

**AGREEMENT IN SUPPORT OF PRO-BONO AND
LOW-COST LEGAL SERVICES FOR ELDERLY**

THIS AGREEMENT IN SUPPORT OF PRO BONO AND LOW COST LEGAL SERVICES FOR ELDERLY (“Agreement”), is entered into this 8th day of June, 2021 and is effective by and between WASHOE LEGAL SERVICES, a Nevada non-profit corporation (hereinafter called the “LEGAL SERVICES AGENCY”), and WASHOE COUNTY, NEVADA, through its Human Services Agency (hereinafter called “COUNTY”).

WITNESSETH,

WHEREAS, COUNTY desires to support the availability of *pro bono* and low cost legal services for the elderly in Washoe County, as well as the efficient use of COUNTY resources in support of quality legal services to the elderly, such as defined in Attachment A to this Agreement; and

WHEREAS, COUNTY desires to provide grant funding to support those legal services for seniors in Washoe County over the age of 60; and

WHEREAS, LEGAL SERVICES AGENCY is competent, licensed and capable of satisfying COUNTY’s objectives in Attachment A as well as applicable local, state and federal laws, and desires to receive the referenced ad valorem funds and COUNTY’s other financial and in-kind support in the provision of those legal services to Washoe County’s qualifying senior population.

NOW, THEREFORE, based upon the foregoing recitals, which are incorporated herein, and in consideration of the mutual promises and benefits to be exchanged and provided, the parties hereto mutually agree as follows:

- (1) **Agreement.** COUNTY agrees to deliver the above-referenced financial and in kind support to LEGAL SERVICES AGENCY and LEGAL SERVICES AGENCY hereby agrees to provide the services described in, and to use and apply the COUNTY support in compliance with the conditions and objectives set forth in, this Agreement and Attachment “A”, attached hereto and incorporated into this Agreement.
- (2) **Term.** Upon authorization, this contract terminates June 30, 2022, unless terminated earlier as provided herein.

This contract may be extended in increments, not to exceed a total of three (3) one (1) year renewals by the COUNTY contingent upon adequate funding, compliance with this Agreement and LEGAL SERVICES AGENCY’s receipt of Nevada Aging and Disability Services Division legal services grants per available renewal.

- (3) **Compensation.** COUNTY agrees to grant to LEGAL SERVICES as follows:
 - (a) The amount of the actual applicable court filing fees for elderly legal services received by the County pursuant to Nevada Revised Statutes in support of pro-bono and low-cost guardianship ward representation for elderly wards as well as other pro-bono legal services for the elderly, approximate annual amount not to exceed \$65,000 per year.
 - (b) Ad valorem tax for seniors funds for expenses incurred in direct representation and legal counseling of seniors, together with ordinary expenses of associated support

services and equipment, and such legal services and expenses shall be exclusive of legal services and expenses provided and incurred by LEGAL SERVICES AGENCY to meet the requirements of any other sources of revenue received by LEGAL SERVICES AGENCY, the amount of \$75,000 per year.

In addition, COUNTY agrees to provide certain in-kind contributions to LEGAL SERVICES AGENCY, to include office space at the Washoe County Senior Center, located at 1155 E. Street, Reno, Nevada, together with limited facility and staff support and limited equipment use, all at nominal cost pursuant to NRS 244.2835.

The services as described herein shall be provided at a cost not to exceed ONE HUNDRED FORTY THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$140,000) annually.

- (4) **Method of Payment.** COUNTY will distribute payments as follows:
 - (a) Monthly the applicable filing fees then received by the COUNTY after the 15th of each month.
 - (b) Quarterly the Ad Valorem grant funds in equal installments upon receipt of the quarterly report.
- (5) **Changes.** COUNTY may from time to time require changes in the scope of services of the LEGAL SERVICES AGENCY to be performed hereunder. Such changes will occur as mutually agreed upon in writing by the parties.
- (6) **Services and Materials to be Furnished by COUNTY.** COUNTY shall furnish the LEGAL SERVICES AGENCY with all available necessary information, data, and material pertinent to the execution of this Agreement. COUNTY shall cooperate with the LEGAL SERVICES AGENCY in carrying out the work herein, including promotion and outreach, workshop space, centralized screening and other tasks to support LEGAL SERVICES AGENCY in performing its duties under the contract.
- (7) **Termination of Agreement.** Either party may terminate this Agreement without cause by written notice. A Notice of Termination will be deemed effective 5 days after personal delivery or via email; or 7 days after mailing by U.S. Mail, postage prepaid. In the event of termination LEGAL SERVICES AGENCY shall promptly submit to COUNTY all reporting and accounting documents required under this Agreement within 15 days after the effective day of any written Notice of Termination.
- (8) **Reporting.** The LEGAL SERVICES AGENCY shall, at such time and in whatever form as COUNTY may require, provide monthly reports on the performance of the LEGAL SERVICES AGENCY duties under the terms of this Agreement to the Human Services Agency Director and delegates, and report on its performance of Ward Representation legal services for elderly paid by other grants and funding sources.
- (9) **Records.** LEGAL SERVICES AGENCY shall use an approved legal services case management system for all client service tracking and complete all client demographic and data reporting required by Nevada Aging and Disability Services Division.

LEGAL SERVICES AGENCY will allow COUNTY access to and copies of its applications for other funding requests, including levels of service, grant awards and other information COUNTY deems necessary.

- (10) **Completeness of Contract.** Except as otherwise provided herein, this contract and any additional or supplementary document or documents incorporated herein by specific reference contain all the terms and conditions agreed upon by the parties hereto, and no other agreements, oral or otherwise, regarding the subject matter of this contract or any part thereof shall have any validity or bind any of the parties hereto.
- (11) **When Rights and Remedies Not Waived.** In no event shall the making by COUNTY of any payment to the LEGAL SERVICES AGENCY constitute or be construed as a waiver by COUNTY of any breach of covenant, or any default which may exist on the part of the LEGAL SERVICES AGENCY and the making of any such payment by COUNTY while any such breach or default shall exist in no way impairs or prejudices any right or remedy available to COUNTY in respect to such breach or default.
- (12) **Personnel.** LEGAL SERVICES AGENCY's employees selected to provide the services required under this Agreement shall meet the following criteria:
- a) Attorneys are licensed by and in good standing with the State Bar of Nevada;
 - b) Have not within a three year period preceding this Agreement been convicted of or had a civil judgment rendered against them for commission of fraud or commission of embezzlement, theft, forgery, bribery, falsification or destruction of records, making false statements;
 - c) Are not presently indicted for or otherwise criminally or civilly charged by a government entity (Federal, State, or local) with commission of any of the offenses enumerated in (ii) above;
- (13) **Indemnification and Insurance.** COUNTY has established specific indemnification and insurance requirements to help ensure that reasonable insurance coverage is maintained. Indemnification and hold harmless clauses are intended to ensure that you are aware of and accept the responsibility for losses or liabilities related to your activities. Attachment B is attached and included by reference. All conditions and requirements identified in this Attachment shall be completed prior to the commencement of any work under this Agreement.
- (14) **Confidentiality.** The LEGAL SERVICES AGENCY'S employees assigned to carry out the activities of this Agreement shall maintain the confidentiality of clients as outlined in the Nevada Supreme Court Rules of Professional Conduct.
- (15) **Assignability.** The parties hereby agree that LEGAL SERVICES AGENCY may not assign, convey or transfer its interest, rights and duties under this Agreement.
- (16) **Notices.** Any notices, bills, invoices, or reports required by this Agreement shall be sufficient if delivered in person or sent by the parties in the United States mail, postage paid, to the addresses noted below:

For Washoe County:
Amber Howell, Director
Washoe County Human Services Agency

For Washoe Legal Services:
Deonne Contine, Director
Washoe Legal Services

350 S Center Street
Reno, NV 89501

299 South Arlington Ave.
Reno, NV 89501

- (17) **Limited Liability.** COUNTY will not waive and intends to assert available defenses and limitations contained in Chapter 41 of the Nevada Revised Statutes. Contract liability of both parties shall not be subject to punitive damages. Actual damages for COUNTY's breach of this Agreement shall never exceed the amount of funds that have been appropriated for payment under this Agreement, but not yet paid, for the fiscal year budget in existence at the time of the breach.
- (18) **Severability.** Any provision in this Agreement that is prohibited or unenforceable under state or federal law shall be ineffective to the extent of such prohibitions or unenforceability, without invalidating the remaining provisions hereof. Also, the non-enforcement of any provision by either party to this Agreement shall not constitute a waiver of that provision, nor shall it affect the enforceability of that provision or the remainder of this Agreement.
- (19) **Governing Law and Venue.** The laws of the State of Nevada shall govern this Agreement. All parties hereto consent to the personal jurisdiction of the state court in Washoe County, Nevada and to the service of process by any means authorized by such court or under the laws of the State of Nevada. The exclusive venue of any action or proceeding arising out of or in connection with this Agreement shall be Washoe County, Nevada.
- (20) **Third Party Beneficiary Rights** This Agreement is not intended to create any third party beneficiary rights in any person not a party hereto.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, COUNTY and the LEGAL SERVICES AGENCY have executed this agreement as of the date first written above.

WASHOE LEGAL SERVICES
"LEGAL SERVICES AGENCY"

WASHOE COUNTY
"COUNTY"

By: _____
Deonne Contine

By: _____
Bob Lucey, Chair
Washoe County Commission

Date: _____

Date: _____

Exhibit A
PRO BONO LEGAL SERVICES FOR THE ELDERLY
Scope of Work and Standards

Washoe Legal Services (LEGAL SERVICES AGENCY) agrees to meet and satisfy Washoe County's following standards:

1. Be a current recipient of, and maintain compliance with, Nevada Aging and Disability Services Division (ADSD), Older Americans Act and/or Nevada Independent Living Grant funds for legal assistance for seniors, and further in compliance with ADSD General Requirements and Service Specifications (www.adsd.nv.gov);
2. Maintain sufficient staffing and capacity, including employing attorneys licensed in the State of Nevada, to provide Ward Representation services and legal services, including but not limited to government benefits and entitlements, lifetime planning issues, consumer matters, real property and housing matters, and elder law.
3. Maintain compliance with Federal Grant Management fiscal and program standards related to any public funding received, and provide assurance of its current status.
4. Provide best efforts to regularly apply for funding from the same and maintain grants and funding contracts with due diligence.
5. Annual training on sensitivity to the needs of seniors including accommodation of functional limitation and cognitive impairments; hearing and sight impairment; interviewing and listening skills.
6. Solicit and oversee Pro Bono services from Washoe County Bar and local attorneys to meet Senior Law priority service needs.
7. COUNTY will review LEGAL SERVICES AGENCY's progress toward goals:
 - a. COUNTY and LEGAL SERVICES AGENCY will meet quarterly to review programmatic, performance, facility and operational issues, as well as plans to increase services to meet the future needs of seniors;
 - b. LEGAL SERVICES AGENCY will refer clients in need of assistance with non-legal services and public benefits to COUNTY Senior Services program and other community social service programs; accept referral of clients needing legal assistance from same agencies;
 - c. COUNTY and LEGAL SERVICES AGENCY will review possible collaborative efforts including application for grants and development of new initiatives for seniors;
 - d. COUNTY will collaborate with Nevada Aging and Disability Services Division on services for seniors.

For services in support of pro-bono and low-cost guardianship ward representation:

1. LEGAL SERVICES AGENCY shall deliver to COUNTY a detailed legal services proposal within 30 calendar days of the date of this Agreement. The proposal will include the type of services to be provided utilizing this grant of court filing fees, common standards for quality and performance, level and type of staff, measurable objectives, amount of funding for each service type, and other information necessary to evaluate the proposal. COUNTY management may reject in writing, within 10 calendar days of receipt of the proposal, any part or all of the proposal, in which case LEGAL AGENCY agrees not to apply any of this grant of court filing fees or ad valorem tax for seniors to the part rejected. This grant shall be used strictly for expenses incurred in direct representation and legal counseling of seniors as set forth in the proposal and approved by COUNTY. Said expenses may include

ordinary expenses of associated support services and equipment. These legal services and expenses shall be exclusive of legal services and expenses provided and incurred by LEGAL SERVICES AGENCY to meet requirements of any other sources of revenue received by LEGAL SERVICES AGENCY

2. Make annual audits and fiscal reports available to the Washoe County Senior Services Department, upon request;
3. Subject to Court appointment LEGAL SERVICES AGENCY will provide Ward Representation Services to at a minimum 63 senior according to standards set by Nevada Aging and Disability Services Division grant service specifications.
 - a. A variance from performance of these goals may be allowed by the COUNTY.
4. Hours of operation shall be the regular business hours of LEGAL SERVICES AGENCY.

For services in support of direct representation and legal counseling of seniors:

1. Provide services at the Washoe County Senior Services site located at 1155 E. 9th Street Building E in Reno, Nevada;
2. Demonstrate fiscal solvency through annual audits and fiscal reports submitted to the Washoe County Human Services Agency;
3. Provide or obtain annual, on-going training on legal issues for seniors for all senior LEGAL SERVICES AGENCY employees;
4. 24 hour/1 working day response to all telephone calls and request for services;
5. Hours of operation open to clients at a minimum from 8:30 AM – 4:30 PM, Monday - Friday in Washoe County Senior Center located at 1155 E. 9th Street, Reno, NV;
6. Provide services to homebound individuals, nursing home residents, group care home residents and the vulnerable elderly;
7. Provide timely follow-up to ensure issues are addressed to client's satisfaction;
8. Conduct annual client satisfaction surveys required by COUNTY, as well as monthly workshops, outreach and/or marketing activities to increase program presence and community awareness;
9. COUNTY will review LEGAL SERVICES AGENCY's progress toward goals:
 - a. LEGAL SERVICES AGENCY must make referral to other legal services specializing in areas of the law that are not a specialty or focus of LEGAL SERVICES AGENCY;
 - b. LEGAL SERVICES AGENCY will review client complaints to ensure client satisfaction;
10. LEGAL SERVICES AGENCY will annually complete the American Bar Association, Access to Civil Justice self-assessment to measure status as it applies to seniors and report annually to the Washoe COUNTY Senior Services Department on progress in the following performance criterion areas.
 - a. Performance Area One. Effectiveness in identifying the most pressing civil legal needs of low-income and at risk seniors and developing/targeting resources to address those needs;
 - b. Performance Area Two. Effectiveness in engaging and serving the low-income and at risk senior population;
 - c. Performance Area Three. Effectiveness of legal representation and other program;
 - d. Performance Area Four. Effectiveness of governance, leadership and administration.

ATTACHMENT B
INSURANCE/HOLD HARMLESS REQUIREMENTS FOR
RETAINER AGREEMENT FOR PROFESSIONAL SERVICE
PRO-BONO AND LOW COST LEGAL SERVICES FOR ELDERLY

INDEMNIFICATION

Professional Liability

As respects acts, errors or omissions in the performance of professional services, CONTRACT ATTORNEY agrees to indemnify and hold harmless COUNTY, its officers, agents, employees, and volunteers from and against any and all claims, demands, defense costs, or liability of any kind or nature arising directly out of CONTRACT ATTORNEY'S negligent acts, errors or omissions in the performance of its professional services under the terms of this agreement.

GENERAL LIABILITY

As respects all acts or omissions which do not arise directly out of the performance of professional services, including but not limited to those acts or omissions normally covered by general and automobile liability insurance, CONTRACT ATTORNEY agrees to indemnify, defend (at COUNTY'S option), and hold harmless COUNTY, its officers, agents, employees, and volunteers from and against any and all claims, demands, defense costs, or liability of any kind or nature arising out of or in connection with CONTRACT ATTORNEY'S performance or failure to perform, under the terms of this agreement; excepting those which arise out of the negligence of COUNTY.

In determining the nature of the claim against COUNTY, the incident underlying the claim shall determine the nature of the claim, notwithstanding the form of the allegations against COUNTY.

GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

COUNTY requires that CONTRACT ATTORNEY purchase Industrial Insurance, General and Auto Liability, and Lawyers Professional Liability Insurance as described below against claims for injuries to persons or damages to property which may arise from or in connection with the performance of the work here under by CONTRACT ATTORNEY, its agents, representatives, employees or Sub-consultants. The cost of all such insurance shall be borne by CONTRACT ATTORNEY.

INDUSTRIAL INSURANCE

It is understood and agreed that there shall be no Industrial Insurance coverage provided for CONTRACT ATTORNEY by COUNTY. CONTRACT ATTORNEY agrees, as a precondition to the performance of any work under this Agreement and as a precondition to any obligation of the COUNTY to make any payment under this Agreement to provide COUNTY with a certificate issued in accordance with NRS 616B.627 and with a certificate of an insurer showing coverage pursuant to NRS 617.210.

If CONTRACT ATTORNEY is a sole proprietor, coverage for the sole proprietor must be purchased and evidence of coverage must appear on the Certificate of Insurance. Such requirement may be waived for a sole proprietor who does not use the services of any employees,

subcontractors, or independent contractors and completes an Affirmation of Compliance pursuant to NRS 616B627(2).

MINIMUM LIMITS OF INSURANCE

CONTRACT ATTORNEY shall maintain coverages and limits no less than:

1. General Liability: \$1,000,000 combined single limit per occurrence for bodily injury, personal injury and property damage. If Commercial General Liability Insurance or other form with a general aggregate limit is used, the general aggregate limit shall be increased to equal twice the required occurrence limit or revised to apply separately to this project or location.
2. Automobile Liability: \$1,000,000 combined single limit per accident for bodily injury and property damage. No aggregate limit may apply. Coverage limits for a sole proprietor may be reduced to \$500,000.
3. Lawyers Professional Liability: \$1,000,000 per claim and as an annual aggregate. Premium costs incurred to increase CONTRACT ATTORNEY'S insurance levels to meet minimum contract limits shall be borne by the CONTRACT ATTORNEY at no cost to the COUNTY. CONTRACT ATTORNEY will maintain professional liability insurance during the term of this Agreement and for a period of three (3) years from the date of substantial completion of the project if available and affordable. The unavailability and/or unaffordability of coverage must be demonstrated by CONTRACT ATTORNEY to COUNTY. In the event that CONTRACT ATTORNEY goes out of business during the term of this Agreement or the three (3) year period described above, CONTRACT ATTORNEY shall purchase at the request and expense of COUNTY, if available, Extended Reporting Coverage for claims arising out of CONTRACT ATTORNEY'S negligent acts, errors and omissions committed during the term of the Lawyers Professional Liability Policy.

DEDUCTIBLES AND SELF-INSURED RETENTIONS

Any deductibles or self-insured retentions must be declared to and approved by the COUNTY Risk Management Division prior to the start of work under this Agreement. COUNTY reserves the right to request additional documentation, financial or otherwise prior to giving its approval of the deductibles and self-insured retention and prior to executing the underlying agreement. Any changes to the deductibles or self-insured retentions made during the term of this Agreement or during the term of any policy must be approved by the COUNTY Risk Manager prior to the change taking effect.

OTHER INSURANCE PROVISIONS

The policies are to contain, or be endorsed to contain, the following provisions:

1. General Liability Coverages
 - a. COUNTY, its officers, agents, employees and volunteers are to be covered as insureds as respects: liability arising out of activities performed by or on behalf of CONTRACT ATTORNEY, including the insured's general supervision of CONTRACT ATTORNEY; products and completed operations of CONTRACT

ATTORNEY; or premises owned, occupied or used by CONTRACT ATTORNEY. The coverage shall contain no special limitations on the scope of protection afforded to COUNTY, its officers, agents, employees or volunteers.

b. CONTRACT ATTORNEY'S insurance coverage shall be primary insurance as respects COUNTY, its officers, agents, employees and volunteers. Any insurance or self-insurance maintained by COUNTY, its officers, agents, employees or volunteers shall be excess of CONTRACT ATTORNEY'S insurance and shall not contribute with it in any way.

c. Any failure to comply with reporting provisions of the policies shall not affect coverage provided to COUNTY, its officers, agents, employees or volunteers.

d. CONTRACT ATTORNEY'S insurance shall apply separately to each insured against whom claim is made or suit is brought, except with respect to the limits of the insurer's liability.

e. CONTRACT ATTORNEY'S insurance coverage shall be endorsed to state that coverage shall not be suspended, voided, canceled or non-renewed by either party, reduced in coverage or in limits except after thirty (30) days' prior written notice by certified mail, return receipt requested, has been given to COUNTY except for nonpayment of premium.

ACCEPTABILITY OF INSURERS

Insurance is to be placed with insurers with a Best's rating of no less than A-: VII. COUNTY with the approval of the Risk Manager may accept coverage with carriers having lower Best's ratings upon review of financial information concerning CONTRACT ATTORNEY and insurance carrier. COUNTY reserves the right to require that the CONTRACT ATTORNEY'S insurer be a licensed and admitted insurer in the State of Nevada, or on the Insurance Commissioner's approved but not admitted list.

VERIFICATION OF COVERAGE

CONTRACT ATTORNEY shall furnish COUNTY with certificates of insurance and with original endorsements affecting coverage required by this exhibit. The certificates and endorsements for each insurance policy are to be signed by a person authorized by that insurer to bind coverage on its behalf. The certificates are to be on forms approved by COUNTY. **All certificates and endorsements are to be addressed to the specific COUNTY contracting department and be received and approved by COUNTY before work commences.** COUNTY reserves the right to require complete, certified copies of all required insurance policies, at any time.

MISCELLANEOUS CONDITIONS

1. CONTRACT ATTORNEY shall be responsible for and remedy all damage or loss to any property, including property of COUNTY, caused in whole or in part by CONTRACT ATTORNEY, any Sub-consultant, or anyone employed, directed or supervised by CONTRACT ATTORNEY.

2. Nothing herein contained shall be construed as limiting in any way the extent to which CONTRACT ATTORNEY may be held responsible for payment of damages to persons or property resulting from its operations or the operations of any Sub-consultants under it.
3. In addition to any other remedies COUNTY may have if CONTRACT ATTORNEY fails to provide or maintain any insurance policies or policy endorsements to the extent and within the time herein required, COUNTY may, at its sole option:
 - a. Order CONTRACT ATTORNEY to stop work under this Agreement and/or withhold any payments which become due CONTRACT ATTORNEY here under until CONTRACT ATTORNEY demonstrates compliance with the requirements hereof;
 - b. Terminate the Agreement.