for Proposals (RFPs).

Mercer has been actively working with the County on both of these projects for several months. Work on these projects requires expertise the County does not have available within its staff. Should Mercer cease their work in progress, a new firm would have to be selected to begin the process anew. The County's investment in Mercer's work so far would not be fully recovered. The GVUL and SIB RFPs would have to be extended for another year for the new firm to familiarize itself with the issues in the RFP.

Delta Dental Request for Renewal

Nearly 20 years ago, the County incurred a sizeable deficit with Delta Dental, the County's largest dental insurance carrier. Much of this deficit has been resolved by means of premiums since then, and should be fully repaid within the next two years. Over the years, Delta Dental was rated as one insurance plan for the entire County, even though benefit design and membership varied by cafeteria plan. Beginning in 2010, cafeteria plans were rated separately – those governed by Fringe Benefits Memoranda of Understanding (MOU) with Service Employees International Union (SEIU) Local 721 (Local 721) and the Coalition of County Unions (CCU), and the County's Flex/MegaFlex cafeteria plans. Mercer has worked on the County's behalf to establish how each cafeteria plan's premiums will reflect plan design and utilization. Finally, Mercer was charged to recommend adjustments in resolving these issues. Those efforts will be performed as part of the annual renewal process between the County and Delta Dental.

Life Insurance RFPs

The County's agreement with its current carrier, MetLife, for SIB and GVUL coverage expires December 31, 2011. Mercer has been in discussions with MetLife to determine whether the carrier will retain SIB coverage if the GVUL coverage moves to another carrier. Based on the outcome of those discussions, Mercer was to develop alternative RFPs and quotes for continued coverage for GVUL and SIB in combination, and independently. Mercer's continuing work in 2011 was to update and obtain County approval of the RFP, distribute to potential carriers and brokers, summarize findings and review with County staff.

Implementation of Strategic Plan Goals

Your Board's approval of the accompanying agreement will further County Strategic Plan Goal 1 – Operational Effectiveness by addressing the Service Excellence and Organizational Effectiveness Strategy. Specifically, the consulting assistance provided by Mercer will assist CEO and DHR in managing the County's ongoing employee benefits program.

FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING

The proposed agreement establishes billing on a time and expense basis. The estimated total fees are expected to be less than $65,000. These fees are likely less than those incurred by a different firm due to the work already completed, and Mercer's familiarity with the project so far. The projects will be financed from current budgeted funds.

FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS

The contract provides a nine-month term beginning April 1, 2011, or the date it is approved by your Board, and ending on December 31, 2011. The contract provides for compensation on an hourly time and expense basis at the contract rates. The contract's terms and conditions differs from standard County agreements in that it provides limits on Mercer's liability to a maximum of $100,000.

County Counsel has approved the proposed contract as to form.

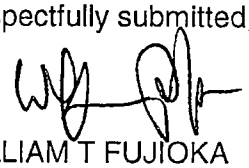
SOLE SOURCE JUSTIFICATION

Mercer was positioned to act as one of the County's panel of compensation, employee benefits, and actuarial services consulting firms before they withdrew from the RFP process due to Mercer's corporate direction to limit their indemnity obligations and liabilities. At the same time, Mercer was mid-project on the life insurance RFP, and in ongoing negotiations with Delta Dental in analyzing reserves by group. No other consulting firm is in the position to continue this work without significant investment in firm time and resources.

IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES (OR PROJECTS)

Your approval of this agreement will provide the technical expertise required for the ongoing administration of the County's existing dental and voluntary life insurance benefit programs. The Director of Personnel supports the recommendation.

Respectfully submitted,



WILLIAM T FUJIOKA
Chief Executive Officer

WTF:JA:BC
MTK:WHD:mst

Attachment (1)

c: Executive Office, Board of Supervisors
County Counsel
Human Resources

77494

CONTRACT

BY AND BETWEEN

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

AND

MERCER

FOR

EMPLOYEE BENEFITS CONSULTING SERVICES

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CONTRACT BETWEEN
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
AND
MERCER
FOR
EMPLOYEE BENEFITS CONSULTING SERVICES

This Contract and Exhibits made and entered into this 29th day of March, 2011 by and between the County of Los Angeles, hereinafter referred to as County and Mercer, hereinafter referred to as Consultant. Mercer is located at 777 South Figueroa Street, Suite 1900, Los Angeles, CA 90017.

RECITALS

WHEREAS, COUNTY desires to compensate County employees in a manner that attracts, retains, and motivates qualified personnel at the least possible cost; and

WHEREAS, the provision of such compensation requires special skills and expertise in the area of employee benefits; and

WHEREAS, CONSULTANT is specially trained and licensed and possesses skills, experience, education, and competency necessary to assist County with its employee benefits needs; and

WHEREAS, COUNTY, in accordance with California Government Code Section 31000, may enter into contracts for special services.

WHEREAS, this Contract is therefore authorized under Section 44.7 of the Los Angeles County Charter and Los Angeles County Codes Section 2.121.250; and

NOW THEREFORE, in consideration of the mutual covenants contained herein, and for good and valuable consideration, the parties agree to the following:

1.0 APPLICABLE DOCUMENTS

Exhibits A, B, C, D, E, F and G are attached to and form a part of this Contract. In the event of any conflict or inconsistency in the definition or interpretation of any word, responsibility, schedule, or the contents or description of any task, deliverable, goods, service, or other work, or otherwise between the base Contract and the Exhibits, or between Exhibits, such conflict or inconsistency shall be resolved by giving

precedence first to the Contract and then to the Exhibits according to the following priority.

Standard Exhibits:

1.1 EXHIBIT A - Statement of Work
1.2 EXHIBIT B - Pricing Schedule
1.3 EXHIBIT C - Contractor's EEO Certification
1.4 EXHIBIT D - Consultant Confidentiality Agreement
1.5 EXHIBIT E - Invitation For Bid/Request For Proposals Grounds For Rejection
1.6 EXHIBIT F - Safely Surrendered Baby Law

This Contract and the Exhibits hereto constitute the complete and exclusive statement of understanding between the parties, and supersedes all previous Contracts, written and oral, and all communications between the parties relating to the subject matter of this Contract. No change to this Contract shall be valid unless prepared pursuant to sub-paragraph 8.1 - Amendments and signed by both parties.

2.0 DEFINITIONS

The headings herein contained are for convenience and reference only and are not intended to define the scope of any provision thereof. The following words as used herein shall be construed to have the following meaning, unless otherwise apparent from the context in which they are used.

2.1 **"Agreement or Contract"** shall mean a contract executed between COUNTY and CONTRACTOR. It sets forth the terms and conditions for the issuance and performance of the Exhibit A – Statement of Work.

2.2 **"CONTRACTOR" or "CONSULTANT"** shall mean the sole proprietor, partnership, or corporation that has entered into a contract with the COUNTY to perform or execute the work covered by the Exhibit A - Statement of Work.

2.3 **"Day(s)"** shall mean calendar day(s) unless otherwise specified.

2.4 **"Fiscal Year"** shall mean the twelve (12) month period beginning July 1st and ending the following June 30th.

3.0 WORK

3.1 Pursuant to the provisions of this Contract, the CONTRACTOR shall fully perform, complete and deliver on time, all tasks,

deliverables, services and other work as set forth in herein Exhibit A - Statement of Work.

3.2 If the CONTRACTOR provides any tasks, deliverables, goods, services, or other work, other than as specified in this Contract, the same shall be deemed to be a gratuitous effort on the part of the CONTRACTOR, and the CONTRACTOR shall have no claim whatsoever against the COUNTY.

4.0 TERM OF CONTRACT

4.1 The term of this Contract shall commence one day following approval of this Contract by COUNTY and shall expire on December 31, 2011, subject to COUNTY's right to terminate earlier for convenience, non-appropriation of funds, default of CONTRACTOR, substandard performance of CONTRACTOR, non-responsibility of CONTRACTOR, improper consideration given/offered to COUNTY with respect to the award of this Contract, and breach of warranty to maintain compliance with COUNTY's Child Support Compliance Program.

5.0 CONTRACT SUM

5.1 The Maximum Amount of this Contract shall be $100,000.00 for the term of this Contract as set forth Paragraph 4.0 - Term of Contract, above. Any costs incurred to complete this project in excess of the maximum not-to-exceed cost will be borne by the CONTRACTOR.

5.2 The CONTRACTOR shall not be entitled to payment or reimbursement for any tasks or services performed, nor for any incidental or administrative expenses whatsoever incurred in or incidental to performance hereunder, except as specified herein. Assumption or takeover of any of the CONTRACTOR's duties, responsibilities, or obligations, or performance of same by any entity other than the CONTRACTOR, whether through assignment, subcontract, delegation, merger, buyout, or any other mechanism, with or without consideration for any reason whatsoever, shall occur only with the COUNTY's express consent witnessed by a written amendment to the Contract which is formally approved and executed by the parties.

5.3 The CONTRACTOR shall maintain a system of record keeping that will allow the CONTRACTOR to determine when it has incurred seventy-five percent (75%) of the total contract authorization under this Contract. Upon occurrence of this event, the CONTRACTOR

shall send written notification to the COUNTY Project Manager at the address herein provided in sub paragraph 8.34 – Notices.

5.4 No Payment for Services Provided Following Expiration/ Termination of Contract

The CONTRACTOR shall have no claim against COUNTY for payment of any money or reimbursement, of any kind whatsoever, for any service provided by the CONTRACTOR after the expiration or other termination of this Contract. Should the CONTRACTOR receive any such payment it shall immediately notify COUNTY and shall immediately repay all such funds to COUNTY. Payment by COUNTY for services rendered after expiration/termination of this Contract shall not constitute a waiver of COUNTY's right to recover such payment from the CONTRACTOR. This provision shall survive the expiration or other termination of this Contract.

5.5 Invoices and Payments

5.5.1 The CONTRACTOR shall invoice the COUNTY only for providing the tasks, deliverables, goods, services, and other work specified in Exhibit A – Statement of Work and elsewhere hereunder. The CONTRACTOR shall prepare invoices, which shall include the charges owed to the CONTRACTOR. Payment to CONTRACTOR shall be in arrears and based upon the approval and acceptance of services/deliverables as set forth in Exhibit A – Statement of Work, not to exceed the amounts reflected in Exhibit B – Pricing Schedule, provided that CONTRACTOR is not in default under any provision of this Contract and has submitted a complete and accurate statement of payment due. COUNTY acceptance of services/deliverables shall not be unreasonable withheld. CONTRACTOR'S fees shall include all applicable taxes, and any additional taxes that are not included remain the responsibility of the CONTRACTOR.

5.5.2 The CONTRACTOR's invoices shall be priced in accordance with Exhibit B – Pricing Schedule.

5.5.3 The CONTRACTOR's invoices shall contain the information set forth in Exhibit A - Statement of Work describing the tasks, deliverables, goods, services, work hours, and facility and/or other work for which payment is claimed.

5.5.4 The CONTRACTOR shall submit the monthly invoices to the COUNTY by the 15th calendar day of the month following the month of service.

5.5.5 All invoices under this Contract shall be submitted in two (2) copies to the COUNTY Project Manager.

5.5.6 All invoices submitted by the CONTRACTOR for payment must have the written approval of the COUNTY Contract Manager prior to any payment thereof. In no event shall the COUNTY be liable or responsible for any payment prior to such written approval. Approval for payment will not be unreasonably withheld.

6.0 ADMINISTRATION OF CONTRACT – COUNTY

COUNTY Project Manager – The COUNTY Project Manager shall be responsible for monitoring and evaluating CONTRACTOR's performance in the daily operation of the Contract and provide direction to CONTRACTOR in the areas relating to policy, procedures and other matters within the purview of this Contract. The COUNTY Project Manager for this Contract shall be

Bill Dukes,
Sr. Analyst, CEO
500 W. Temple Street, Room 526
Los Angeles, CA 90012
(213) 946-2788

or his designee. All work performed under this Contract shall be subject to the approval of the COUNTY Contract Manager or designee.

7.0 ADMINISTRATION OF CONTRACT - CONTRACTOR

7.1 CONTRACTOR Project Manager

7.1.1 The CONTRACTOR Project Manager shall be responsible for the CONTRACTOR's day-to-day activities as related to this Contract and shall coordinate with COUNTY Project Manager on a regular basis. The CONTRACTOR Project Manager for this Contract shall be:

Phil Schneider,
Principal
777 North Figueroa Street, Suite 1900

Los Angeles, CA 90017
(213) 346-2301

7.1.2 The CONTRACTOR shall notify the COUNTY in writing of any change in the name or address of the CONTRACTOR Project Manager.

7.2 Approval of CONTRACTOR's Staff

CONSULTANT shall provide qualified personnel to perform work and provide "work products" (deliverables) as indicated in the Agreement. COUNTY has the absolute right to approve or disapprove all of the CONTRACTOR's staff performing work hereunder and any proposed changes in the CONTRACTOR's staff, including, but not limited to, the CONTRACTOR Project Manager.

8.0 STANDARD TERMS AND CONDITIONS

8.1 AMENDMENTS

8.1.1 Any amendment to this Contract, including as set forth in Paragraph 4.0 - Term of Contract, shall be at the mutual consent of the COUNTY and the CONTRACTOR and shall be executed by the Chief Executive Officer, Auditor-Controller, and Executive Officer of the Board of Supervisors, and approved as to form by County Counsel.

8.1.2 For any change which does not materially affect the scope of work or any other term or condition included under this Contract, a Change Notice shall be prepared and signed by the COUNTY Project Manager and CONTRACTOR Project Manager.

8.1.3 For any change affecting CONTRACTOR's project personnel, CONTRACTOR shall submit written notification and request to effect the change to the COUNTY Project Manager; the COUNTY Project Manager or designee may accept or reject CONTRACTOR's written notification and request.

8.2 ASSIGNMENTS AND DELEGATION

8.2.1 The CONTRACTOR shall not assign its rights or delegate its duties under this Contract, or both, whether in whole or in part, without the prior written consent of COUNTY, which

is in its sole discretion to grant or not. Any attempted assignment or delegation without such written consent shall be null and void. For purposes of this sub-paragraph, COUNTY consent shall require a written amendment to the Contract, which is formally approved and executed by the parties. Any payments by the COUNTY to any approved delegate or assignee on any claim under this Contract shall be deductible, at COUNTY's sole discretion, against the claims, which the CONTRACTOR may have against the COUNTY.

8.2.2 Shareholders, partners, members, or other equity holders of CONTRACTOR may transfer, sell, exchange, assign, or divest themselves of any interest they may have therein. However, in the event any such sale, transfer, exchange, assignment, or divestment is effected in such a way as to give majority control of CONTRACTOR to any person(s), corporation, partnership, or legal entity other than the majority controlling interest therein at the time of execution of the Contract, such disposition is an assignment requiring an Amendment in accordance with all applicable provisions of this Contract, including the need for an Amendment.

8.2.3 Any assumption, assignment, delegation, or takeover of any of the CONTRACTOR's duties, responsibilities, obligations, or performance of same by any entity other than the CONTRACTOR, whether through assignment, subcontract, delegation, merger, buyout, or any other mechanism, with or without consideration for any reason whatsoever without COUNTY's express prior written approval and an Amendment, shall be a material breach of the Contract which may result in the termination of this Contract. In the event of such termination, COUNTY shall be entitled to pursue the same remedies against CONTRACTOR as it could pursue in the event of default by CONTRACTOR.

8.3 AUTHORIZATION WARRANTY

The CONTRACTOR represents and warrants that the person executing this Contract for the CONTRACTOR is an authorized agent who has actual authority to bind the CONTRACTOR to each and every term, condition, and obligation of this Contract and that all requirements of the CONTRACTOR have been fulfilled to provide such actual authority.

8.4 BUDGET REDUCTIONS

COUNTY retains the right to renegotiate the terms, conditions and fees during the period of the Agreement if such renegotiation is necessitated by budget shortfalls and reductions.

8.5 COMPLIANCE WITH APPLICABLE LAW

8.5.1 The CONTRACTOR shall comply with all applicable Federal, State, and local laws, rules, regulations, ordinances, and directives, and all provisions required thereby to be included in this Contract are hereby incorporated herein by reference.

8.5.2 The CONTRACTOR shall indemnify and hold harmless the COUNTY from and against any and all liability, damages, costs, and expenses, including, but not limited to, defense costs and attorneys' fees, arising from or related to any violation on the part of the CONTRACTOR or its employees, agents, or subcontractors of any such laws, rules, regulations, ordinances, or directives.

8.6 COMPLIANCE WITH CIVIL RIGHTS LAWS

The CONTRACTOR hereby assures that it will comply with Subchapter VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, 42 USC Sections 2000 (e) (1) through 2000 (e) (17), to the end that no person shall, on the grounds of race, creed, color, sex, religion, ancestry, age, condition of physical handicap, marital status, political affiliation, or national origin, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be otherwise subjected to discrimination under this Contract or under any project, program, or activity supported by this Contract. The CONTRACTOR shall comply with Exhibit C - Contractor's EEO Certification.

8.7 COMPLIANCE WITH THE COUNTY'S JURY SERVICE PROGRAM

8.7.1 Jury Service Program:
This Contract is subject to the provisions of the County's ordinance entitled CONTRACTOR Employee Jury Service ("Jury Service Program") as codified in Sections 2.203.010 through 2.203.090 of the Los Angeles County Code.

8.7.2 Written Employee Jury Service Policy

8.7.2.1 Unless the CONTRACTOR has demonstrated to the COUNTY's satisfaction either that the CONTRACTOR is not a "Contractor" as defined under the Jury Service Program (Section 2.203.020 of the County Code) or that the CONTRACTOR qualifies for an exception to the Jury Service Program (Section 2.203.070 of the County Code), the CONTRACTOR shall have and adhere to a written policy that provides that its Employees shall receive from the CONTRACTOR, on an annual basis, no less than five days of regular pay for actual jury service. The policy may provide that Employees deposit any fees received for such jury service with the CONTRACTOR or that the CONTRACTOR deduct from the Employee's regular pay the fees received for jury service.

8.7.2.2 For purposes of this sub-paragraph, "Contractor" means a person, partnership, corporation or other entity which has a contract with the COUNTY or a subcontract with a COUNTY CONTRACTOR and has received or will receive an aggregate sum of $50,000 or more in any 12-month period under one or more COUNTY contracts or subcontracts. "Employee" means any California resident who is a full-time employee of the CONTRACTOR. "Full-time" means 40 hours or more worked per week, or a lesser number of hours if: 1) the lesser number is a recognized industry standard as determined by the COUNTY, or 2) CONTRACTOR has a long-standing practice that defines the lesser number of hours as full-time. Full-time employees providing short-term, temporary services of 90 days or less within a 12-month period are not considered full-time for purposes of the Jury Service Program. If the CONTRACTOR uses any Subcontractor to perform services for the COUNTY under the Contract, the Subcontractor shall also be subject to the provisions of this sub-paragraph. The provisions of this sub-paragraph shall be inserted into any such subcontract Agreement and a copy of the Jury Service Program shall be attached to the Agreement.

8.7.2.3 If the CONTRACTOR is not required to comply with the Jury Service Program when the Contract commences, the CONTRACTOR shall have a continuing obligation to review the applicability of its "exception status" from the Jury Service Program, and the CONTRACTOR shall immediately notify the COUNTY if the CONTRACTOR at any time either comes within the Jury Service Program's definition of "Contractor" or if the CONTRACTOR no longer qualifies for an exception to the Jury Service Program. In either event, the CONTRACTOR shall immediately implement a written policy consistent with the Jury Service Program. The COUNTY may also require, at any time during the Contract and at its sole discretion, that the CONTRACTOR demonstrate to the COUNTY's satisfaction that the CONTRACTOR either continues to remain outside of the Jury Service Program's definition of "Contractor" and/or that the CONTRACTOR continues to qualify for an exception to the Program.

8.7.2.4 CONTRACTOR's violation of this sub-paragraph of the Contract may constitute a material breach of the Contract. In the event of such material breach, COUNTY may, in its sole discretion, terminate the Contract and/or bar the CONTRACTOR from the award of future COUNTY contracts for a period of time consistent with the seriousness of the breach.

8.8 CONFLICT OF INTEREST

8.8.1 No COUNTY employee whose position with the COUNTY enables such employee to influence the award of this Contract or any competing Contract, and no spouse or economic dependent of such employee, shall be employed in any capacity by the CONTRACTOR or have any other direct or indirect financial interest in this Contract. No officer or employee of the CONTRACTOR who may financially benefit from the performance of work hereunder shall in any way participate in the COUNTY's approval, or ongoing evaluation, of such work, or in any way attempt to unlawfully influence the COUNTY's approval or ongoing evaluation of such work.

8.8.2 The CONTRACTOR shall comply with all conflict of interest laws, ordinances, and regulations now in effect or hereafter to be enacted during the term of this Contract. The CONTRACTOR warrants that it is not now aware of any facts that create a conflict of interest. If the CONTRACTOR hereafter becomes aware of any facts that might reasonably be expected to create a conflict of interest, it shall immediately make full written disclosure of such facts to the COUNTY. Full written disclosure shall include, but is not limited to, identification of all persons implicated and a complete description of all relevant circumstances. Failure to comply with the provisions of this sub-paragraph shall be a material breach of this Contract.

8.9 CONSIDERATION OF HIRING COUNTY EMPLOYEES TARGETED FOR LAYOFF/OR RE-EMPLOYMENT LIST

Should the CONTRACTOR require additional or replacement personnel after the effective date of this Contract to perform the services set forth herein, the CONTRACTOR shall give first consideration for such employment openings to qualified, permanent COUNTY employees who are targeted for layoff or qualified, former COUNTY employees who are on a re-employment list during the life of this Contract.

8.10 CONSIDERATION OF HIRING GAIN/GROW PROGRAM PARTICIPANTS

8.10.1 Should the CONTRACTOR require additional or replacement personnel after the effective date of this Contract, the CONTRACTOR shall give consideration for any such employment openings to participants in the COUNTY's Department of Public Social Services Greater Avenues for Independence (GAIN) Program or General Relief Opportunity for Work (GROW) Program who meet the CONTRACTOR's minimum qualifications for the open position. For this purpose, consideration shall mean that the CONTRACTOR will interview qualified candidates. The COUNTY will refer GAIN/GROW participants by job category to the Contractor.

8.10.2 In the event that both laid-off COUNTY employees and GAIN/GROW participants are available for hiring, COUNTY employees shall be given first priority.

8.11 CONTRACTOR RESPONSIBILITY AND DEBARMENT

8.11.1 Responsible CONTRACTOR

A responsible CONTRACTOR is a CONTRACTOR who has demonstrated the attribute of trustworthiness, as well as quality, fitness, capacity and experience to satisfactorily perform the contract. It is the COUNTY's policy to conduct business only with responsible CONTRACTORS.

8.11.2 Chapter 2.202 of the County Code

The CONTRACTOR is hereby notified that, in accordance with Chapter 2.202 of the County Code, if the COUNTY acquires information concerning the performance of the CONTRACTOR on this or other contracts which indicates that the CONTRACTOR is not responsible, the COUNTY may, in addition to other remedies provided in the Contract, debar the CONTRACTOR from bidding or proposing on, or being awarded, and/or performing work on COUNTY contracts for a specified period of time, which generally will not exceed five years but may exceed five years or be permanent if warranted by the circumstances, and terminate any or all existing Contracts the CONTRACTOR may have with the COUNTY.

8.11.3 Non-responsible CONTRACTOR

The COUNTY may debar a CONTRACTOR if the Board of Supervisors finds, in its discretion, that the CONTRACTOR has done any of the following: (1) violated a term of a contract with the COUNTY or a nonprofit corporation created by the COUNTY, (2) committed an act or omission which negatively reflects on the CONTRACTOR's quality, fitness or capacity to perform a contract with the COUNTY, any other public entity, or a nonprofit corporation created by the COUNTY, or engaged in a pattern or practice which negatively reflects on same, (3) committed an act or offense which indicates a lack of business integrity or business honesty, or (4) made or submitted a false claim against the COUNTY or any other public entity.

8.11.4 Contractor Hearing Board

8.11.4.1 If there is evidence that the Contractor may be subject to debarment, the Department will notify the Contractor in writing of the evidence which is

the basis for the proposed debarment and will advise the Contractor of the scheduled date for a debarment hearing before the Contractor Hearing Board.

8.11.4.2 The Contractor Hearing Board will conduct a hearing where evidence on the proposed debarment is presented. The Contractor and/or the Contractor's representative shall be given an opportunity to submit evidence at that hearing. After the hearing, the Contractor Hearing Board shall prepare a tentative proposed decision, which shall contain a recommendation regarding whether the Contractor should be debarred, and, if so, the appropriate length of time of the debarment. The Contractor and the Department shall be provided an opportunity to object to the tentative proposed decision prior to its presentation to the Board of Supervisors.

8.11.4.3 After consideration of any objections, or if no objections are submitted, a record of the hearing, the proposed decision, and any other recommendation of the Contractor Hearing Board shall be presented to the Board of Supervisors. The Board of Supervisors shall have the right to modify, deny, or adopt the proposed decision and recommendation of the Contractor Hearing Board.

8.11.4.4 If a Contractor has been debarred for a period longer than five (5) years, that Contractor may after the debarment has been in effect for at least five (5) years, submit a written request for review of the debarment determination to reduce the period of debarment or terminate the debarment. The COUNTY may, in its discretion, reduce the period of debarment or terminate the debarment if it finds that the Contractor has adequately demonstrated one or more of the following: (1) elimination of the grounds for which the debarment was imposed; (2) a bona fide change in ownership or management; (3) material evidence discovered after debarment was imposed; or (4) any other reason that is in the best interests of the COUNTY.

8.11.4.5 The Contractor Hearing Board will consider a request for review of a debarment determination only where (1) the Contractor has been debarred for a period longer than five (5) years; (2) the debarment has been in effect for at least five (5) years; and (3) the request is in writing, states one or more of the grounds for reduction of the debarment period or termination of the debarment, and includes supporting documentation. Upon receiving an appropriate request, the Contractor Hearing Board will provide notice of the hearing on the request. At the hearing, the Contractor Hearing Board shall conduct a hearing where evidence on the proposed reduction of debarment period or termination of debarment is presented. This hearing shall be conducted and the request for review decided by the Contractor Hearing Board pursuant to the same procedures as for a debarment hearing.

8.11.4.6 The Contractor Hearing Board's proposed decision shall contain a recommendation on the request to reduce the period of debarment or terminate the debarment. The Contractor Hearing Board shall present its proposed decision and recommendation to the Board of Supervisors. The Board of Supervisors shall have the right to modify, deny, or adopt the proposed decision and recommendation of the Contractor Hearing Board.

8.11.4.7 Subcontractors of CONTRACTOR
These terms shall also apply to Subcontractors of COUNTY CONTRACTORS.

8.12 CONTRACTOR'S ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTY'S COMMITMENT TO THE SAFELY SURRENDERED BABY LAW

The CONTRACTOR acknowledges that the COUNTY places a high priority on the implementation of the Safely Surrendered Baby Law. The CONTRACTOR understands that it is the COUNTY's policy to encourage all COUNTY CONTRACTORS to voluntarily post the County's "Safely Surrendered Baby Law" poster in a prominent position at the CONTRACTOR's place of business. The CONTRACTOR will also encourage its Subcontractors, if any, to post this poster in a prominent position in the Subcontractor's place of business. The COUNTY's Department of Children and Family

Services will supply the CONTRACTOR with the poster to be used. Information on how to receive the poster can be found on the Internet at www.babysafela.org.

8.13 CONTRACTOR'S WARRANTY OF ADHERENCE TO COUNTY'S CHILD SUPPORT COMPLIANCE PROGRAM

8.13.1 The CONTRACTOR acknowledges that the COUNTY has established a goal of ensuring that all individuals who benefit financially from the COUNTY through Contract are in compliance with their court-ordered child, family and spousal support obligations in order to mitigate the economic burden otherwise imposed upon the COUNTY and its taxpayers.

8.13.2 As required by the COUNTY's Child Support Compliance Program (County Code Chapter 2.200) and without limiting the Contractor's duty under this Contract to comply with all applicable provisions of law, the CONTRACTOR warrants that it is now in compliance and shall during the term of this Contract maintain in compliance with employment and wage reporting requirements as required by the Federal Social Security Act (42 USC Section 653a) and California Unemployment Insurance Code Section 1088.5, and shall implement all lawfully served Wage and Earnings Withholding Orders or Child Support Services Department Notices of Wage and Earnings Assignment for Child, Family or Spousal Support, pursuant to Code of Civil Procedure Section 706.031 and Family Code Section 5246(b).

8.14 CONTRACTOR'S WARRANTY OF COMPLIANCE WITH COUNTY'S DEFAULTED PROPERTY TAX REDUCTION PROGRAM

CONTRACTOR acknowledges that COUNTY has established a goal of ensuring that all individuals and businesses that benefit financially from COUNTY through contract are current in paying their property tax obligations (secured and unsecured roll) in order to mitigate the economic burden otherwise imposed upon COUNTY and its taxpayers.

Unless CONTRACTOR qualifies for an exemption or exclusion, CONTRACTOR warrants and certifies that to the best of its knowledge it is now in compliance, and during the term of this contract will maintain compliance, with Los Angeles County Code Chapter 2.206.

8.15 COUNTY'S QUALITY ASSURANCE PLAN

COUNTY or its agent will evaluate CONTRACTOR's performance under this Contract on not less than an annual basis. Such evaluation will include assessing CONTRACTOR's compliance with all Contract terms and performance standards. CONTRACTOR deficiencies which COUNTY determines are severe or continuing and that may place performance of the Contract in jeopardy if not corrected, will be reported to the Board of Supervisors. The report will include improvements/corrective action measures taken by COUNTY and CONTRACTOR. If improvement does not occur consistent with the corrective action measures, COUNTY may terminate this Contract or impose other penalties as specified in this Agreement.

8.16 DAMAGE TO COUNTY FACILITIES, BUILDINGS OR GROUNDS

8.16.1 The CONTRACTOR shall repair, or cause to be repaired, at its own cost, any and all damage to COUNTY facilities, buildings, or grounds caused by the CONTRACTOR or employees or agents of the CONTRACTOR. Such repairs shall be made immediately after the CONTRACTOR has become aware of such damage, but in no event later than thirty (30) days after the occurrence.

8.16.2 If the CONTRACTOR fails to make timely repairs, COUNTY may make any necessary repairs. All costs incurred by COUNTY, as determined by COUNTY, for such repairs shall be repaid by the CONTRACTOR by cash payment upon demand.

8.17 EMPLOYMENT ELIGIBILITY VERIFICATION

8.17.1 The CONTRACTOR warrants that it fully complies with all Federal and State statutes and regulations regarding the employment of aliens and others and that all its employees performing work under this Contract meet the citizenship or alien status requirements set forth in Federal and State statutes and regulations. The CONTRACTOR shall obtain, from all employees performing work hereunder, all verification and other documentation of employment eligibility status required by Federal and State statutes and regulations including, but not limited to, the Immigration Reform and Control Act of 1986, (P.L. 99-603), or as they currently exist and as they may be hereafter amended.

The CONTRACTOR shall retain all such documentation for all covered employees for the period prescribed by law.

8.17.2 The CONTRACTOR shall indemnify, defend, and hold harmless, the COUNTY, its agents, officers, and employees from employer sanctions and any other liability which may be assessed against the CONTRACTOR or the COUNTY or both in connection with any alleged violation of any Federal or State statutes or regulations pertaining to the eligibility for employment of any persons performing work under this Contract.

8.18 FACSIMILE REPRESENTATIONS

The COUNTY and the CONTRACTOR hereby agree to regard facsimile representations of original signatures of authorized officers of each party, when appearing in appropriate places on the Amendments prepared pursuant to sub-paragraph 8.1, and received via communications facilities, as legally sufficient evidence that such original signatures have been affixed to Amendments to this Contract, such that the parties need not follow up facsimile transmissions of such documents with subsequent (non-facsimile) transmission of "original" versions of such documents.

8.19 FAIR LABOR STANDARDS

The CONTRACTOR shall comply with all applicable provisions of the Federal Fair Labor Standards Act and shall indemnify, defend, and hold harmless the COUNTY and its agents, officers, and employees from any and all liability, including, but not limited to, wages, overtime pay, liquidated damages, penalties, court costs, and attorneys' fees arising under any wage and hour law, including, but not limited to, the Federal Fair Labor Standards Act, for work performed by the CONTRACTOR's employees for which the COUNTY may be found jointly or solely liable.

8.20 FORCE MAJEURE

8.20.1 Neither party shall be liable for such party's failure to perform its obligations under and in accordance with this Contract, if such failure arises out of fires, floods, epidemics, quarantine restrictions, other natural occurrences, strikes, lockouts (other than a lockout by such party or any of such party's subcontractors), freight embargoes, or other similar events to those described above, but in every such case the failure to perform must

be totally beyond the control and without any fault or negligence of such party (such events are referred to in this sub-paragraph as "force majeure events").

8.20.2 Notwithstanding the foregoing, a default by a subcontractor of CONTRACTOR shall not constitute a force majeure event, unless such default arises out of causes beyond the control of both CONTRACTOR and such subcontractor, and without any fault or negligence of either of them. In such case, CONTRACTOR shall not be liable for failure to perform, unless the goods or services to be furnished by the subcontractor were obtainable from other sources in sufficient time to permit CONTRACTOR to meet the required performance schedule. As used in this sub-paragraph, the term "subcontractor" and "subcontractors" mean subcontractors at any tier.

8.20.3 In the event CONTRACTOR's failure to perform arises out of a force majeure event, CONTRACTOR agrees to use commercially reasonable best efforts to obtain goods or services from other sources, if applicable, and to otherwise mitigate the damages and reduce the delay caused by such force majeure event.

8.21 GOVERNING LAW, JURISDICTION, AND VENUE

This Contract shall be governed by, and construed in accordance with, the laws of the State of California. The CONTRACTOR agrees and consents to the exclusive jurisdiction of the courts of the State of California for all purposes regarding this Contract and further agrees and consents that venue of any action brought hereunder shall be exclusively in the County of Los Angeles.

8.22 INDEPENDENT CONTRACTOR STATUS

8.22.1 This Contract is by and between the COUNTY and the CONTRACTOR and is not intended, and shall not be construed, to create the relationship of agent, servant, employee, partnership, joint venture, or association, as between the COUNTY and the CONTRACTOR. The employees and agents of one party shall not be, or be construed to be, the employees or agents of the other party for any purpose whatsoever.

8.22.2 The CONTRACTOR shall be solely liable and responsible for providing to, or on behalf of, all persons performing

work pursuant to this Contract all compensation and benefits. The COUNTY shall have no liability or responsibility for the payment of any salaries, wages, unemployment benefits, disability benefits, Federal, State, or local taxes, or other compensation, benefits, or taxes for any personnel provided by or on behalf of the CONTRACTOR.

8.22.3 The CONTRACTOR understands and agrees that all persons performing work pursuant to this Contract are, for purposes of Workers' Compensation liability, solely employees of the CONTRACTOR and not employees of the COUNTY. The CONTRACTOR shall be solely liable and responsible for furnishing any and all Workers' Compensation benefits to any person as a result of any injuries arising from or connected with any work performed by or on behalf of the CONTRACTOR pursuant to this Contract.

8.22.4 The CONTRACTOR shall adhere to the provisions stated in sub-paragraph 8.35 - Confidentiality.

8.23 INDEMNIFICATION

For purposes of this Section 8.23, the term 'Consultant' includes Consultant, its Affiliates and any officer, director, or employee of Consultant's and its affiliates. The aggregate liability of Consultant to the County, the County's affiliates, the County's officers, directors or employees or those of County's affiliates and any third party (including any benefit plan, its fiduciaries or any plan sponsor) for any and all Losses arising out of or relating to the provision of Services by Consultant shall not exceed the greater of one times the Compensation for the Services giving rise to such Loss and $100,000. In no event shall either party or its affiliates be liable in connection with this Agreement or the Services for any loss of profit or incidental, consequential, special, indirect, punitive or similar damages. The provisions of this Section 8.23 shall apply to the fullest extent permitted by law. Nothing in this Section 8.23 limiting the liability of a party shall apply to any liability that has been finally determined by a court to have arisen from the fraud on the part of such party. For purposes of this Agreement "Loss" means damages, claims, liabilities, losses, awards, judgments, penalties, third party claims, interest, costs and expenses, including reasonable attorneys' fees, whether arising under any legal theory including, but not limited to claims sounding in tort (such as for negligence, misrepresentation or otherwise), contract (whether

express or implied), by statute, or otherwise, claims seeking any kind of damages and claims seeking to apply any standard of liability such as negligence, statutory violation or otherwise. For the avoidance of doubt, multiple claims arising out of or based upon the same act, error or omission, or series of continuous, interrelated or repeated acts, errors or omissions shall be considered a single Loss. Each of the parties acknowledges that the Compensation for the Services to be provided under this Agreement reflects the allocation of risk set forth in this Section 8.23.

8.24 GENERAL INSURANCE REQUIREMENTS

Without limiting CONTRACTOR's indemnification of COUNTY, and in the performance of this Contract and until all of its obligations pursuant to this Contract have been met, CONTRACTOR shall provide and maintain at its own expense insurance coverage satisfying the requirements specified in Sections 8.24 and 8.25 of this Contract. These minimum insurance coverage terms, types and limits (the "Required Insurance") also are in addition to and separate from any other contractual obligation imposed upon CONTRACTOR pursuant to this Contract. The COUNTY in no way warrants that the Required Insurance is sufficient to protect the CONTRACTOR for liabilities which may arise from or relate to this Contract.

8.24.1 Evidence of Coverage and Notice to COUNTY

A certificate(s) of insurance coverage (Certificate) satisfactory to COUNTY, and a copy of an Additional Insured endorsement confirming COUNTY and its Agents (defined below) has been given Insured status under the CONTRACTOR's General Liability policy, shall be delivered to COUNTY at the address shown below and provided prior to commencing services under this Contract.

Renewal Certificates shall be provided to COUNTY not less than 10 days prior to CONTRACTOR's policy expiration dates. The COUNTY reserves the right to obtain complete, certified copies of any required CONTRACTOR and/or Subcontractor insurance policies at any time.

Certificates shall identify all Required Insurance coverage types and limits specified herein, reference this Contract by name or number, and be signed by an authorized representative of the insurer(s). The Insured party named on the Certificate shall match the name of the CONTRACTOR identified as the contracting party in this

Contract. Certificates shall provide the full name of each insurer providing coverage, its NAIC (National Association of Insurance Commissioners) identification number, its financial rating, the amounts of any policy deductibles or self-insured retentions exceeding fifty thousand ($50,000.00) dollars, and list any COUNTY required endorsement forms.

Neither the COUNTY's failure to obtain, nor the COUNTY's receipt of, or failure to object to a non-complying insurance certificate or endorsement, or any other insurance documentation or information provided by the CONTRACTOR, its insurance broker(s) and/or insurer(s), shall be construed as a waiver of any of the Required Insurance provisions.

Certificates and copies of any required endorsements shall be sent to:

County of Los Angeles
Chief Executive Office; Benefits, Compensation Policy and Employee Relations Division
500 W. Temple Street, Room 526
Los Angeles, CA 90012
Attention Bill Dukes

CONTRACTOR also shall promptly report to COUNTY any injury or property damage accident or incident, including any injury to a CONTRACTOR employee occurring on COUNTY property, and any loss, disappearance, destruction, misuse, or theft of COUNTY property, monies or securities entrusted to CONTRACTOR. CONTRACTOR also shall promptly notify COUNTY of any third party claim or suit filed against CONTRACTOR or any of its Subcontractors which arises from or relates to this Contract, and could result in the filing of a claim or lawsuit against CONTRACTOR and/or COUNTY.

8.24.2 Additional Insured Status and Scope of Coverage
The County of Los Angeles, its Special Districts, Elected Officials, Officers, Agents, Employees and Volunteers (collectively COUNTY and its Agents) shall be provided additional insured status under CONTRACTOR's General Liability policy with respect to liability arising out of CONTRACTOR's ongoing and completed operations performed on behalf of the COUNTY. COUNTY and its

Agents additional insured status shall apply with respect to liability and defense of suits arising out of the CONTRACTOR's acts or omissions, whether such liability is attributable to the CONTRACTOR or to the COUNTY. The full policy limits and scope of protection also shall apply to the COUNTY and its Agents as an additional insured, even if they exceed the COUNTY's minimum Required Insurance specifications herein. Use of an automatic additional insured endorsement form is acceptable providing it satisfies the Required Insurance provisions herein.

8.24.3 Cancellation of Insurance
Except in the case of cancellation for non-payment of premium, CONTRACTOR's insurance policies shall provide, and Certificates shall specify, that COUNTY shall receive not less than thirty (30) days advance written notice by mail of any cancellation of the Required Insurance. Ten (10) days prior notice may be given to COUNTY in event of cancellation for non-payment of premium.

8.24.4 Failure to Maintain Insurance
CONTRACTOR's failure to maintain or to provide acceptable evidence that it maintains the Required Insurance shall constitute a material breach of the Contract, upon which COUNTY immediately may withhold payments due to CONTRACTOR, and/or suspend or terminate this Contract. COUNTY, at its sole discretion, may obtain damages from CONTRACTOR resulting from said breach.

8.24.5 Insurer Financial Ratings
Coverage shall be placed with insurers acceptable to the COUNTY with A.M. Best ratings of not less than A:VII unless otherwise approved by COUNTY.

8.24.6 Contractor's Insurance Shall Be Primary
CONTRACTOR's insurance policies, with respect to any claims related to this Contract, shall be primary with respect to all other sources of coverage available to CONTRACTOR. Any COUNTY maintained insurance or self-insurance coverage shall be in excess of and not contribute to any CONTRACTOR coverage.

8.24.7 Waivers of Subrogation

To the fullest extent permitted by law, the CONTRACTOR hereby waives its rights and its insurer(s)' rights of recovery against COUNTY under all the Required Insurance for any loss arising from or relating to this Contract. The CONTRACTOR shall require its insurers to execute any waiver of subrogation endorsements which may be necessary to effect such waiver.

8.24.8 Subcontractor Insurance Coverage Requirements

CONTRACTOR shall include all Subcontractors as insureds under CONTRACTOR's own policies, or shall provide COUNTY with each Subcontractor's separate evidence of insurance coverage. CONTRACTOR shall be responsible for verifying each Subcontractor complies with the Required Insurance provisions herein, and shall require that each Subcontractor name the COUNTY and CONTRACTOR as additional insureds on the Subcontractor's General Liability policy. CONTRACTOR shall obtain COUNTY's prior review and approval of any Subcontractor request for modification of the Required Insurance.

8.24.9 Deductibles and Self-Insured Retentions (SIRs)

CONTRACTOR's policies shall not obligate the COUNTY to pay any portion of any CONTRACTOR deductible or SIR. The COUNTY retains the right to require CONTRACTOR to reduce or eliminate policy deductibles and SIRs as respects the COUNTY, or to provide a bond guaranteeing CONTRACTOR's payment of all deductibles and SIRs, including all related claims investigation, administration and defense expenses. Such bond shall be executed by a corporate surety licensed to transact business in the State of California.

8.24.10 Claims Made Coverage

If any part of the Required Insurance is written on a claims made basis, any policy retroactive date shall precede the effective date of this Contract. CONTRACTOR understands and agrees it shall maintain such coverage for a period of not less than three (3) years following Contract expiration, termination or cancellation.

8.24.11 Application of Excess Liability Coverage:

CONTRACTOR may use a combination of primary, and excess insurance policies which provide coverage as

broad as ("follow form" over) the underlying primary policies, to satisfy the Required Insurance provisions.

8.24.12 Separation of Insureds
All liability policies shall provide cross liability coverage as would be afforded by the standard ISO (Insurance Services Office, Inc.) separation of insureds provision with no insured versus insured exclusions or limitations.

8.24.13 Alternative Risk Financing Programs
The COUNTY reserves the right to review, and then approve, CONTRACTOR use of self-insurance, risk retention groups, risk purchasing groups, pooling arrangements and captive insurance to satisfy the Required Insurance provisions. The COUNTY and its Agents shall be designated as an Additional Covered Party under any approved program.

8.24.14 COUNTY Review and Approval of Insurance Requirements
The COUNTY reserves the right to review and adjust the Required Insurance provisions, conditioned upon COUNTY's determination of changes in risk exposures.

8.25 INSURANCE COVERAGE REQUIREMENTS

8.25.1 Commercial General Liability insurance (providing scope of coverage equivalent to ISO policy form CG 00 01), naming COUNTY and its Agents as an additional insured, with limits of not less than:

General Aggregate:	$2 million
Products/Completed Operations Aggregate:	$1 million
Personal and Advertising Injury:	$1 million
Each Occurrence:	$1 million

8.25.2 Automobile Liability insurance (providing scope of coverage equivalent to ISO policy form CA 00 01) with limits of not less than $1 million for bodily injury and property damage, in combined or equivalent split limits, for each single accident. Insurance shall cover liability arising out of CONTRACTOR's use of autos pursuant to this Contract, including owned, leased, hired, and/or non-owned autos, as each may be applicable.

8.25.3 Workers Compensation and Employers' Liability insurance or qualified self-insurance satisfying statutory

requirements, which includes Employers' Liability coverage with limits of not less than $1 million per accident. If CONTRACTOR will provide leased employees, or, is an employee leasing or temporary staffing firm or a professional employer organization (PEO), coverage also shall include an Alternate Employer Endorsement (providing scope of coverage equivalent to ISO policy form WC 00 03 01 A) naming the COUNTY as the Alternate Employer, and the endorsement form shall be modified to provide that COUNTY will receive not less than thirty (30) days advance written notice of cancellation of this coverage provision. If applicable to CONTRACTOR's operations, coverage also shall be arranged to satisfy the requirements of any federal workers or workmen's compensation law or any federal occupational disease law.

8.25.4 Professional Liability/Errors and Omissions Insurance covering CONTRACTOR's liability arising from or related to this Contract, with limits of not less than $1 million per claim and $2 million aggregate. Further, CONTRACTOR understands and agrees it shall maintain such coverage for a period of not less than three (3) years following this Agreement's expiration, termination or cancellation.

8.26 LIQUIDATED DAMAGES

8.26.1 If, in the judgment of the Department Head, or his/her designee, the CONTRACTOR is deemed to be non-compliant with the terms and obligations assumed hereby, the Department Head, or his/her designee, at his/her option, in addition to, or in lieu of, other remedies provided herein, may withhold the entire monthly payment or deduct pro rata from the CONTRACTOR's invoice for work not performed. A description of the work not performed and the amount to be withheld or deducted from payments to the CONTRACTOR from the COUNTY, will be forwarded to the CONTRACTOR by the Department Head, or his/her designee, in a written notice describing the reasons for said action.

8.26.2 If the Department Head, or his/her designee, determines that there are deficiencies in the performance of this Contract that the Department Head, or his/her designee, deems are correctable by the CONTRACTOR over a certain time span, the Department Head, or his/her designee, will provide a written notice to the

CONTRACTOR to correct the deficiency within specified time frames. Should the CONTRACTOR fail to correct deficiencies within said time frame, the Department Head, or his/her designee, may:
(a) Deduct from the CONTRACTOR'S payment, pro rata, those applicable portions of the Monthly Contract Sum; and/or
(b) Deduct liquidated damages. The parties agree that it will be impracticable or extremely difficult to fix the extent of actual damages resulting from the failure of the CONTRACTOR to correct a deficiency within the specified time frame. The parties hereby agree that under the current circumstances a reasonable estimate of such damages is $100 per day per infraction and that the CONTRACTOR shall be liable to the COUNTY for liquidated damages in said amount. Said amount shall be deducted from the COUNTY's payment to the CONTRACTOR; and/or (c) Upon giving five (5) days notice to the CONTRACTOR for failure to correct the deficiencies, the COUNTY may correct any and all deficiencies and the total costs incurred by the COUNTY for completion of the work by an alternate source, whether it be COUNTY forces or separate private contractor, will be deducted and forfeited from the payment to the CONTRACTOR from the COUNTY, as determined by the COUNTY.

8.26.3 The action noted in sub-paragraph 8.26.2 shall not be construed as a penalty, but as adjustment of payment to the CONTRACTOR to recover the COUNTY cost due to the failure of the CONTRACTOR to complete or comply with the provisions of this Contract.

8.26.4 This sub-paragraph shall not, in any manner, restrict or limit the COUNTY's right to damages for any breach of this Contract provided by law or as specified in the Performance Requirements Summary (PRS) or sub-paragraph 8.26.2, and shall not, in any manner, restrict or limit the COUNTY's right to terminate this Contract as agreed to herein.

8.27 APPROVAL OF WORK

All tasks, "work products" (deliverables), services or other work performed by CONTRACTOR are subject to the written approval of the COUNTY Project Manager or designee. Approval or rejection of deliverable(s) will not be unreasonably withheld by COUNTY.

8.28 NONDISCRIMINATION AND AFFIRMATIVE ACTION

8.28.1 The CONTRACTOR certifies and agrees that all persons employed by it, its affiliates, subsidiaries, or holding companies are and shall be treated equally without regard to or because of race, color, religion, ancestry, national origin, sex, age, physical or mental disability, marital status, or political affiliation, in compliance with all applicable Federal and State anti-discrimination laws and regulations.

8.28.2 The CONTRACTOR shall certify to, and comply with, the provisions of Exhibit C- Contractor's EEO Certification.

8.28.3 The CONTRACTOR shall take affirmative action to ensure that applicants are employed, and that employees are treated during employment, without regard to race, color, religion, ancestry, national origin, sex, age, physical or mental disability, marital status, or political affiliation, in compliance with all applicable Federal and State anti-discrimination laws and regulations. Such action shall include, but is not limited to: employment, upgrading, demotion, transfer, recruitment or recruitment advertising, layoff or termination, rates of pay or other forms of compensation, and selection for training, including apprenticeship.

8.28.4 The CONTRACTOR certifies and agrees that it will deal with its subcontractors, bidders, or vendors without regard to or because of race, color, religion, ancestry, national origin, sex, age, physical or mental disability, marital status, or political affiliation.

8.28.5 The CONTRACTOR certifies and agrees that it, its affiliates, subsidiaries, or holding companies shall comply with all applicable Federal and State laws and regulations to the end that no person shall, on the grounds of race, color, religion, ancestry, national origin, sex, age, physical or mental disability, marital status, or political affiliation, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be otherwise subjected to discrimination under this Contract or under any project, program, or activity supported by this Contract.

8.28.6 The CONTRACTOR shall allow COUNTY representatives access to the CONTRACTOR's employment records during regular business hours to verify compliance with the provisions of this sub-paragraph 8.28 when so requested by the COUNTY.

8.28.7 If the COUNTY finds that any provisions of this sub-paragraph 8.28 have been violated, such violation shall constitute a material breach of this Contract upon which the COUNTY may terminate or suspend this Contract. While the COUNTY reserves the right to determine independently that the anti-discrimination provisions of this Contract have been violated, in addition, a determination by the California Fair Employment Practices Commission or the Federal Equal Employment Opportunity Commission that the CONTRACTOR has violated Federal or State anti-discrimination laws or regulations shall constitute a finding by the COUNTY that the CONTRACTOR has violated the anti-discrimination provisions of this Contract.

8.28.8 The parties agree that in the event the CONTRACTOR violates any of the anti-discrimination provisions of this Contract, the COUNTY shall, at its sole option, be entitled to the sum of Five Hundred Dollars ($500) for each such violation pursuant to California Civil Code Section 1671 as liquidated damages in lieu of terminating or suspending this Contract.

8.29 NON EXCLUSIVITY

Nothing herein is intended nor shall be construed as creating any exclusive arrangement with the CONTRACTOR. This Contract shall not restrict the COUNTY from acquiring similar, equal or like goods and/or services from other entities or sources.

8.30 NOTICE OF DELAYS

Except as otherwise provided under this Contract, when either party has knowledge that any actual or potential situation is delaying or threatens to delay the timely performance of this Contract, that party shall, within one (1) business day, give notice thereof, including all relevant information with respect thereto, to the other party.

8.31 NOTICE OF DISPUTES

The CONTRACTOR shall bring to the attention of the COUNTY Project Manager any dispute between the COUNTY and the CONTRACTOR regarding the performance of services as stated in this Contract. If the COUNTY Project Manager is not able to resolve the dispute, the Department Head, or designee shall resolve it.

8.32 NOTICE TO EMPLOYEES REGARDING THE FEDERAL EARNED INCOME CREDIT

The CONTRACTOR shall notify its employees, and shall require each Subcontractor to notify its employees, that they may be eligible for the Federal Earned Income Credit under the federal income tax laws. Such notice shall be provided in accordance with the requirements set forth in Internal Revenue Service Notice No. 1015.

8.33 NOTICE TO EMPLOYEES REGARDING THE SAFELY SURRENDERED BABY LAW

The CONTRACTOR shall notify and provide to its employees, and shall require each Subcontractor to notify and provide to its employees, a fact sheet regarding the Safely Surrendered Baby Law, its implementation in Los Angeles COUNTY, and where and how to safely surrender a baby. The fact sheet is set forth in Exhibit F of this Contract and is also available on the Internet at www.babysafela.org for printing purposes.

8.34 NOTICES

8.34.1 Notices required or permitted to be given under the terms of this Contract or by any law now or hereafter in effect may, at the option of the party giving notice, be given by personal delivery or by enclosing the same in a sealed envelope addressed to the party for whom intended and by depositing such envelope with postage prepaid in the United States Post Office or substation thereof, or any public mail box.

The notices and envelopes containing same to COUNTY shall be addressed to:

County of Los Angeles
Chief Executive Office; Benefits, Compensation Policy and Employee Relations Division

500 W. Temple Street, Room 526
Los Angeles, CA 90012
(213) 974-2788
Attention Bill Dukes

The notices and envelopes containing same to CONTRACTOR shall be addressed to:

Mercer
777 North Figueroa Street, Suite 1900
Los Angeles, CA 90017
(213) 346-2301
Attention Phil Schneider

8.34.2. In the event of suspension or termination of this Agreement, notices may also be given upon personal delivery to any person whose actual knowledge of such suspension or termination would be sufficient notice to CONTRACTOR.

8.35 CONFIDENTIALITY

CONTRACTOR shall maintain the confidentiality of all its records, including but not limited to billing, COUNTY records, case records and patient records, in accordance with all applicable Federal, State and local laws, regulations, ordinances and directives relating to confidentiality. CONTRACTOR shall inform all of its officers, employees, and agents providing services hereunder of the confidentiality provisions of this Contract. Contractor shall sign and adhere to the provisions of the "Consultant Acknowledgment and Confidentiality Agreement", Exhibit D. This Confidentiality Agreements shall be filed in CONTRACTOR's personnel records for the employees and agents and CONTRACTOR shall provide a copy to COUNTY upon request.

8.36 PUBLIC RECORDS ACT

8.36.1 Any documents submitted by the CONTRACTOR; all information obtained in connection with the COUNTY's right to audit and inspect the CONTRACTOR's documents, books, and accounting records pursuant to sub-paragraph 8.38 - Record Retention and Inspection/Audit Settlement of this Contract; as well as any documents which were required to be submitted in response to a Request for Proposals (RFP) if used in the solicitation process for this Contract, become the exclusive property of the COUNTY.

All such documents become a matter of public record and shall be regarded as public records. Exceptions will be those elements that meet the exceptions set forth in the California Government Code Section 6250 et seq. (Public Records Act) and which are marked "trade secret", "confidential", or "proprietary". The COUNTY shall not in any way be liable or responsible for the disclosure of any such records including, without limitation, those so marked, if disclosure is required by law, or by an order issued by a court of competent jurisdiction.

8.36.2 In the event the COUNTY is required to defend an action on a Public Records Act request for any of the aforementioned documents, information, books, records, and/or contents of a proposal marked "trade secret", "confidential", or "proprietary", the CONTRACTOR agrees to defend and indemnify the COUNTY from all costs and expenses, including reasonable attorney's fees, in action or liability arising under the Public Records Act.

8.37 PUBLICITY

8.37.1 The CONTRACTOR shall not disclose any details in connection with this Contract to any person or entity except as may be otherwise provided hereunder or required by law. However, in recognizing the Contractor's need to identify its services and related clients to sustain itself, the COUNTY shall not inhibit the CONTRACTOR from publishing its role under this Contract within the following conditions:

- The CONTRACTOR shall develop all publicity material in a professional manner; and
- During the term of this Contract, the CONTRACTOR shall not, and shall not authorize another to, publish or disseminate any commercial advertisements, press releases, feature articles, or other materials using the name of the COUNTY without the prior written consent of the COUNTY's Project Manager. The COUNTY shall not unreasonably withhold written consent.

8.37.2 The CONTRACTOR may, without the prior written consent of COUNTY, indicate in its proposals and sales materials that it has been awarded this Contract with the County of Los Angeles, provided that the requirements of this sub-paragraph 8.37 shall apply.

8.38 RECORD RETENTION AND INSPECTION/AUDIT SETTLEMENT

The CONTRACTOR shall maintain accurate and complete financial records of its activities and operations relating to this Contract in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles. The CONTRACTOR shall also maintain accurate and complete employment and other records relating to its performance of this Contract. The CONTRACTOR agrees that the COUNTY, or its authorized representatives, shall have access to and the right to examine, audit, excerpt, copy, or transcribe any pertinent transaction, activity, or record relating to this Contract. All such material, including, but not limited to, all financial records, bank statements, cancelled checks or other proof of payment, timecards, sign-in/sign-out sheets and other time and employment records, and proprietary data and information, shall be kept and maintained by the CONTRACTOR and shall be made available to the COUNTY during the term of this Contract and for a period of five (5) years thereafter unless the COUNTY's written permission is given to dispose of any such material prior to such time. All such material shall be maintained by the CONTRACTOR at a location in Los Angeles County, provided that if any such material is located outside Los Angeles County, then, at the COUNTY's option, the CONTRACTOR shall pay the COUNTY for travel, per diem, and other costs incurred by the COUNTY to examine, audit, excerpt, copy, or transcribe such material at such other location.

8.38.1 In the event that an audit of the CONTRACTOR is conducted specifically regarding this Contract by any Federal or State auditor, or by any auditor or accountant employed by the CONTRACTOR or otherwise, then the CONTRACTOR shall file a copy of such audit report with the COUNTY's Auditor-Controller within thirty (30) days of the CONTRACTOR's receipt thereof, unless otherwise provided by applicable Federal or State law or under this Contract. Subject to applicable law, the COUNTY shall make a reasonable effort to maintain the confidentiality of such audit report(s).

8.38.2 Failure on the part of the CONTRACTOR to comply with any of the provisions of this sub-paragraph 8.38 shall constitute a material breach of this Contract upon which the COUNTY may terminate or suspend this Contract.

8.38.3 If, at any time during the term of this Contract or within five (5) years after the expiration or termination of this Contract, representatives of the COUNTY conduct an audit of the

CONTRACTOR regarding the work performed under this Contract, and if such audit finds that the COUNTY's dollar liability for any such work is less than payments made by the COUNTY to the CONTRACTOR, then the difference shall be either: a) repaid by the CONTRACTOR to the COUNTY by cash payment upon demand or b) at the sole option of the COUNTY's Auditor-Controller, deducted from any amounts due to the CONTRACTOR from the COUNTY, whether under this Contract or otherwise. If such audit finds that the COUNTY's dollar liability for such work is more than the payments made by the COUNTY to the CONTRACTOR, then the difference shall be paid to the CONTRACTOR by the COUNTY by cash payment, provided that in no event shall the COUNTY's maximum obligation for this Contract exceed the funds appropriated by the COUNTY for the purpose of this Contract.

8.39 RECYCLED BOND PAPER

Consistent with the Board of Supervisors' policy to reduce the amount of solid waste deposited at the COUNTY landfills, the CONTRACTOR agrees to use recycled-content paper to the maximum extent possible on this Contract.

8.40 SUBCONTRACTING

8.40.1 The requirements of this Contract may not be subcontracted by the CONTRACTOR without the advance written approval of the COUNTY and an Amendment as set forth in Paragraph 8.2 – Assignments and Delegation. Any attempt by the CONTRACTOR to subcontract without first obtaining an Amendment to the Agreement and the prior consent of the COUNTY may be deemed a material breach of this Contract.

8.40.2 If the CONTRACTOR desires to subcontract, the CONTRACTOR shall provide the following information promptly to the COUNTY:

- A description of the work to be performed by the Subcontractor;
- A draft copy of the proposed subcontract; and
- Other pertinent information and/or certifications requested by the COUNTY.

8.40.3 The CONTRACTOR shall indemnify and hold the COUNTY harmless with respect to the activities of each and every Subcontractor in the same manner and to the same degree as if such Subcontractor(s) were the CONTRACTOR employees.

8.40.4 The CONTRACTOR shall remain fully responsible for all performances required of it under this Contract, including those that the CONTRACTOR has determined to subcontract, notwithstanding the COUNTY's approval of the CONTRACTOR's proposed subcontract.

8.40.5 The COUNTY's consent to subcontract shall not waive the COUNTY's right to prior and continuing approval of any and all personnel, including Subcontractor employees, providing services under this Contract. The CONTRACTOR is responsible to notify its Subcontractors of this COUNTY right.

8.40.6 The CONTRACTOR shall be solely liable and responsible for all payments or other compensation to all Subcontractors and their officers, employees, agents, and successors in interest arising through services performed hereunder, notwithstanding the COUNTY's consent to subcontract.

8.40.7 CONTRACTOR shall include all Subcontractors as insureds under Contractor's own policies, or shall provide COUNTY with each Subcontractor's separate evidence of insurance coverage. CONTRACTOR shall be responsible for verifying each Subcontractor complies with the required insurance provisions set forth in this Contract.

8.41 TERMINATION FOR BREACH OF WARRANTY TO MAINTAIN COMPLIANCE WITH COUNTY'S CHILD SUPPORT COMPLIANCE PROGRAM

Failure of the CONTRACTOR to maintain compliance with the requirements set forth in sub-paragraph 8.13 - Contractor's Warranty of Adherence to COUNTY's Child Support Compliance Program, shall constitute default under this Contract. Without limiting the rights and remedies available to the COUNTY under any other provision of this Contract, failure of the CONTRACTOR to cure such default within ninety (90) calendar days of written notice shall be grounds upon which the COUNTY may terminate this Contract pursuant to sub-paragraph 8.44 - Termination for Default and pursue

debarment of the CONTRACTOR, pursuant to County Code Chapter 2.202.

8.42 TERMINATION FOR BREACH OF WARRANTY TO MAINTAIN COMPLIANCE WITH COUNTY'S DEFAULTED PROPERTY TAX PROGRAM

Failure of CONTRACTOR to maintain compliance with the requirements set forth in sub-paragraph 8.14 Contractor's Warranty of Adherence to COUNTY's Defaulted Property Tax Program, shall constitute default under this contract. Without limiting the rights and remedies available to COUNTY under any other provision of this contract, failure of CONTRACTOR to cure such default within 10 days of notice shall be grounds upon which COUNTY may terminate this contract and/or pursue debarment of CONTRACTOR, pursuant to County Code Chapter 2.206.

8.43 TERMINATION FOR CONVENIENCE

8.43.1 This Contract may be terminated, in whole or in part, from time to time, when such action is deemed by the COUNTY, in its sole discretion, to be in its best interest. Termination of work hereunder shall be effected by notice of termination to the CONTRACTOR specifying the extent to which performance of work is terminated and the date upon which such termination becomes effective. The date upon which such termination becomes effective shall be no less than ten (10) days after the notice is sent.

8.43.2 After receipt of a notice of termination and except as otherwise directed by the COUNTY, the CONTRACTOR shall:

- Stop work under this Contract on the date and to the extent specified in such notice, and
- Complete performance of such part of the work as shall not have been terminated by such notice.

8.43.3 After receipt of the Notice of Termination, CONTRACTOR shall submit to COUNTY, in the form and with the certifications as may be prescribed by COUNTY, its termination claim and invoice. Such claim and invoice shall be submitted promptly, but not later than three (3) months from the effective date of termination. Upon failure of CONTRACTOR to submit its termination claim and invoice within the time allowed, COUNTY may determine, on the basis of information available to COUNTY, the

amount, if any, due to CONTRACTOR in respect to the termination and such determination shall be final. After such determination is made, COUNTY shall pay CONTRACTOR the amount so determined.

8.43.4 Subject to the provisions of the subparagraphs 8.43.1 and 8.43.2, above, COUNTY and CONTRACTOR shall negotiate an equitable amount to be paid to CONTRACTOR by reason of the total or partial termination of work pursuant to this Paragraph. Said amount may include a reasonable allowance for profit on work done but shall not include an allowance on work terminated. COUNTY shall pay the agreed amount; subject to other limitations and provided that such amount shall not exceed the total funding obligated under this Agreement as reduced by the amount of payments otherwise made and as further reduced by the contract price of work not terminated.

8.43.5 All material including books, records, documents, or other evidence bearing on the costs and expenses of the CONTRACTOR under this Contract shall be maintained by the CONTRACTOR in accordance with sub-paragraph 8.38, Record Retention & Inspection/Audit Settlement.

8.44 TERMINATION FOR DEFAULT

8.44.1 The COUNTY may, by written notice to the Contractor, terminate the whole or any part of this Contract, if, in the judgment of COUNTY's Project Manager:

- CONTRACTOR has materially breached this Contract; or
- CONTRACTOR fails to timely provide and/or satisfactorily perform any task, deliverable, service, or other work required either under this Contract; or
- CONTRACTOR fails to demonstrate a high probability of timely fulfillment of performance requirements under this Contract, or of any obligations of this Contract and in either case, fails to demonstrate convincing progress toward a cure within five (5) working days (or such longer period as the COUNTY may authorize in writing) after receipt of written notice from the COUNTY specifying such failure.

8.44.2 In the event that the COUNTY terminates this Contract in whole or in part as provided in sub-paragraph 8.44.1, the

COUNTY may procure, upon such terms and in such manner as the COUNTY may deem appropriate, goods and services similar to those so terminated. The CONTRACTOR shall be liable to the COUNTY for any and all excess costs incurred by the COUNTY, as determined by the COUNTY, for such similar goods and services. The CONTRACTOR shall continue the performance of this Contract to the extent not terminated under the provisions of this sub-paragraph.

8.44.3 Except with respect to defaults of any Subcontractor, the CONTRACTOR shall not be liable for any such excess costs of the type identified in sub-paragraph 8.44.2 if its failure to perform this Contract arises out of causes beyond the control and without the fault or negligence of the Contractor. Such causes may include, but are not limited to: acts of God or of the public enemy, acts of the COUNTY in either its sovereign or contractual capacity, acts of Federal or State governments in their sovereign capacities, fires, floods, epidemics, quarantine restrictions, strikes, freight embargoes, and unusually severe weather; but in every case, the failure to perform must be beyond the control and without the fault or negligence of the CONTRACTOR. If the failure to perform is caused by the default of a Subcontractor, and if such default arises out of causes beyond the control of both the CONTRACTOR and Subcontractor, and without the fault or negligence of either of them, the CONTRACTOR shall not be liable for any such excess costs for failure to perform, unless the goods or services to be furnished by the Subcontractor were obtainable from other sources in sufficient time to permit the CONTRACTOR to meet the required performance schedule. As used in this paragraph 8.44, the terms "Subcontractor" and "Subcontractors" mean Subcontractor(s) at any tier.

8.44.4 If, after the COUNTY has given notice of termination under the provisions of this paragraph 8.44, it is determined by the COUNTY that the CONTRACTOR was not in default under the provisions of this paragraph 8.44, or that the default was excusable under the provisions of sub-paragraph 8.44.3, the rights and obligations of the parties shall be the same as if the notice of termination had been issued pursuant to paragraph 8.43 - Termination for Convenience.

8.44.5 The rights and remedies of the COUNTY provided in this paragraph 8.44 shall not be exclusive and are in addition to any other rights and remedies provided by law or under this Contract.

8.45 TERMINATION FOR IMPROPER CONSIDERATION

8.45.1 The COUNTY may, by written notice to the CONTRACTOR, immediately terminate the right of the CONTRACTOR to proceed under this Contract if it is found that consideration, in any form, was offered or given by the CONTRACTOR, either directly or through an intermediary, to any COUNTY officer, employee, or agent with the intent of securing this Contract or securing favorable treatment with respect to the award, amendment, or extension of this Contract or the making of any determinations with respect to the CONTRACTOR's performance pursuant to this Contract. In the event of such termination, the COUNTY shall be entitled to pursue the same remedies against the CONTRACTOR as it could pursue in the event of default by the Contractor.

8.45.2 The CONTRACTOR shall immediately report any attempt by a COUNTY officer or employee to solicit such improper consideration. The report shall be made either to the COUNTY manager charged with the supervision of the employee or to the COUNTY Auditor-Controller's Employee Fraud Hotline at (800) 544-6861.

8.45.3 Among other items, such improper consideration may take the form of cash, discounts, service, the provision of travel or entertainment, or tangible gifts.

8.46 TERMINATION FOR INSOLVENCY

8.46.1 The COUNTY may terminate this Contract forthwith in the event of the occurrence of any of the following:

- Insolvency of the CONTRACTOR. The CONTRACTOR shall be deemed to be insolvent if it has ceased to pay its debts for at least sixty (60) days in the ordinary course of business or cannot pay its debts as they become due, whether or not a petition has been filed under the Federal Bankruptcy Code and whether or not the CONTRACTOR is insolvent within the meaning of the Federal Bankruptcy Code;
- The filing of a voluntary or involuntary petition regarding

the CONTRACTOR under the Federal Bankruptcy Code;

- The appointment of a Receiver or Trustee for the CONTRACTOR; or
- The execution by the CONTRACTOR of a general assignment for the benefit of creditors.

8.46.2 The rights and remedies of the COUNTY provided in this paragraph 8.46 shall not be exclusive and are in addition to any other rights and remedies provided by law or under this Contract.

8.47 TERMINATION FOR NON-ADHERENCE OF COUNTY LOBBYIST ORDINANCE

The CONTRACTOR, and each County Lobbyist or County Lobbying firm as defined in County Code Section 2.160.010 retained by the CONTRACTOR, shall fully comply with the COUNTY's Lobbyist Ordinance, County Code Chapter 2.160. Failure on the part of the CONTRACTOR or any County Lobbyist or County Lobbying firm retained by the CONTRACTOR to fully comply with the COUNTY's Lobbyist Ordinance shall constitute a material breach of this Contract, upon which the COUNTY may in its sole discretion, immediately terminate or suspend this Contract.

8.48 TERMINATION FOR NON-APPROPRIATION OF FUNDS

Notwithstanding any other provision of this Contract, the COUNTY shall not be obligated for the CONTRACTOR's performance hereunder or by any provision of this Contract during any of the COUNTY's future fiscal years unless and until the COUNTY's Board of Supervisors appropriates funds for this Contract in the COUNTY's budget for each such future fiscal year. In the event that funds are not appropriated for this Contract, then this Contract shall terminate as of June 30 of the last fiscal year for which funds were appropriated. The COUNTY shall notify the CONTRACTOR in writing of any such non-allocation of funds at the earliest possible date.

8.49 VALIDITY

If any provision of this Contract or the application thereof to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the remainder of this Contract and the application of such provision to other persons or circumstances shall not be affected thereby.

8.50 WAIVER

No waiver by the COUNTY of any breach of any provision of this Contract shall constitute a waiver of any other breach or of such provision. Failure of the COUNTY to enforce at any time, or from time to time, any provision of this Contract shall not be construed as a waiver thereof. The rights and remedies set forth in this paragraph 8.50 shall not be exclusive and are in addition to any other rights and remedies provided by law or under this Contract.

8.51 WARRANTY AGAINST CONTINGENT FEES

8.51.1 The CONTRACTOR warrants that no person or selling agency has been employed or retained to solicit or secure this Contract upon any Contract or understanding for a commission, percentage, brokerage, or contingent fee, excepting bona fide employees or bona fide established commercial or selling agencies maintained by the CONTRACTOR for the purpose of securing business.

8.51.2 For breach of this warranty, the COUNTY shall have the right to terminate this Contract and, at its sole discretion, deduct from the Contract price or consideration, or otherwise recover, the full amount of such commission, percentage, brokerage, or contingent fee.

8.52 COUNTY LOBBYISTS

Each County lobbyist as defined in Los Angeles County Code Section 2.160.010, retained by CONTRACTOR, shall fully comply with the COUNTY Lobbyist Ordinance, Los Angeles County Code Chapter 2.160. Failure on the part of any COUNTY lobbyist retained by CONTRACTOR to fully comply with the COUNTY Lobbyist Ordinance shall constitute a material breach of this Contract upon which COUNTY may immediately terminate or suspend this Contract. CONTRACTOR shall comply with all conflict of interest laws, ordinances and regulations now in effect or hereafter to be enacted during the term of this Agreement. CONTRACTOR warrants that it is not now aware of any facts which do or could create a conflict of interest. If CONTRACTOR hereafter becomes aware of any facts which might reasonably be expected to create a conflict of interest, it shall immediately make full written disclosure of such facts to COUNTY. Full written disclosure shall include, but is not limited to, identification of all persons implicated and a complete description of all relevant circumstances.

8.53 PROHIBITION FROM INVOLVEMENT IN THE BIDDING PROCESS OF FUTURE RFPs

CONTRACTOR understands and agrees that neither CONTRACTOR nor its subsidiaries shall be involved in any way in the bidding process on any Request for Proposals developed or prepared by or with the assistance of CONTRACTOR's services rendered pursuant to this Agreement, whether as a prime contractor or subconsultant, or as a contractor to any other prime contractor or subconsultant. Any such involvement by CONTRACTOR shall result in the rejection by COUNTY of the bid or proposal by the prime contractor in question.

8.54 PROPRIETARY RIGHTS

All materials, data and other information of any kind obtained from COUNTY personnel, and all materials, data, reports and other information of any kind developed by CONTRACTOR under this Agreement are confidential to and are solely the property of COUNTY. CONTRACTOR shall take all necessary measures to protect the security and confidentiality of all such materials, data, reports and information. The provisions of this Paragraph shall survive the expiration or other termination of this Agreement.

8.55 LICENSES, PERMITS, REGISTRATIONS AND CERTIFICATES

CONSULTANT shall obtain and maintain in effect during the term of this Agreement, all licenses, permits, registrations and certificates, if any, required by law, which are applicable to the performance of this Agreement, and shall further ensure that all of its officers, employees and agents who perform services hereunder obtain and maintain in effect during the term of this Agreement, all licenses, permits, registrations and certificates required by law which are applicable to their performance of services hereunder.

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IN WITNESS WHEREOF, Consultant has executed this Contract, or caused it to be duly executed and the County of Los Angeles, by order of its Board of Supervisors has caused this Contract to be executed on its behalf by the Chair of said Board and attested by the Executive Officer-Clerk of the Board of Supervisors thereof, the day and year first above written.

CONSULTANT: Mercer

By _____
Name

Principal
Title

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

By _____
Mayor, Board of Supervisors

ATTEST:

SACHI HAMAI
Executive Officer-Clerk
of the Board of Supervisors

By _____
DEPUTY

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Andrea Sheridan Ordin
County Counsel

By _____
Principal Deputy County Counsel

ADOPTED
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

9 MAR 29 2011

SACHI A. HAMAI
EXECUTIVE OFFICER

EXHIBIT A

STATEMENT OF WORK

CONTRACTOR agrees to provide the following consulting services.

1. **Conduct the annual Delta Dental plan renewal process for the 2012 plan year, and work with Delta Dental and the County to adjust previous reserves on a group by group basis.** This includes continuing the Request for Renewal process as defined for the 2011 plan year.
   - Create a renewal letter for Delta Dental requesting their financial offer, and provide data to justify rates, requested benefit design alternatives, and performance guarantees. This includes obtaining CEO, DHR, and union input, making appropriate modifications to the renewal request for final review before distributing the renewal request to Delta Dental.
   - Obtain Delta Dental's response, respond to questions, and ensure that the carrier provides additional, missing, or corrected information as may be necessary. Analyze financial information received from Delta and negotiate renewal position as appropriate. Review proposed performance guarantees, performance guarantee credits, and any proposed changes. Negotiate common performance measurements and penalties, to the extent possible.
   - Communicate ongoing issues with County personnel, and conduct bi-weekly status calls with County.
   - Negotiate rates and benefits and prepare renewal summary letter for the County to include in Board of Supervisors letter. Finalize rates and benefits. Communicate to carriers upon approval by the Board of Supervisors.
   - Work with Delta Dental to determine appropriate accounting of previous Premium Stabilization Reserves by group and reporting these findings to the County.
   - Other activities as may be requested by the County Project Manager.

2. **Assist with Supplemental Income Benefit and Group Variable Universal Life Insurance Request For Proposals.** Complete the life insurance Request For Proposal (RFP) process that commenced in June 2010.
   - Continue discussions with MetLife to determine whether MetLife will retain the Supplemental Income Benefit (SIB) coverage if the Group Variable Universal Life (GVUL) coverage moves to another carrier.

- Review the RFP draft from 2010 and revise as needed. Also, request quotes for both GVUL and SIB combined, and GVUL independently (based upon outcome of MetLife conversation, above).
- Provide the updated RFP to the County for review. Edit as needed.
- Distribute RFP to potential carriers and brokers.
- Analyze and summarize response data for GVUL and SIB coverage. Follow up with bidders regarding unclear or incomplete responses.
- Summarize findings and review with County staff.

EXHIBIT C

CONTRACTOR'S EEO CERTIFICATION

Mercer
Contractor Name

777 North Figueroa Street, Suite 1900, Los Angeles, CA 90017
Address

13-2834414
Internal Revenue Service Employer Identification Number

GENERAL CERTIFICATION

In accordance with Section 4.32.010 of the Code of the County of Los Angeles, the contractor, supplier, or vendor certifies and agrees that all persons employed by such firm, its affiliates, subsidiaries, or holding companies are and will be treated equally by the firm without regard to or because of race, religion, ancestry, national origin, or sex and in compliance with all anti-discrimination laws of the United States of America and the State of California.

CONTRACTOR'S SPECIFIC CERTIFICATIONS

1.	The Contractor has a written policy statement prohibiting discrimination in all phases of employment.	Yes ☑	No ☐
2.	The Contractor periodically conducts a self analysis or utilization analysis of its work force.	Yes ☑	No ☐
3.	The Contractor has a system for determining if its employment practices are discriminatory against protected groups.	Yes ☑	No ☐
4.	Where problem areas are identified in employment practices, the Contractor has a system for taking reasonable corrective action, to include establishment of goals or timetables.	Yes ☑	No ☐

Philip J Schneider Principal
Authorized Official's Printed Name and Title

Philip J Schneider
Authorized Official's Signature

3/9/11
Date

EXHIBIT D

CONTRACTOR ACKNOWLEDGEMENT AND CONFIDENTIALITY AGREEMENT

CONTRACTOR NAME Mercer _____ Contract No._____

GENERAL INFORMATION:

The Contractor referenced above has entered into a contract with the County of Los Angeles to provide certain services to the County. The County requires the Corporation to sign this Contractor Acknowledgement and Confidentiality Agreement.

CONTRACTOR ACKNOWLEDGEMENT:

Contractor understands and agrees that the Contractor employees, consultants, Outsourced Vendors and independent contractors (Contractor's Staff) that will provide services in the above referenced agreement are Contractor's sole responsibility. Contractor understands and agrees that Contractor's Staff must rely exclusively upon Contractor for payment of salary and any and all other benefits payable by virtue of Contractor's Staff's performance of work under the above-referenced contract.

Contractor understands and agrees that Contractor's Staff are not employees of the County of Los Angeles for any purpose whatsoever and that Contractor's Staff do not have and will not acquire any rights or benefits of any kind from the County of Los Angeles by virtue of my performance of work under the above-referenced contract. Contractor understands and agrees that Contractor's Staff will not acquire any rights or benefits from the County of Los Angeles pursuant to any agreement between any person or entity and the County of Los Angeles.

CONFIDENTIALITY AGREEMENT:

Contractor and Contractor's Staff may be involved with work pertaining to services provided by the County of Los Angeles and, if so, Contractor and Contractor's Staff may have access to confidential data and information pertaining to persons and/or entities receiving services from the County. In addition, Contractor and Contractor's Staff may also have access to proprietary information supplied by other vendors doing business with the County of Los Angeles. The County has a legal obligation to protect all such confidential data and information in its possession, especially data and information concerning health, criminal, and welfare recipient records. Contractor and Contractor's Staff understand that if they are involved in County work, the County must ensure that Contractor and Contractor's Staff, will protect the confidentiality of such data and information. Consequently, Contractor must sign this Confidentiality Agreement as a condition of work to be provided by Contractor's Staff for the County.

Contractor and Contractor's Staff hereby agrees that they will not divulge to any unauthorized person any data or information obtained while performing work pursuant to the above-referenced contract between Contractor and the County of Los Angeles. Contractor and Contractor's Staff agree to forward all requests for the release of any data or information received to County's Project Manager.

Contractor and Contractor's Staff agree to keep confidential all health, criminal, and welfare recipient records and all data and information pertaining to persons and/or entities receiving services from the County, design concepts, algorithms, programs, formats, documentation, Contractor proprietary information and all other original materials produced, created, or provided to Contractor and Contractor's Staff under the above-referenced contract. Contractor and Contractor's Staff agree to protect these confidential materials against disclosure to other than Contractor or County employees who have a need to know the information. Contractor and Contractor's Staff agree that if proprietary information supplied by other County vendors is provided to me during this employment, Contractor and Contractor's Staff shall keep such information confidential.

Contractor and Contractor's Staff agree to report any and all violations of this agreement by Contractor and Contractor's Staff and/or by any other person of whom Contractor and Contractor's Staff become aware.

Contractor and Contractor's Staff acknowledge that violation of this agreement may subject Contractor and Contractor's Staff to civil and/or criminal action and that the County of Los Angeles may seek all possible legal redress.

SIGNATURE: Philip J Schneider DATE: 3/9/11

PRINTED NAME: Philip J Schneider

POSITION: Principal

EXHIBIT E

INVITATION FOR BID/REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL
GROUNDS FOR REJECTION

Los Angeles County Code Chapter 2.180.010, *Certain Contracts Prohibited*, sets forth, among other things, the following:

Notwithstanding any other section of this Code, the County shall not contract with, and shall reject any bid or proposal submitted by the persons or entities specified below, unless the Board of Supervisors finds that special circumstances exist which justify the approval of such contract:

a) Employees of the County or of public agencies for which the Board of Supervisors is the governing body;

b) Profit making firms or businesses in which employees described in subsection (a) serve as officers, principals, partners or major shareholders;

c) Persons who, within the immediately preceding twelve (12) months, came within the provisions of subsection (a), and who (1) were employed in positions of substantial responsibility in the area of service to be performed by the Consultant, or (2) participated in any way in developing the Contract or its service specifications; and

d) Profit making firms or businesses in which the former employees described in subsection (c) serve as officers, principals, partners or major shareholders.

Consultant hereby certifies that personnel who developed and/or participated in the preparation of the Contract do not fall within the scope of Code Section 2.180.010 as outlined above.

Philip J Schneider

Typed Name and Title of Signer

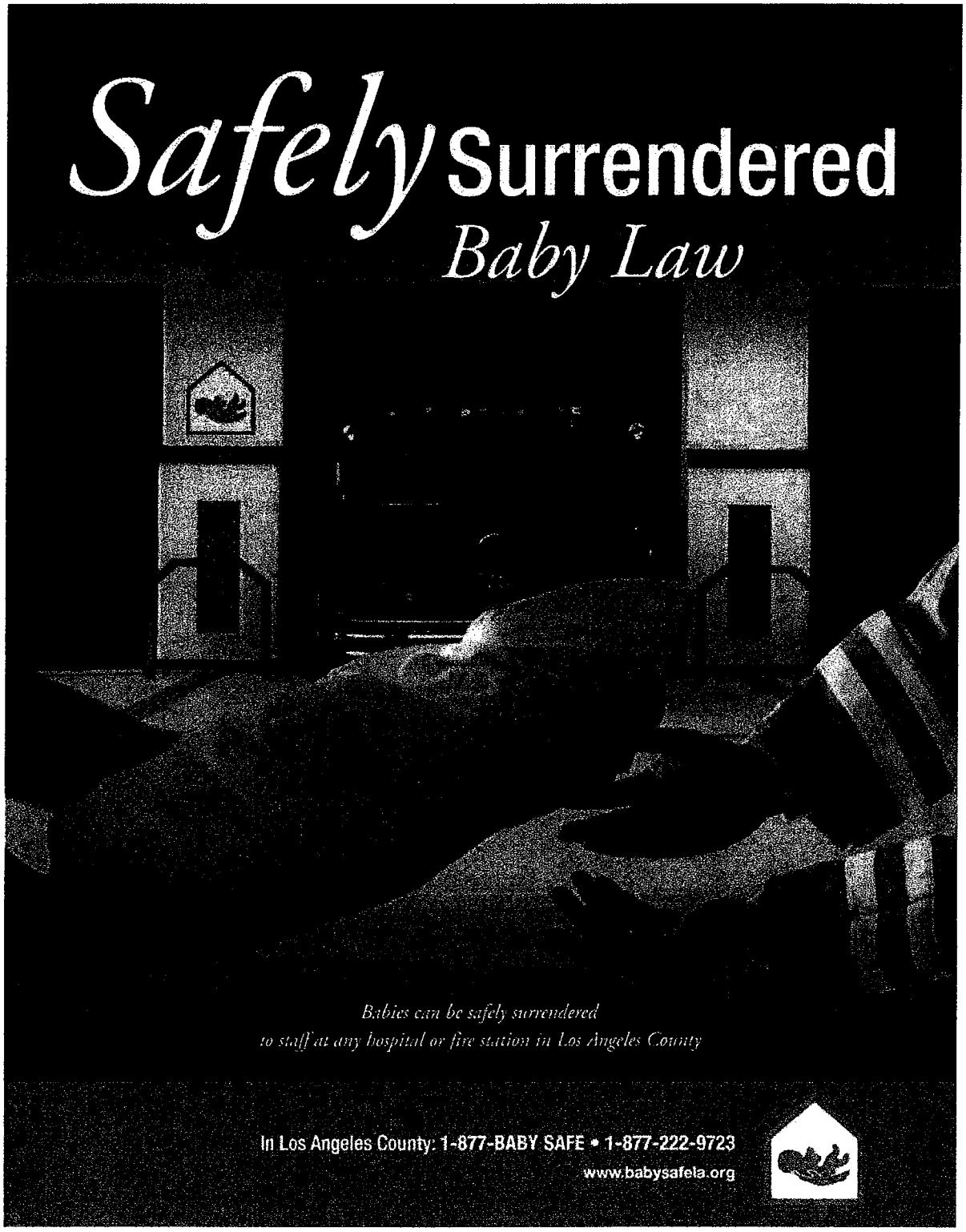
Philip J Schneider

Signature

3/9/11

Date

EXHIBIT F


Safely Surrendered
Baby Law
Babies can be safely surrendered
to staff at any hospital or fire station in Los Angeles County
In Los Angeles County: 1-877-BABY SAFE • 1-877-222-9723
www.babysafela.org

In Los Angeles County: 1-877-BABY SAFE • 1-877-222-9723
www.babysafela.org

Safely Surrendered *Baby Law*

What is the Safely Surrendered Baby Law?

Babies can be safely surrendered to staff at any hospital or fire station in Los Angeles County

Every baby deserves a chance for a healthy life. If someone you know is considering abandoning a baby, let her know there are other options. For three days (72 hours) after birth, a baby can be surrendered to staff at any hospital or fire station in Los Angeles County.

How does it work?

A distressed parent who is unable or unwilling to care for a baby can legally, confidentially, and safely surrender a baby within three days (72 hours) of birth. The baby must be handed to an employee at a hospital or fire station in Los Angeles County. As long as the baby shows no sign of abuse or neglect, no name or other information is required. In case the parent changes his or her mind at a later date and wants the baby back, staff will use bracelets to help connect them to each other. One bracelet will be placed on the baby, and a matching bracelet will be given to the parent or other surrendering adult.

What if a parent wants the baby back?

Parents who change their minds can begin the process of reclaiming their baby within 14 days. These parents should call the Los Angeles County Department of Children and Family Services at 1-800-540-4000.

Can only a parent bring in the baby?

No. While in most cases a parent will bring in the baby, the Law allows other people to bring in the baby if they have lawful custody.

Does the parent or surrendering adult have to call before bringing in the baby?

No. A parent or surrendering adult can bring in a baby anytime, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, as long as the parent or surrendering adult surrenders the baby to someone who works at the hospital or fire station.

Does the parent or surrendering adult have to tell anything to the people taking the baby?

No. However, hospital or fire station personnel will ask the surrendering party to fill out a questionnaire designed to gather important medical history information, which is very useful in caring for the baby. The questionnaire includes a business reply envelope and can be sent in at a later time.

What happens to the baby?

The baby will be examined and given medical treatment. Upon release from the hospital, social workers immediately place the baby in a safe and loving home and begin the adoption process.

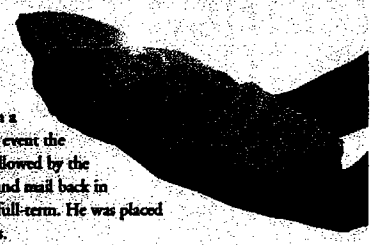
What happens to the parent or surrendering adult?

Once the parent or surrendering adult surrenders the baby to hospital or fire station personnel, they may leave at any time.

Why is California doing this?

The purpose of the Safely Surrendered Baby Law is to protect babies from being abandoned, hurt or killed by their parents. You may have heard tragic stories of babies left in dumpsters or public bathrooms. Their parents may have been under severe emotional distress. The mothers may have hidden their pregnancies, fearful of what would happen if their families found out. Because they were afraid and had no one or nowhere to turn for help, they abandoned their babies. Abandoning a baby is illegal and places the baby in extreme danger. Too often, it results in the baby's death. The Safely Surrendered Baby Law prevents this tragedy from ever happening again in California.

A baby's story



Early in the morning on April 9, 2005, a healthy baby boy was safely surrendered to nurses at Harbor-UCLA Medical Center The woman who brought the baby to the hospital identified herself as the baby's aunt and stated the baby's mother had asked her to bring the baby to the hospital on her behalf. The aunt was given a bracelet with a number matching the anklet placed on the baby; this would provide some identification in the event the mother changed her mind about surrendering the baby and wished to reclaim the baby in the 14-day period allowed by the Law. The aunt was also provided with a medical questionnaire and said she would have the mother complete and mail back in the stamped return envelope provided. The baby was examined by medical staff and pronounced healthy and full-term. He was placed with a loving family that had been approved to adopt him by the Department of Children and Family Services.