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December 18, 2013

TO: Each Supervisor

FROM: *for* Jonathan E. Fielding, M.D., M.P.H.  
Director and Health Officer

**SUBJECT: NOTIFICATION OF THE USE OF DELEGATED AUTHORITY TO ACCEPT A CAPITAL ASSET DONATION/GIFT OF A NEW LABORATORY MODULAR FACILITY UNIT FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH'S PUBLIC HEALTH LABORATORY**

This is to notify you that I am exercising the delegated authority approved by your Board on June 18, 2013, to accept a capital asset donation/gift of a new laboratory modular facility unit to support testing operations within the Department of Public Health's (DPH) Public Health Laboratory (PHL).

Under this authority, I will accept a capital asset donation from Designer Space Modular Buildings, Inc. (DSMB), with an approximate value of \$260,000, for a new laboratory modular facility unit (portable laboratory), which includes laboratory information technology (IT) equipment and other furnishings, to enable DPH's PHL to continue participation in the federally funded Air Sample Testing Program (AST Program).

The new portable laboratory is located adjacent to the PHL. The AST Program is an early-warning environmental monitoring sampling system designed to protect residents from a potential biological attack. It is authorized and funded by the United States Department of Homeland Security (USDHS). The AST Program's incident response requirements mandate that the results be reported both to the DPH PHL Director and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Reagents and consumables for the Program are funded by the USDHS. The portable laboratory and PHL are in close proximity on the Rancho Los Amigos campus to better enable the DPH PHL to monitor testing.

While the USDHS had initially requested that Astrix Technology Group, Inc. to gift the new portable laboratory to DPH, USDHS subsequently requested that DSMB donate the new modular facility unit in order to expedite the titling process. Therefore, DSMB will prepare and process the transfer of title of the new portable laboratory to DPH.

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DPH's acceptance of the donated new portable laboratory allows PHL to continue to support testing operations, conduct air sample testing services, and coordinate surveillance activities without disruption of services to the AST Program.

All costs associated with the removal of the current portable laboratory, in addition to the building, installation, and inspection of the new portable laboratory will be borne by the USDHS. Once ownership of the new portable laboratory has been transferred to DPH, responsibility for the associated routine maintenance and upkeep costs will be that of DPH, as currently being done with the existing portable laboratory; therefore, there is no anticipated increase in net County cost.

County Counsel has reviewed and approved this delegated authority action.

If you have any questions or require additional information, please let me know.

JEF:nms  
DA# 02820

c: Chief Executive Officer  
County Counsel  
Executive Officer, Board of Supervisors