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# Appendix A:
# Standard Terms and Conditions for Telecom Managed Services Contracts

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# Appendix A:
# Standard Terms and Conditions for Telecom Managed Services Contracts

## 1. No Quantity Guarantees:

**Note: NO EXCEPTIONS OR REVISIONS WILL BE CONSIDERED**

The Contract is not exclusive to the Vendor. Customers may obtain services from other sources during the term of the Contract. DIR makes no express or implied warranties whatsoever that any particular quantity or dollar amount of services will be procured through the Contract.

## 2. Definitions

**A. Customer** – any Texas state agency, as defined by Texas Government Code 2054.003; and the following entities that are not state agencies:

(1) each house of the legislature;
(2) a legislative agency;
(3) an agency that is not a state agency as defined by Section 2151.002;
(4) a political subdivision, including a county, municipality, or district;
(5) a private institution of higher education accredited by a recognized accrediting agency, as defined by Section 61.003, Education Code, that:
  (A) engages in distance learning, as defined by Section 57.021, Utilities Code; and
  (B) receives federal funds for distance learning initiatives; and
(6) an assistance organization, as defined by Section 2175.001, Texas Government Code to mean:
  1. A non-profit organization that provides educational, health or human services or assistance to homeless individuals;
  2. A nonprofit food bank that solicits, warehouses, and redistributes edible but unmarketable food to an agency that feeds needy families and individuals;
  3. Texas Partners of the Americas, a registered agency with the Advisory Committee on Voluntary Foreign Aid, with the approval of the Partners of the Alliance Office of the Agency for International Development;
  4. A group, including a faith-based group, that enters into a financial or non-financial agreement with a health or human services agency to provide services to that agency's clients;
  5. A local workforce development board created under Section 2308.253;
  6. A nonprofit organization approved by the Supreme Court of Texas that provides free legal services for low-income households in civil matters;
  7. The Texas Boll Weevil Eradication Foundation, Inc., or an entity designated by the commissioner of agriculture as the foundation's successor entity under Section 74.1011, Texas Agriculture Code;
  8. A nonprofit computer bank that solicits, stores, refurbishes and redistributes used computer equipment to public school students and their families; and
  9. A nonprofit organization that provides affordable housing.

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**B. Compliance Check** – an audit of Vendor's compliance with the Contract may be performed by, but not limited to, a third-party auditor, DIR Internal Audit department, or DIR contract management staff or their designees.
**C. Contract** – the document executed between DIR and Vendor into which this Appendix A is incorporated.
**D. CPA** – refers to the Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts.
**E. Day** – shall mean business days, Monday through Friday, except for State and Federal holidays, unless otherwise specified as calendar days. If the Contract calls for performance on a day that is not a business day, then performance is intended to occur on the next business day.
**F. Purchase Order –** the Customer's fiscal form or format, which is used when making a purchase (e.g., formal written Purchase Order, Procurement Card, Electronic Purchase Order, or other authorized instrument).
**G. State** – refers to the State of Texas.

## 3. General Provisions

### A. Entire Agreement

The Contract, Appendices, and Exhibits constitute the entire agreement between DIR and the Vendor. No statement, promise, condition, understanding, inducement or representation, oral or written, expressed or implied, which is not contained in the Contract, Appendices, or its Exhibits shall be binding or valid.

### B. Modification of Contract Terms and/or Amendments

**1)** The terms and conditions of the Contract shall govern all transactions by Customers under the Contract. The Contract may only be modified or amended upon mutual written agreement of DIR and Vendor.

**2)** Customers shall not have the authority to modify the terms of the Contract; however, additional Customer terms and conditions that do not conflict with the Contract and are acceptable to Vendor may be added in a Purchase Order or Statement of Work and given effect. No additional term or condition added in a Purchase Order issued by a Customer can conflict with or diminish a term or condition of the Contract. Pre-printed terms and conditions on any Purchase Order issued by Customer hereunder will have no force and effect. In the event of a conflict between a Customer's Purchase Order and the Contract, the Contract term shall control.

**3)** Customers and Vendor will negotiate and enter into written agreements regarding statements of work, service level agreements, remedies, acceptance criteria, information confidentiality and security requirements, and other terms specific to their Purchase Orders under the Contract with Vendor.

### C. Invalid Term or Condition

**1)** To the extent any term or condition in the Contract conflicts with the applicable Texas and/or United States law or regulation, such Contract term or condition is void and unenforceable. By executing a contract which contains the conflicting term or condition, DIR makes no representations or warranties regarding the enforceability of

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such term or condition and DIR does not waive the applicable State and/or United States law or regulation which conflicts with the Contract term or condition.

**2)** If one or more terms or conditions in the Contract, or the application of any term or condition to any party or circumstance, is held invalid, unenforceable, or illegal in any respect by a final judgment or order of the State Office of Administrative Hearings or a court of competent jurisdiction, the remainder of the Contract and the application of the term or condition to other parties or circumstances shall remain valid and in full force and effect.

**D. Assignment**

DIR or Vendor may assign the Contract without prior written approval to: i) a successor in interest (for DIR, another state agency as designated by the Texas Legislature), or ii) a subsidiary, parent company or affiliate, or iii) as necessary to satisfy a regulatory requirement imposed upon a party by a governing body with the appropriate authority. Assignment of the Contract under the above terms shall require written notification by the assigning party and, for Vendor, a mutually agreed written Contract amendment. Any other assignment by a party shall require the written consent of the other party and a mutually agreed written Contract amendment.

**E. Survival**

All applicable service agreements that were entered into between Vendor and a Customer under the terms and conditions of the Contract shall survive the expiration or termination of the Contract. All Purchase Orders issued and accepted by Vendor shall survive expiration or termination of the Contract for the term of the Purchase Order, unless the Customer terminates the Purchase Order sooner. However, regardless of the term of the Purchase Order, no Purchase Order shall survive the expiration or termination of the Contract for more than five years, unless Customer makes an express finding and justification for the longer term. The finding and justification must either be included in the Purchase Order, or referenced in it and maintained in Customer's procurement record. Rights and obligations under this Contract which by their nature should survive, including, but not limited to the DIR Administrative Fee; and any and all payment obligations invoiced prior to the termination or expiration hereof, obligations of confidentiality; and indemnification will remain in effect after termination or expiration hereof.

**F. Choice of Law**

The laws of the State shall govern the construction and interpretation of the Contract. Exclusive venue for all actions will be in state court, Travis County, Texas. Nothing in the Contract or its Appendices shall be construed to waive the State's sovereign immunity.

**G. Limitation of Authority**

Vendor shall have no authority to act for or on behalf of the Texas Department of Information Resources or the State except as expressly provided for in this Contract;

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no other authority, power or use is granted or implied. Vendor may not incur any debts, obligations, expenses, or liabilities of any kind on behalf of the State or DIR.

### H. Proof of Financial Stability

Either DIR or Customer may require Vendor to provide proof of financial stability prior to or at any time during the contract term.

## 4. Intellectual Property Matters

### A. Definitions

**1)** "Work Product" means any and all deliverables produced by Vendor for Customer under a Statement of Work issued pursuant to this Contract, including any and all tangible or intangible items or things that have been or will be prepared, created, developed, invented or conceived at any time following the effective date of the Contract, including but not limited to any (i) works of authorship (such as manuals, instructions, printed material, graphics, artwork, images, illustrations, photographs, computer programs, computer software, scripts, object code, source code or other programming code, HTML code, flow charts, notes, outlines, lists, compilations, manuscripts, writings, pictorial materials, schematics, formulae, processes, algorithms, data, information, multimedia files, text web pages or web sites, other written or machine readable expression of such works fixed in any tangible media, and all other copyrightable works), (ii) trademarks, service marks, trade dress, trade names, logos, or other indicia of source or origin, (iii) ideas, designs, concepts, personality rights, methods, processes, techniques, apparatuses, inventions, formulas, discoveries, or improvements, including any patents, trade secrets and know-how, (iv) domain names, (v) any copies, and similar or derivative works to any of the foregoing, (vi) all documentation and materials related to any of the foregoing, (vii) all other goods, services or deliverables to be provided to Customer under the Contract or a Statement of Work, and (viii) all Intellectual Property Rights in any of the foregoing, and which are or were created, prepared, developed, invented or conceived for the use or benefit of Customer in connection with this Contract or a Statement of Work, or with funds appropriated by or for Customer or Customer's benefit: (a) by any Vendor personnel or Customer personnel, or (b) any Customer personnel who then became personnel to Vendor or any of its affiliates or subcontractors, where, although creation or reduction-to-practice is completed while the person is affiliated with Vendor or its personnel, any portion of same was created, invented or conceived by such person while affiliated with Customer.

**2)** "Intellectual Property Rights" means the worldwide legal rights or interests evidenced by or embodied in: (i) any idea, design, concept, personality right, method, process, technique, apparatus, invention, discovery, or improvement, including any patents, trade secrets, and know-how; (ii) any work of authorship, including any copyrights, moral rights or neighboring rights; (iii) any trademark, service mark, trade dress, trade name, or other indicia of source or origin; (iv) domain name registrations; and (v) any other proprietary or similar rights. The Intellectual Property Rights of a

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party include all worldwide legal rights or interests that the party may have acquired by assignment or license with the right to grant sublicenses.

**3)** "Statement of Work" means a document signed by Customer and Vendor describing a specific set of activities and/or deliverables, which may include Work Product and Intellectual Property Rights, that Vendor is to provide Customer, issued pursuant to the Contract.

**4)** "Third Party IP" means the Intellectual Property Rights of any third party that is not a party to this Contract, and that is not directly or indirectly providing any goods or services to Customer under this Contract.

**5)** "Vendor IP" shall mean all tangible or intangible items or things, including the Intellectual Property Rights therein, created or developed by Vendor (a) prior to providing any Services or Work Product to Customer and prior to receiving any documents, materials, information or funding from or on behalf of Customer relating to the Services or Work Product, or (b) after the Effective Date of the Contract if such tangible or intangible items or things were independently developed by Vendor outside Vendor's provision of Services or Work Product for Customer hereunder and were not created, prepared, developed, invented or conceived by any Customer personnel who then became personnel to Vendor or any of its affiliates or subcontractors, where, although creation or reduction-to-practice is completed while the person is affiliated with Vendor or its personnel, any portion of same was created, invented or conceived by such person while affiliated with Customer.

**B. Ownership**

As between Vendor and Customer, the Work Product and Intellectual Property Rights therein are and shall be owned exclusively by Customer, and not Vendor. Vendor specifically agrees that the Work Product shall be considered "works made for hire" and that the Work Product shall, upon creation, be owned exclusively by Customer. To the extent that the Work Product, under applicable law, may not be considered works made for hire, Vendor hereby agrees that the Contract effectively transfers, grants, conveys, assigns, and relinquishes exclusively to Customer all right, title and interest in and to all ownership rights in the Work Product, and all Intellectual Property Rights in the Work Product, without the necessity of any further consideration, and Customer shall be entitled to obtain and hold in its own name all Intellectual Property Rights in and to the Work Product. Vendor acknowledges that Vendor and Customer do not intend Vendor to be a joint author of the Work Product within the meaning of the Copyright Act of 1976, as amended. Customer shall have access, during normal business hours (Monday through Friday, 8AM to 5PM) and upon reasonable prior notice to Vendor, to all Vendor materials, premises and computer files containing the Work Product. Vendor and Customer, as appropriate, will cooperate with one another and execute such other documents as may be reasonably appropriate to achieve the objectives herein. No license or other right is granted hereunder to any Third-Party IP, except as may be incorporated in the Work Product by Vendor.

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**C. Further Actions**

Vendor, upon request and without further consideration, shall perform any acts that may be deemed reasonably necessary or desirable by Customer to evidence more fully the transfer of ownership and/or registration of all Intellectual Property Rights in all Work Product to Customer to the fullest extent possible, including but not limited to the execution, acknowledgement and delivery of such further documents in a form determined by Customer. In the event Customer shall be unable to obtain Vendor's signature due to the dissolution of Vendor or Vendor's unreasonable failure to respond to Customer's repeated requests for such signature on any document reasonably necessary for any purpose set forth in the foregoing sentence, Vendor hereby irrevocably designates and appoints Customer and its duly authorized officers and agents as Vendor's agent and Vendor's attorney-in-fact to act for and in Vendor's behalf and stead to execute and file any such document and to do all other lawfully permitted acts to further any such purpose with the same force and effect as if executed and delivered by Vendor, provided however that no such grant of right to Customer is applicable if Vendor fails to execute any document due to a good faith dispute by Vendor with respect to such document. It is understood that such power is coupled with an interest and is therefore irrevocable. Customer shall have the full and sole power to prosecute such applications and to take all other action concerning the Work Product, and Vendor shall cooperate, at Customer's sole expense, in the preparation and prosecution of all such applications and in any legal actions and proceedings concerning the Work Product.

**D. Waiver of Moral Rights**

Vendor hereby irrevocably and forever waives, and agrees never to assert, any Moral Rights in or to the Work Product which Vendor may now have or which may accrue to Vendor's benefit under U.S. or foreign copyright or other laws and any and all other residual rights and benefits which arise under any other applicable law now in force or hereafter enacted. Vendor acknowledges the receipt of equitable compensation for its assignment and waiver of such Moral Rights. The term "Moral Rights" shall mean any and all rights of paternity or integrity of the Work Product and the right to object to any modification, translation or use of the Work Product, and any similar rights existing under the judicial or statutory law of any country in the world or under any treaty, regardless of whether or not such right is denominated or referred to as a moral right.

**E. Confidentiality**

All documents, information and materials forwarded to Vendor by Customer for use in and preparation of the Work Product shall be deemed the confidential information of Customer, and subject to the license granted by Customer to Vendor under sub-paragraph H. hereunder. Vendor shall not use, disclose, or permit any person to use or obtain the Work Product, or any portion thereof, in any manner without the prior written approval of Customer.

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**F. Injunctive Relief**

The Contract is intended to protect Customer's proprietary rights pertaining to the Work Product, and the Intellectual Property Rights therein, and any misuse of such rights would cause substantial and irreparable harm to Customer's business. Therefore, Vendor acknowledges and stipulates that a court of competent jurisdiction may immediately enjoin any material breach of the intellectual property, use, and confidentiality provisions of this Contract, upon a request by Customer, without requiring proof of irreparable injury as same should be presumed.

**G. Return of Materials Pertaining to Work Product**

Upon the request of Customer, but in any event upon termination or expiration of this Contract or a Statement of Work, Vendor shall surrender to Customer all documents and things pertaining to the Work Product, including but not limited to drafts, memoranda, notes, records, drawings, manuals, computer software, reports, data, and all other documents or materials (and copies of same) generated or developed by Vendor or furnished by Customer to Vendor, including all materials embodying the Work Product, any Customer confidential information, or Intellectual Property Rights in such Work Product, regardless of whether complete or incomplete. This section is intended to apply to all Work Product as well as to all documents and things furnished to Vendor by Customer or by anyone else that pertain to the Work Product.

**H. Vendor License to Use**

Customer hereby grants to Vendor a non-transferable, non-exclusive, royalty-free, fully paid-up license to use any Work Product solely as necessary to provide the Services to Customer. Except as provided in this Section, neither Vendor nor any Subcontractor shall have the right to use the Work Product in connection with the provision of services to its other customers without the prior written consent of Customer, which consent may be withheld in Customer's sole discretion.

**I. Third-Party Underlying and Derivative Works**

To the extent that any Vendor IP or Third Party IP are embodied or reflected in the Work Product, or are necessary to provide the Services, Vendor hereby grants to the Customer, or shall obtain from the applicable third party for Customer's benefit, the irrevocable, perpetual, non-exclusive, worldwide, royalty-free right and license, for Customer's internal business purposes only, to (i) use, execute, reproduce, display, perform, distribute copies of, and prepare derivative works based upon such Vendor IP or Third Party IP and any derivative works thereof embodied in or delivered to Customer in conjunction with the Work Product, and (ii) authorize others to do any or all of the foregoing. Vendor agrees to notify Customer on delivery of the Work Product or Services if such materials include any Third-Party IP. On request, Vendor shall provide Customer with documentation indicating a third party's written approval for Vendor to use any Third-Party IP that may be embodied or reflected in the Work Product.

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**J. Agreement with Subcontracts**

Vendor agrees that it shall have written agreement(s) that are consistent with the provisions hereof related to Work Product and Intellectual Property Rights with any employees, agents, consultants, contractors or subcontractors providing Services or Work Product pursuant to the Contract, prior to their providing such Services or Work Product, and that it shall maintain such written agreements at all times during performance of this Contract, which are sufficient to support all performance and grants of rights by Vendor. Copies of such agreements shall be provided to the Customer promptly upon request.

**K. License to Customer**

Vendor grants to Customer, a perpetual, irrevocable, royalty free license, solely for the Customer's internal business purposes, to use, copy, modify, display, perform (by any means), transmit and prepare derivative works of any Vendor IP embodied in or delivered to Customer in conjunction with the Work Product. The foregoing license includes the right to sublicense third parties, solely for the purpose of engaging such third parties to assist or carryout Customer's internal business use of the Work Product. Except for the preceding license, all rights in Vendor IP remain in Vendor.

**L. Vendor Development Rights**

To the extent not inconsistent with Customer's rights in the Work Product or as set forth herein, nothing in this Contract shall preclude Vendor from developing for itself, or for others, materials which are competitive with those produced as a result of the Services provided hereunder, provided that no Work Product is utilized, and no Intellectual Property Rights of Customer therein are infringed by such competitive materials. To the extent that Vendor wishes to use the Work Product, or acquire licensed rights in certain Intellectual Property Rights of Customer therein in order to offer competitive goods or services to third parties, Vendor and Customer agree to negotiate in good faith regarding an appropriate license and royalty agreement to allow for such.

## 5. Terms and Conditions Applicable to State Agency Purchases Only

**Note: NO EXCEPTIONS OR REVISIONS WILL BE CONSIDERED**

### A. Electronic and Information Resources Accessibility Standards, As Required by 1 TAC Chapters 206 and 213 (Applicable to State Agency and Institution of Higher Education Purchases Only)

**Note: NO EXCEPTIONS OR REVISIONS WILL BE CONSIDERED**

**1)** Effective September 1, 2006, state agencies and institutions of higher education shall procure products which comply with the State Accessibility requirements for Electronic and Information Resources specified in 1 TAC Chapters 206 and 213 when such products are available in the commercial marketplace or when such products are developed in response to a procurement solicitation.

**2)** Upon request, but not later than thirty (30) calendar days after request, Vendor shall provide DIR with a completed Voluntary Product Accessibility Template (VPAT) of

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the specified product or a URL to the VPAT for reviewing compliance with the State Accessibility requirements (based on the federal standards established under Section 508 of the Rehabilitation Act).

### B. Purchase of Commodity Items (Applicable to State Agency Purchases Only)

**Note: NO EXCEPTIONS OR REVISIONS WILL BE CONSIDERED**

**1)** Texas Government Code, §2157.068 requires State agencies to buy commodity items, as defined in 5.B.2, below, in accordance with contracts developed by DIR, unless the agency obtains an exemption from DIR or a written certification that a commodity is not on a DIR contract (for the limited purpose of purchasing from a local government purchasing cooperative).

**2)** Commodity items are commercially available software, hardware and technology services that are generally available to businesses or the public and for which DIR determines that a reasonable demand exists in two or more state agencies. Hardware is the physical technology used to process, manage, store, transmit, receive or deliver information. Software is the commercially available programs that operate hardware and includes all supporting documentation, media on which the software may be contained or stored, related materials, modifications, versions, upgrades, enhancements, updates or replacements. Technology services are the services, functions and activities that facilitate the design, implementation, creation, or use of software or hardware. Technology services include seat management, staffing augmentation, training, maintenance and subscription services. Technology services do not include telecommunications services. Seat management is services through which a state agency transfers its responsibilities to a vendor to manage its personal computing needs, including all necessary hardware, software and technology services.

**3)** Commodity products required for services offered through this contract may not be purchased through this contract. Services offered through this contract may include the use of Vendor-owned equipment, but any customer-owned equipment required for the services may be purchased through one of DIR's commodity contracts.

**4)** Vendor agrees to coordinate all State agency commodity item sales through existing DIR contracts. Institutions of higher education are exempt from this Subsection 5.B.

## 6. Contract Fulfillment and Promotion

### A. Service, Sales and Support of the Contract

Vendor shall provide service, sales and support resources to serve all Customers throughout the State. It is the responsibility of the Vendor to sell, market, and promote services available under the Contract. Vendor shall use its best efforts to ensure that potential Customers are made aware of the existence of the Contract. All sales to Customers for services available under the Contract shall be processed through the Contract.

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## B. Internet Access to Contract and Pricing Information

### 1) Vendor Webpage

Within thirty (30) calendar days of the effective date of the Contract, Vendor will establish and maintain a webpage specific to the services awarded under the Contract that are clearly distinguishable from other, non-DIR Contract offerings on the Vendor's website. The webpage must include:

a) the DIR logo in accordance with the requirements of this Section;

b) the DIR Contract number with a hyperlink to the Contract's DIR webpage;

c) the services awarded;

d) description of service awarded;

e) contact information (name, telephone number and email address) for Vendor;

f) instructions for obtaining quotes and placing Purchase Orders;

g) warranty policies;

h) return policies; and

i) a link to the DIR Telecom Contracts Landing page.

If Vendor does not meet the webpage requirements listed above, DIR may cancel the contract without penalty.

### 2) Accurate and Timely Contract Information

Vendor warrants and represents that the website information specified in the above paragraph will be accurately and completely posted, maintained and displayed in an objective and timely manner. Vendor, at its own expense, shall correct any non-conforming or inaccurate information posted at Vendor's website within ten (10) business days after written notification by DIR.

### 3) Webpage Compliance Checks

Periodic compliance checks of the information posted for the Contract on Vendor's webpage will be conducted by DIR. Upon request by DIR, Vendor shall provide verifiable documentation that pricing listed upon this webpage is compliant with the pricing as stated in the Contract.

### 4) Webpage Changes

Vendor hereby consents to a link from the DIR website to Vendor's webpage in order to facilitate access to Contract information. The establishment of the link is provided solely for convenience in carrying out the business operations of the State. DIR reserves the right to suspend, terminate or remove a link at any time, in its sole discretion, without advance notice, or to deny a future request for a link. DIR will provide Vendor with subsequent notice of link suspension, termination or removal. Vendor shall provide DIR with timely written notice of any change in URL or other information needed to access the site and/or maintain the link.

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**5) Use of Access Data Prohibited**

If Vendor stores, collects or maintains data electronically as a condition of accessing Contract information, such data shall only be used internally by Vendor for the purpose of implementing or marketing the Contract, and shall not be disseminated to third parties or used for other marketing purposes. The Contract constitutes a public document under the laws of the State and Vendor shall not restrict access to Contract terms and conditions including pricing, i.e., through use of restrictive technology or passwords.

**6) Responsibility for Content**

Vendor is solely responsible for administration, content, intellectual property rights, and all materials at Vendor's website. DIR reserves the right to require a change of listed content if, in the opinion of DIR, it does not adequately represent the Contract.

## C. Services Warranty and Return Policies

Vendor will adhere to the Vendor's then-currently published policies concerning services warranties and returns. Such policies for Customers will not be more restrictive or more costly than warranty and return policies for other similarly situated Customers for like services.

## D. DIR Logo

Vendor may use the DIR logo in the promotion of the Contract to Customers with the following stipulations: (i) the logo may not be modified in any way, (ii) when displayed, the size of the DIR logo must be equal to or smaller than the Vendor logo, (iii) the DIR logo is only used to communicate the availability of services under the Contract to Customers, and (iv) any other use of the DIR logo requires prior written permission from DIR.

## E. Vendor Logo

If DIR receives Vendor's prior written approval, DIR may use the Vendor's name and logo in the promotion of the Contract to communicate the availability of services under the Contract to Customers. Use of the logos may be on the DIR website or on printed materials. Any use of Vendor's logo by DIR must comply with and be solely related to the purposes of the Contract and any usage guidelines communicated to DIR from time to time. Nothing contained in the Contract will give DIR any right, title, or interest in or to Vendor's trademarks or the goodwill associated therewith, except for the limited usage rights expressly provided by Vendor.

## F. Trade Show Participation

At DIR's discretion, Vendor may be required to participate in no more than two DIR sponsored trade shows each calendar year. Vendor understands and agrees that participation, at the Vendor's expense, includes providing a manned booth display or similar presence. DIR will provide four months advance notice of any required participation. Vendor must display the DIR logo at all trade shows that potential Customers will attend. DIR reserves the right to approve or disapprove of the location or the use of the DIR logo in or on the Vendor's booth.

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### G. Orientation Meeting

Within thirty (30) calendar days from execution of the Contract, Vendor will be required to attend an orientation meeting to discuss the content and procedures of the Contract to include reporting requirements. DIR, at its discretion, may waive the orientation requirement for Vendors who have previously held DIR contracts. The meeting will be held in the Austin, Texas area at a date and time mutually acceptable to DIR and the Vendor or by teleconference, at DIR's discretion. DIR shall bear no cost for the time and travel of the Vendor for attendance at the meeting.

### H. Performance Review Meetings

DIR may require the Vendor to attend periodic meetings to review the Vendor's performance under the Contract, at DIR's discretion. The meetings may be held within the Austin, Texas area at a date and time mutually acceptable to DIR and the Vendor or by teleconference. DIR shall bear no cost for the time and travel of the Vendor for attendance at the meeting.

### I. DIR Cost Avoidance

As part of the performance measures reported to state leadership, DIR must provide the cost avoidance the State has achieved through the Contract. Upon request by DIR, Vendor shall provide DIR with a detailed report of a representative sample of service sold under the Contract. The report shall contain: service description, list price, price to Customer under the Contract.

## 7. Pricing, Purchase Orders, Invoices, and Payments

**Note: NO EXCEPTIONS OR REVISIONS WILL BE CONSIDERED FOR A.1), B-C, E, F.1), F.3), G**

### A. Customer Price

**Note: NO EXCEPTIONS OR REVISIONS WILL BE CONSIDERED FOR SECTION A.1)**

**1)** The price to the Customer shall be calculated as follows:

**Customer Price = (Price as set forth in Appendix C, Statement of Work) x (1 + DIR Administrative Fee, as set forth in the Contract).**

**2)** Customers purchasing services under this Contract may negotiate more advantageous pricing or participate in special promotional offers. In such event, a copy of such better offerings shall be furnished to DIR upon request.

**3)** If pricing for services available under this Contract is provided by the Vendor at a lower price to: (i) an eligible Customer who is not purchasing those services under this Contract or (ii) to any other customer under the same terms and conditions provided for the State for the same commodities and services under this contract, then the available Customer Price in this Contract shall be adjusted to that lower price. This requirement applies to services quoted by Vendor or its resellers for a quantity of one (1) under like terms and conditions, and does not apply to volume or special pricing purchases. Vendor shall notify DIR within ten (10) days and this Contract shall be amended days to reflect the lower price.

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## B. Tax-Exempt

**Note: NO EXCEPTIONS OR REVISIONS WILL BE CONSIDERED**

As per Section 151.309, Texas Tax Code, Customers under this Contract are exempt from the assessment of State sales, use and excise taxes. Further, Customers under this Contract are exempt from Federal Excise Taxes, 26 United States Code Sections 4253(i) and (j). Customers shall provide evidence of tax-exempt status to Vendor upon request.

## C. Travel Expense Reimbursement

**Note: NO EXCEPTIONS OR REVISIONS WILL BE CONSIDERED**

Pricing for services provided under this Contract are exclusive of any travel expenses that may be incurred in the performance of those services. Travel expense reimbursement may include personal vehicle mileage or commercial coach transportation, hotel accommodations, parking and meals; provided, however, the amount of reimbursement by Customers shall not exceed the amounts authorized for state employees as adopted by each Customer; and provided, further, that all reimbursement rates shall not exceed the maximum rates established for state employees under the current State Travel Management Program (https://comptroller.texas.gov/purchasing/programs/travel-management). Travel time may not be included as part of the amounts payable by Customer for any services rendered under this Contract. The DIR administrative fee specified in the contract is not applicable to travel expense reimbursement. Anticipated travel expenses must be pre-approved in writing by Customer. Customer reserves the right not to pay travel expenses which are not pre-approved in writing by the Customer.

## D. Changes to Prices

Subject to the requirements of this section, Vendor may request to change the price of any service at any time.

The parties agree to use the Electronic Administrative Update (EAU) Process to submit, review, approve and implement administrative changes to Appendix C Pricing. Administrative updates may include, but are not limited to price decreases, format corrections, or the addition of new services that were not available at the time of submission to the RFO and that are within the original scope of the RFO. Appendix C Pricing changes shall be provided to Customers via the Vendor's webpage and the DIR Contract web page.

## E. Purchase Orders

**Note: NO EXCEPTIONS OR REVISIONS WILL BE CONSIDERED**

All Customer Purchase Orders will be placed directly with the Vendor. Accurate Purchase Orders shall be effective and binding upon Vendor when accepted by Vendor. Customer and Vendor may work together to include specific requirements as to what constitutes a valid Purchase Order.

Vendors will be required to comply with the disclosure requirements of Section 2252.908, Texas Government Code, as enacted by House Bill 1295, 84th Regular Session, when execution of a contract requires an action or vote by the governing body of a governmental entity before the contract may be signed.

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## F. Invoices

**Note: NO EXCEPTIONS OR REVISIONS WILL BE CONSIDERED FOR F.1)**

**1)** Invoices shall be submitted by the Vendor directly to the Customer and shall be issued in compliance with Chapter 2251, Texas Government Code. All payments for services purchased under the Contract and any provision of acceptance of such services shall be made by the Customer to the Vendor. For Customers that are not subject to Chapter 2251, Texas Government Code, Customer and Vendor will agree to acceptable terms.

**2)** Invoices must be submitted timely, within a single billing cycle, and must be accurate. Each invoice must match Customer's Purchase Order and include any written changes that may apply, as it relates to services, prices and quantities. Invoices must include the Customer's Purchase Order number or other pertinent information for verification of receipt of the services by the Customer.

**Note: NO EXCEPTIONS OR REVISIONS WILL BE CONSIDERED FOR F.3)**

**3)** The administrative fee specified in the contract shall not be broken out as a separate line item when pricing or invoice is provided to Customer.

## G. Payments

**Note: NO EXCEPTIONS OR REVISIONS WILL BE CONSIDERED**

Customers shall comply with Chapter 2251, Texas Government Code, in making payments to Vendor. The statute states that payments for goods and services are due thirty (30) calendar days after the goods are provided, the services completed, or a correct invoice is received, whichever is later. Payment under the Contract shall not foreclose the right to recover wrongful payments. For Customers that are not subject to Chapter 2251, Texas Government Code, Customer and Vendor will agree to acceptable terms.

## H. Telecommunication Fees and Surcharges and Taxes

**1)** Any FCC, PUC or other authorized telecommunications taxes, fees and surcharges applicable to any Service may only be imposed if the Vendor listed them in Bid Package 2 upon submission of Offer. Vendor acknowledges that certain Customers that are political subdivisions of the State, are exempt from the imposition and collection of certain State telecommunications fees, including the Texas Universal Service Fund Charge and the Texas Infrastructure Fund assessment. In addition, State agency Customers have additional exemptions from State telecommunications fees, including the 9-1-1 emergency service fee, 9-1-1 equalization surcharge, poison control surcharge, and late charges imposed under Section 55.010, Texas Utilities Code. Vendor agrees to not bill for any items which are not mandated by the FCC, PUC or other proper authority and which are otherwise not applicable to the Services and for which Vendor has requested and received valid exemption certificates from Customers. Vendor agrees to promptly, within a single billing cycle, correct any incorrect billings of telecommunications fees and surcharges that occur. Vendor acknowledges that DIR makes no representations about the exemption status of any Customers that are assistance organizations, as defined in Section 2175.001, Texas Government Code or certain private institutions of higher education under Section

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2170.004 (5), Texas Government Code. Vendor must request and receive any exemption certificates that may apply from each such organization directly.

**2)** During the Term, all changes in the law or fee structures, which creates or authorizes Vendor to impose an unlisted telecommunications fee and surcharge on the Services, which Vendor desires to impose and for which DIR Customers do not have an exemption, shall require an amendment in order to be effective against the State, DIR and Customers. In the event of a change in the law or telecommunications fees and surcharges structures, which results in an exemption from payment in favor of the State, DIR and/or Customers, Vendor shall give effect to the exemption without the necessity of an amendment hereto.

**3)** Vendor acknowledges that certain Government Entity Customers are exempt from state sales, use and excise taxes, Section 151.309, Texas Tax Code, and Federal Excise Tax, 26 USC Sections 4253 (i) and (j). Vendor further acknowledges that State agency Customers are exempt from the assessment and collection of sales taxes imposed by political subdivisions of the State. See Sections 321.208 (municipalities) and 323.207 (counties), Texas Tax Code. The Government Entity Customers shall issue a tax exemption certificate upon request to Vendor. Vendor acknowledges that DIR makes no representation about the exemption status of any Customers that are assistance organizations, as defined in Section 2175.001, Texas Government Code or certain private institutions of higher education under Section 2170.004 (5), Texas Government Code. Vendor must request and receive any exemption certificates that may apply from each such organization directly.

### I. DIR Administrative Fee

The DIR Administrative Fee (AF) is authorized by Chapter 2170, Texas Government Code, and DIR has the discretion to set the rate of the AF to recover its costs in accordance with the statute. The initial rate for the AF is set forth in Section 5 of the Contract. The DIR AF specified in Section 5 of the Contract shall not be broken out as a separate line item when pricing or invoice is provided to Customer. Monthly reporting and submittal requirements for AF are described in Section 8.B.4), below.

## 8. Contract Administration

**Note: NO EXCEPTIONS OR REVISIONS WILL BE CONSIDERED FOR A, C.1, D**

### A. Contract Managers

**Note: NO EXCEPTIONS OR REVISIONS WILL BE CONSIDERED**

DIR and the Vendor will each provide a Contract Manager to support the Contract. Information regarding the Contract Managers will be posted on the Internet website designated for the Contract.

#### 1) State Contract Manager

DIR shall provide a Contract Manager whose duties shall include but not be limited to: (i) advising DIR and Vendor of Vendor's performance under the terms and conditions of the Contract, and (ii) periodic verification of pricing and, (iii) verification of monthly

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reports submitted by Vendor.

**2) Vendor Contract Manager**
Vendor shall identify a specific Contract Manager whose duties shall include but not be limited to: (i) supporting the marketing and management of the Contract, (ii) facilitating dispute resolution between Vendor and a Customer, and (iii) advising DIR of Vendor's performance under the terms and conditions of the Contract. DIR reserves the right to require a change in Vendor's then-current Contract Manager if the assigned Contract Manager is not, in the reasonable opinion of DIR, adequately serving the needs of the State.

## B. Reporting and Administrative Fees

**1) Reporting Responsibility**

**a)** Vendor shall be responsible for reporting all services purchased under the Contract. Vendor shall file the monthly reports, subcontract reports, and pay the administrative fees in accordance with the due dates specified in this section.

**b)** DIR shall have the right to verify required reports and to take any actions necessary to enforce its rights under this section, including but not limited to compliance checks of Vendor's applicable Contract. Vendor will provide all required documentation at no cost.

**2) Detailed Monthly Report**
Vendor shall electronically provide DIR with a detailed monthly report in the format required by DIR showing the dollar volume of any and all sales under the Contract for the previous calendar month period. Reports are due on the fifteenth ($15^{th}$) calendar day of the month following the month of the sale. If the $15^{th}$ calendar day falls on a weekend or state or federal holiday, the report shall be due on the next business day. The monthly report shall include, per transaction: the detailed sales for the period, Customer name, invoice date, invoice number, description, quantity, unit price, extended price, Customer Purchase Order number, contact name, Customer's complete billing address, the estimated administrative fee for the reporting period, subcontractor name, Electronic Product Environmental Assessment Tool (EPEAT) designation (if applicable), configuration (if applicable), contract discount percentage, contract price , and other information as required by DIR. Each report must contain all information listed above per transaction or the report will be rejected and returned to the Vendor for correction in accordance with this section. Vendor shall report in a manner required by DIR which is subject to change dependent upon DIR's business needs. Failure to do so may result in contract termination.

**3) Historically Underutilized Businesses Subcontract Reports**

**a)** Vendor shall electronically provide each Customer with Vendor's relevant Historically Underutilized Business Subcontracting Report, pursuant to the Contract, as required by Chapter 2161, Texas Government Code. Reports shall also be submitted to DIR.

**b)** Reports shall be due in accordance with the CPA rules.

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**4) DIR Administrative Fee**

**a)** The Vendor shall pay an administrative fee to DIR to defray the DIR costs of negotiating, executing, and administering the Contract. The maximum administrative fee is set by the Texas Legislature in the biennial General Appropriations Act. DIR will review Vendor monthly sales reports, close the sales period, and notify the Vendor of the administrative fee no later than the fourteenth (14th) day of the second month following the date of the reported sale. Vendor shall pay the administrative fee by the twenty-fifth (25th) calendar day of the second month following the date of the reported sale. For example, Vendor reports January sales by February 15th; DIR closes January sales and notifies Vendor of administrative fee by March 14th; Vendor submits administrative fee for January sales by March 25th.

**b)** DIR may change the amount of the administrative fee upon thirty (30) calendar days written notice to Vendor without the need for a formal contract amendment.

**c)** Vendor shall reference the DIR Contract number, reporting period, and administrative fee amount on any remittance instruments.

**5) Accurate and Timely Submission of Reports**

**a)** The reports and administrative fees shall be accurate and timely and submitted in accordance with the due dates specified in this section. Vendor shall correct any inaccurate reports or administrative fee payments within three (3) business days upon written notification by DIR. Vendor shall deliver any late reports or late administrative fee payments within three (3) business days upon written notification by DIR. If Vendor is unable to correct inaccurate reports or administrative fee payments or deliver late reports and fee payments within three (3) business days, Vendor must contact DIR and provide a corrective plan of action, including the timeline for completion of correction. The corrective plan of action shall be subject to DIR approval.

**b)** Should Vendor fail to correct inaccurate reports or cure the delay in timely delivery of reports and payments within the corrective plan of action timeline, DIR reserves the right to require an independent third -party audit of the Vendor's records as specified in C.3 of this Section, at Vendor's expense. DIR will select the auditor (and all payments to auditor will require DIR approval).

**c)** Failure to timely submit three (3) reports or administrative fee payments within any rolling twelve (12) month period may, at DIR's discretion, result in the addition of late fees of $100/day for each day the report or payment is due (up to $1000/month) or suspension or termination of Vendor's Contract.

## C. Records and Audit

**Note: NO EXCEPTIONS OR REVISIONS WILL BE CONSIDERED IN SUBPARAGRAPH C.1.**

**1)** Acceptance of funds under the Contract by Vendor acts as acceptance of the authority of the State Auditor's Office, or any successor agency or designee, to conduct an audit or investigation in connection with those funds. Vendor further agrees to cooperate fully with the State Auditor's Office or its successor or designee in the conduct of the audit or investigation, including providing all records requested. Vendor

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will ensure that this clause concerning the authority to audit funds received indirectly by subcontractors through Vendor and the requirement to cooperate is included in any subcontract it awards pertaining to the Contract. Under the direction of the Legislative Audit Committee, a Vendor that is the subject of an audit or investigation by the State Auditor's Office must provide the State Auditor's Office with access to any information the State Auditor's Office considers relevant to the investigation or audit.

**2)** Vendor shall maintain adequate records to establish compliance with the Contract until the later of a period of seven (7) years after termination of the Contract or until full, final and unappealable resolution of all Compliance Check or litigation issues that arise under the Contract. Such records shall include per transaction: Customer name, invoice date, invoice number, description, quantity, List Price, unit price, extended price, Customer Purchase Order number, contact name, Customer's complete billing address, the calculations supporting each administrative fee owed DIR under the Contract, Historically Underutilized Businesses Subcontracting reports, and such other documentation as DIR may request.

**3)** Vendor shall grant access to all paper and electronic records, books, documents, accounting procedures, practices, customer records including but not limited to contracts, agreements, purchase orders and statements of work, and any other items relevant to the performance of the Contract to the DIR Internal Audit department or DIR Contract Management staff, including the compliance checks designated by the DIR Internal Audit department, DIR Contract Management staff, the State Auditor's Office, and of the United States, and such other persons or entities designated by DIR for the purposes of inspecting, Compliance Checking and/or copying such books and records. Vendor shall provide copies and printouts requested by DIR without charge. DIR shall provide Vendor ten (10) business days' notice prior to inspecting, Compliance Checking, and/or copying Vendor's records. Vendor's records, whether paper or electronic, shall be made available during regular office hours. Vendor personnel familiar with the books and records shall be available to the DIR Internal Audit department, or DIR Contract Management staff and designees as needed. Vendor shall provide adequate office space to DIR staff during the performance of Compliance Check. If Vendor is found to be responsible for inaccurate reports, DIR may invoice for the reasonable costs of the audit, which Vendor must pay within thirty (30) calendar days of receipt.

**4)** For procuring State Agencies whose payments are processed by the Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts, the volume of payments made to Vendor through the Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts and the administrative fee based thereon shall be presumed correct unless Vendor can demonstrate to DIR's satisfaction that Vendor's calculation of DIR's administrative fee is correct.

## D. Contract Administration Notification

**Note: NO EXCEPTIONS OR REVISIONS WILL BE CONSIDERED**

**1)** Prior to execution of the Contract, Vendor shall provide DIR with written notification of the following: (i) Vendor Contract Administrator name and contact information, ii) Vendor sales representative name and contact information, and (iii) name and contact information of Vendor personnel responsible for submitting reports

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and payment of administrative fees.

**Note: NO EXCEPTIONS OR REVISIONS WILL BE CONSIDERED**

**2)** Upon execution of the Contract, DIR shall provide Vendor with written notification of the following: (i) DIR Contract Administrator name and contact information, and (ii) DIR Cooperative Contracts E-Mail Box information.

## 9. Vendor Responsibilities

**Note: NO EXCEPTIONS OR REVISIONS WILL BE CONSIDERED IN C-M, O-S, V-W.**

### A. Indemnification

**1) INDEPENDENT CONTRACTOR**

VENDOR AGREES AND ACKNOWLEDGES THAT DURING THE EXISTENCE OF THIS CONTRACT, IT IS FURNISHING SERVICES IN THE CAPACITY OF AN INDEPENDENT CONTRACTOR AND THAT VENDOR IS NOT AN EMPLOYEE OF THE CUSTOMER OR THE STATE OF TEXAS.

**2) Acts or Omissions**

Vendor shall indemnify and hold harmless the State of Texas and Customers, AND/OR THEIR OFFICERS, AGENTS, EMPLOYEES, REPRESENTATIVES, CONTRACTORS, ASSIGNEES, AND/OR DESIGNEES FROM ANY AND ALL LIABILITY, ACTIONS, CLAIMS, DEMANDS, OR SUITS, AND ALL RELATED COSTS, ATTORNEY FEES, AND EXPENSES arising out of, or resulting from any acts or omissions of the Vendor or its agents, employees, subcontractors, or suppliers of subcontractors in the execution or performance of the Contract and any Purchase Orders issued under the Contract. THE DEFENSE SHALL BE COORDINATED BY VENDOR WITH THE OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL WHEN TEXAS STATE AGENCIES ARE NAMED DEFENDANTS IN ANY LAWSUIT AND VENDOR MAY NOT AGREE TO ANY SETTLEMENT WITHOUT FIRST OBTAINING THE CONCURRENCE FROM THE OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL. VENDOR AND THE CUSTOMER AGREE TO FURNISH TIMELY WRITTEN NOTICE TO EACH OTHER OF ANY SUCH CLAIM.

**3) Infringements**

**a)** Vendor shall indemnify and hold harmless the State of Texas and Customers, AND/OR THEIR EMPLOYEES, AGENTS, REPRESENTATIVES, CONTRACTORS, ASSIGNEES, AND/OR DESIGNEES from any and all third-party claims involving infringement of United States patents, copyrights, trade and service marks, and any other intellectual or intangible property rights in connection with the PERFORMANCES OR ACTIONS OF VENDOR PURSUANT TO THIS CONTRACT. VENDOR AND THE CUSTOMER AGREE TO FURNISH TIMELY WRITTEN NOTICE TO EACH OTHER OF ANY SUCH CLAIM. VENDOR SHALL BE LIABLE TO PAY ALL COSTS OF DEFENSE INCLUDING ATTORNEYS' FEES. THE DEFENSE SHALL BE COORDINATED BY VENDOR WITH THE OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL WHEN TEXAS STATE AGENCIES ARE NAMED DEFENDANTS IN ANY LAWSUIT AND VENDOR MAY NOT AGREE TO ANY

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SETTLEMENT WITHOUT FIRST OBTAINING THE CONCURRENCE FROM THE OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL.

**b)** Vendor shall have no liability under this section if the alleged infringement is caused in whole or in part by: (i) use of the service for a purpose or in a manner for which the service was not designed, (ii) any modification made to the service without Vendor's written approval, (iii) any modifications made to the service by the Vendor pursuant to Customer's specific instructions, (iv) any intellectual property right owned by or licensed to Customer, or (v) any use of the service by Customer that is not in conformity with the terms of any applicable license agreement.

**c)** If Vendor becomes aware of an actual or potential claim, or Customer provides Vendor with notice of an actual or potential claim, Vendor may (or in the case of an injunction against Customer, shall), at Vendor's sole option and expense: (i) procure for the Customer the right to continue to use the affected portion of the service, or (ii) modify or replace the affected portion of the service with functionally equivalent or superior service so that Customer's use is non-infringing.

**4) PROPERTY DAMAGE**

IN THE EVENT OF LOSS, DAMAGE, OR DESTRUCTION OF ANY PROPERTY OF CUSTOMER OR THE STATE DUE TO THE NEGLIGENCE, MISCONDUCT, WRONGFUL ACT OR OMISSION ON THE PART OF THE VENDOR, ITS EMPLOYEES, AGENTS, REPRESENTATIVES, OR SUBCONTRACTORS, THE VENDOR SHALL PAY THE FULL COST OF EITHER REPAIR, RECONSTRUCTION, OR REPLACEMENT OF THE PROPERTY, AT THE CUSTOMER'S SOLE ELECTION. SUCH COST SHALL BE DETERMINED BY THE CUSTOMER AND SHALL BE DUE AND PAYABLE BY THE VENDOR NINETY (90) CALENDAR DAYS AFTER THE DATE OF THE VENDORS RECEIPT FROM THE CUSTOMER OF A WRITTEN NOTICE OF THE AMOUNT DUE.

**B. Taxes/Worker's Compensation/UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE**

**1)** VENDOR AGREES AND ACKNOWLEDGES THAT DURING THE EXISTENCE OF THIS CONTRACT, VENDOR SHALL BE ENTIRELY RESPONSIBLE FOR THE LIABILITY AND PAYMENT OF VENDOR'S AND VENDOR'S EMPLOYEES' TAXES OF WHATEVER KIND, ARISING OUT OF THE PERFORMANCES IN THIS CONTRACT. VENDOR AGREES TO COMPLY WITH ALL STATE AND FEDERAL LAWS APPLICABLE TO ANY SUCH PERSONS, INCLUDING LAWS REGARDING WAGES, TAXES, INSURANCE, AND WORKERS' COMPENSATION. THE CUSTOMER AND/OR THE STATE SHALL NOT BE LIABLE TO THE VENDOR, ITS EMPLOYEES, AGENTS, OR OTHERS FOR THE PAYMENT OF TAXES OR THE PROVISION OF UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE AND/OR WORKERS' COMPENSATION OR ANY BENEFIT AVAILABLE TO A STATE EMPLOYEE OR EMPLOYEE OF ANOTHER GOVERNMENTAL ENTITY CUSTOMER.

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**2)** VENDOR AGREES TO INDEMNIFY AND HOLD HARMLESS CUSTOMERS, THE STATE OF TEXAS AND/OR THEIR EMPLOYEES, AGENTS, REPRESENTATIVES, CONTRACTORS, AND/OR ASSIGNEES FROM ANY AND ALL LIABILITY, ACTIONS, CLAIMS, DEMANDS, OR SUITS, AND ALL RELATED COSTS, ATTORNEYS' FEES, AND EXPENSES, RELATING TO TAX LIABILITY, UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE AND/OR WORKERS' COMPENSATION IN ITS PERFORMANCE UNDER THIS CONTRACT. VENDOR SHALL BE LIABLE TO PAY ALL COSTS OF DEFENSE INCLUDING ATTORNEYS' FEES. THE DEFENSE SHALL BE COORDINATED BY VENDOR WITH THE OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL WHEN TEXAS STATE AGENCIES ARE NAMED DEFENDANTS IN ANY LAWSUIT AND VENDOR MAY NOT AGREE TO ANY SETTLEMENT WITHOUT FIRST OBTAINING THE CONCURRENCE FROM THE OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL. VENDOR AND THE CUSTOMER AGREE TO FURNISH TIMELY WRITTEN NOTICE TO EACH OTHER OF ANY SUCH CLAIM.

## C. Vendor Certifications

**Note: NO EXCEPTIONS OR REVISIONS WILL BE CONSIDERED**

Vendor certifies that they:

i. have not given, offered to give, and do not intend to give at any time hereafter any economic opportunity, future employment, gift, loan, gratuity, special discount, trip, favor, or service to a public servant in connection with the Contract;

ii. are not currently delinquent in the payment of any franchise tax owed the State and are not ineligible to receive payment under §231.006 of the Texas Family Code and acknowledge the Contract may be terminated and payment withheld if this certification is inaccurate;

iii. neither they, nor anyone acting for them, have violated the antitrust laws of the United States or the State, nor communicated directly or indirectly to any competitor or any other person engaged in such line of business for the purpose of obtaining an unfair price advantage;

iv. have not received payment from DIR or any of its employees for participating in the preparation of the Contract;

v. under Section 2155.004, Texas Government Code, the vendor certifies that the individual or business entity named in this bid or contract is not ineligible to receive the specified contract and acknowledges that this contract may be terminated and payment withheld if this certification is inaccurate;

vi. to the best of their knowledge and belief, there are no suits or proceedings pending or threatened against or affecting them, which if determined adversely to them will have a material adverse effect on the ability to fulfill their obligations under the Contract;

vii. Vendor and its principals are not suspended or debarred from doing business

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with the federal government as listed in the *System for Award Management (SAM)* maintained by the General Services Administration;

viii. as of the effective date of the Contract, are not listed in the prohibited vendors list authorized by Executive Order #13224, *"Blocking Property and Prohibiting Transactions with Persons Who Commit, Threaten to Commit, or Support Terrorism"*, published by the United States Department of the Treasury, Office of Foreign Assets Control;

ix. Vendor represents and warrants that, for its performance of this contract, it shall purchase services and materials produced in the State of Texas when available at the price and time comparable to services and materials produced outside the state, to the extent that such is required under Texas Government Code, Section 2155.4441;

x. agrees that all equipment and materials used in fulfilling the requirements of this contract are of high-quality and consistent with or better than applicable industry standards, if any. All Works and Services performed pursuant to this Contract shall be of high professional quality and workmanship and according consistent with or better than applicable industry standards, if any;

xi. agree that any payments due under this contract will be applied towards any debt, including but not limited to delinquent taxes and child support that is owed to the State of Texas;

xii. are in compliance Section 669.003, Texas Government Code, relating to contracting with executive head of a state agency;

xiii. represent and warrant that the provision of goods and services or other performance under the Contract will not constitute an actual or potential conflict of interest and certify that they will not reasonably create the appearance of impropriety, and, if these facts change during the course of the Contract, certify they shall disclose the actual or potential conflict of interest and any circumstances that create the appearance of impropriety;

xiv. under Section 2155.006 and Section 2261.053, Texas Government Code, are not ineligible to receive the specified contract and acknowledges that this contract may be terminated and payment withheld if this certification is inaccurate;

xv. have complied with the Section 556.0055, Texas Government Code, restriction on lobbying expenditures. In addition, Vendor acknowledges the applicability of §2155.444 and §2155.4441, Texas Government Code, in fulfilling the terms of the Contract; and

xvi. represent and warrant that the Customer's payment and their receipt of appropriated or other funds under this Agreement are not prohibited by Sections 556.005 or Section 556.008, Texas Government Code; and

xvii. represent and warrant that in accordance with Section 2270.002 of the Texas Government Code, by signature hereon, Vendor does not boycott Israel and

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will not boycott Israel during the term of this Contract.

xviii. During the term of the Contract, Vendor shall, for itself and on behalf of its resellers or subcontractors, promptly disclose to DIR all changes that occur to the foregoing certifications, representations and warranties. Vendor covenants to fully cooperate in the development and execution of resulting documentation necessary to maintain an accurate record of the certifications, representations and warranties.

xix. In addition, Vendor understands and agrees that if Vendor responds to certain Customer pricing requests or Statements of Work, then, in order to contract with the Customer, Vendor may be required to comply with additional terms and conditions or certifications that an individual customer may require due to state and federal law (e.g., privacy and security requirements).

## D. Ability to Conduct Business in Texas

**Note: NO EXCEPTIONS OR REVISIONS WILL BE CONSIDERED**

Vendor shall be authorized and validly existing under the laws of its state of organization, and shall be authorized to do business in the State of Texas in accordance with Texas Business Organizations Code, Title 1, Chapter 9.

## E. Equal Opportunity Compliance

**Note: NO EXCEPTIONS OR REVISIONS WILL BE CONSIDERED**

Vendor agrees to abide by all applicable laws, regulations, and executive orders pertaining to equal employment opportunity, including federal laws and the laws of the State in which its primary place of business is located. In accordance with such laws, regulations, and executive orders, the Vendor agrees that no person in the United States shall, on the grounds of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, age, veteran status or handicap, be excluded from employment with or participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be otherwise subjected to discrimination under any program or activity performed by Vendor under the Contract. If Vendor is found to be not in compliance with these requirements during the term of the Contract, Vendor agrees to take appropriate steps to correct these deficiencies. Upon request, Vendor will furnish information regarding its nondiscriminatory hiring and promotion policies, as well as specific information on the composition of its principals and staff, including the identification of minorities and women in management or other positions with discretionary or decision-making authority.

## F. Use of Subcontractors

**Note: NO EXCEPTIONS OR REVISIONS WILL BE CONSIDERED**

If Vendor uses any subcontractors in the performance of this Contract, Vendor must make a good faith effort in the submission of its Subcontracting Plan in accordance with the State's Policy on Utilization of Historically Underutilized Businesses (HUB). A revised Subcontracting Plan approved by DIR's HUB Office shall be required before Vendor can engage additional subcontractors in the performance of this Contract. A revised Subcontracting Plan approved by DIR's HUB Office shall be required before Vendor can remove subcontractors currently engaged in the performance of this Contract. Vendor shall remain solely responsible for the performance of its obligations

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under the Contract.

## G. Responsibility for Actions

**Note: NO EXCEPTIONS OR REVISIONS WILL BE CONSIDERED**

**1)** Vendor is solely responsible for its actions and those of its agents, employees, or subcontractors, and agrees that neither Vendor nor any of the foregoing has any authority to act or speak on behalf of DIR or the State.

**2)** Vendor, for itself and on behalf of its subcontractors, shall report to DIR promptly when the disclosures under the Certification Statement of Exhibit A to the RFO and/or Section 9.C., Vendor Certifications, of this Appendix A to the Contract change. Vendor covenants to fully cooperate with DIR to update and amend the Contract to accurately disclose the status of conflicts of interest.

## H. Confidentiality

**Note: NO EXCEPTIONS OR REVISIONS WILL BE CONSIDERED**

**1)** Vendor acknowledges that DIR and Customers that are governmental bodies as defined by Texas Government Code, Section 552.003 are subject to the Texas Public Information Act. Vendor also acknowledges that DIR and Customers that are state agencies will comply with the Public Information Act, and with all opinions of the Texas Attorney General's office concerning this Act.

**2)** Under the terms of the Contract, DIR may provide Vendor with information related to Customers. Vendor shall not re-sell or otherwise distribute or release Customer information to any party in any manner.

## I. Security of Premises, Equipment, Data and Personnel

**Note: NO EXCEPTIONS OR REVISIONS WILL BE CONSIDERED**

Vendor may, from time to time during the performance of the Contract, have access to the personnel, premises, equipment, and other property, including data, files and /or materials (collectively referred to as "Data") belonging to the Customer. Vendor shall use their best efforts to preserve the safety, security, and the integrity of the personnel, premises, equipment, Data and other property of the Customer, in accordance with the instruction of the Customer. Vendor shall be responsible for damage to Customer's equipment, workplace, and its contents when such damage is caused by its employees or subcontractors. If a Vendor fails to comply with Customer's security requirements, then Customer may immediately terminate its Purchase Order and related Service Agreement.

## J. Background and/or Criminal History Investigation

**Note: NO EXCEPTIONS OR REVISIONS WILL BE CONSIDERED**

Prior to commencement of any services, background and/or criminal history investigation of the Vendor's employees and subcontractors who will be providing services to the Customer under the Contract may be performed by the Customer. Should any employee or subcontractor of the Vendor who will be providing services to the Customer under the Contract not be acceptable to the Customer as a result of the background and/or criminal history check, then Customer may immediately terminate its Purchase Order and related Service Agreement or request replacement of

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the employee or subcontractor in question.

### K. Limitation of Liability

**Note: NO EXCEPTIONS OR REVISIONS WILL BE CONSIDERED**

For any claim or cause of action arising under or related to the Contract: i) to the extent permitted by the Constitution and the laws of the State, none of the parties shall be liable to the other for punitive, special, or consequential damages, even if it is advised of the possibility of such damages; and ii) Vendor's liability for damages of any kind to the Customer shall be limited to the total amount paid to Vendor under the Contract during the twelve months immediately preceding the accrual of the claim or cause of action. However, this limitation of Vendor's liability shall not apply to claims of bodily injury; violation of intellectual property rights including but not limited to patent, trademark, or copyright infringement; indemnification requirements under this Contract; and violation of State or Federal law including but not limited to disclosures of confidential information and any penalty of any kind lawfully assessed as a result of such violation.

### L. Overcharges

**Note: NO EXCEPTIONS OR REVISIONS WILL BE CONSIDERED**

Vendor hereby assigns to DIR any and all of its claims for overcharges associated with this contract which arise under the antitrust laws of the United States, 15 U.S.C.A. Section 1, et seq., and which arise under the antitrust laws of the State of Texas, Tex. Bus. and Comm. Code Section 15.01, et seq.

### M. Prohibited Conduct

**Note: NO EXCEPTIONS OR REVISIONS WILL BE CONSIDERED**

Vendor represents and warrants that, to the best of its knowledge as of the date of this certification, neither Vendor nor any subcontractor, firm, corporation, partnership, or institution represented by Vendor, nor anyone acting for such, subcontractor, firm, corporation or institution has: (1) violated the antitrust laws of the State of Texas under Texas Business & Commerce Code, Chapter 15, or the federal antitrust laws; or (2) communicated its response to the Request for Offer directly or indirectly to any competitor or any other person engaged in such line of business during the procurement for the Contract.

### N. Required Insurance Coverage

As a condition of this Contract with DIR, Vendor shall provide the listed insurance coverage within five (5) business days of execution of the Contract if the Vendor is awarded services which require that Vendor's employees perform work at any Customer premises and/or use employer vehicles to conduct work on behalf of Customers. In addition, when engaged by a Customer to provide services on Customer premises, the Vendor shall, at its own expense, secure and maintain the insurance coverage specified herein, and shall provide proof of such insurance coverage to the related Customer within five (5) business days following the execution of the Purchase Order. Vendor may not begin performance under the Contract and/or a Purchase Order until such proof of insurance coverage is provided to, and approved by, DIR and the Customer. All required insurance must be issued by companies that have an A rating

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and a Financial Size Category Class of VII from A.M. Best, and are licensed in the State of Texas and authorized to provide the corresponding coverage. The Customer and DIR will be named as Additional Insureds on all required coverage. Required coverage must remain in effect through the term of the Contract and each Purchase Order issued to Vendor there under. The minimum acceptable insurance provisions are as follows:

**1) Commercial General Liability**

Commercial General Liability must include $1,000,000 per occurrence for Bodily Injury and Property Damage with a separate aggregate limit of $2,000,000; Medical Expense per person of $5,000; Personal Injury and Advertising Liability of $1,000,000; Products/Completed Operations Aggregate Limit of $2,000,000; and Damage to Premises Rented: $50,000. Agencies may require additional Umbrella/Excess Liability insurance. The policy shall contain the following provisions:

a) Blanket contractual liability coverage for liability assumed under the Contract;

b) Independent Contractor coverage;

c) State of Texas, DIR and Customer listed as an additional insured; and

d) Waiver of Subrogation.

**2) Workers' Compensation Insurance**

**WORKERS' COMPENSATION INSURANCE AND EMPLOYERS' LIABILITY COVERAGE MUST INCLUDE LIMITS CONSISTENT WITH STATUTORY BENEFITS OUTLINED IN THE TEXAS WORKERS' COMPENSATION ACT (ART. 8308-1.01 ET SEQ. TEX. REV. CIV. STAT) AND MINIMUM POLICY LIMITS FOR EMPLOYERS' LIABILITY OF $1,000,000 PER ACCIDENT, $1,000,000 DISEASE PER EMPLOYEE AND $1,000,000 PER DISEASE POLICY LIMIT.**

**3) Business Automobile Liability Insurance**

Business Automobile Liability Insurance must cover all owned, non-owned and hired vehicles with a minimum combined single limit of $500,000 per occurrence for bodily injury and property damage. The policy shall contain the following endorsements in favor of DIR and/or Customer:

a) Waiver of Subrogation; and

b) Additional Insured.

## O. Use of State Property

**Note: NO EXCEPTIONS OR REVISIONS WILL BE CONSIDERED**

Vendor is prohibited from using the Customer's equipment, the customer's location, or any other resources of the Customer or the State for any purpose other than performing services under this Agreement. For this purpose, equipment includes, but is not limited to, copy machines, computers and telephones using State long distance services. Any charges incurred by Vendor using the Customer's equipment for any purpose other than performing services under this Agreement must be fully reimbursed by Vendor to the Customer immediately upon demand by the Customer. Such use shall constitute breach

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of contract and may result in termination of the contract and other remedies available to DIR and Customer under the contract and applicable law.

## P. Immigration

**Note: NO EXCEPTIONS OR REVISIONS WILL BE CONSIDERED**

The Vendor shall comply with all requirements related to federal immigration laws and regulations, to include but not be limited to, the Immigration and Reform Act of 1986, the Illegal Immigration Reform and Immigrant Responsibility Act of 1996 ("IIRIRA") and the Immigration Act of 1990 (8 U.S.C.1101, et seq.) regarding employment verification and retention of verification forms for any individual(s) who will perform any labor or services under this Contract.

Pursuant to Executive Order No. RP-80, issued by the Governor of Texas on December 3, 2014, and as subsequently clarified, the Vendor shall, as a condition of this Contract, also comply with the United States Department of Homeland Security[1]s E-Verify system to determine the eligibility of:

- all persons 1) to whom the E-Verify system applies, and 2) who are hired by the Vendor during the term of this Contract to perform duties within Texas; and
- all subcontractors' employees 1) to whom the E-Verify system applies, and 2) who are hired by the subcontractor during the term of this Contract and assigned by the subcontractor to perform work pursuant to this Contract.

The Vendor shall require its subcontractors to comply with the requirements of this Section and the Vendor is responsible for the compliance of its subcontractors. Nothing herein is intended to exclude compliance by Vendor and its subcontractors with all other relevant federal immigration statutes and regulations promulgated pursuant thereto.

## Q. Public Disclosure

**Note: NO EXCEPTIONS OR REVISIONS WILL BE CONSIDERED**

No public disclosures or news releases pertaining to this contract shall be made by Vendor without prior written approval of DIR.

## R. Services Substitutions

**Note: NO EXCEPTIONS OR REVISIONS WILL BE CONSIDERED**

Substitutions are not permitted without the written permission of DIR or Customer.

## S. Secure Erasure of Hard Disk Managed Services Products and/or Services

**Note: NO EXCEPTIONS OR REVISIONS WILL BE CONSIDERED**

Vendor agrees that all managed service services equipped with hard disk drives (e.g., computers, telephones, printers, fax machines, scanners, multifunction devices) shall have the capability to securely erase data written to the hard drive prior to final disposition of such managed service products and/or services, either at the end of the managed service product and/or services' useful life or at the end of the Customer's managed service product and/or services' useful life or the end of the related Customer Managed Services Agreement for such products and/or services, in accordance with 1 TAC 202.

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### T. Deceptive Trade Practices; Unfair Business Practices

**1)** Vendor represents and warrants that neither Vendor nor any of its Subcontractors has been (i) found liable in any administrative hearing, litigation or other proceeding of Deceptive Trade Practices violations as defined under Chapter 17, Texas Business & Commerce Code, or (ii) has outstanding allegations of any Deceptive Trade Practice pending in any administrative hearing, litigation or other proceeding.

**2)** Vendor certifies that it has no officers who have served as officers of other entities who (i) have been found liable in any administrative hearing, litigation or other proceeding of Deceptive Trade Practices violations or (ii) have outstanding allegations of any Deceptive Trade Practice pending in any administrative hearing, litigation or other proceeding.

### U. Drug Free Workplace Policy

Vendor shall comply with the applicable provisions of the Drug-Free Work Place Act of 1988 (41 U.S.C. §§8101-8106) and maintain a drug-free work environment; and the final rule, government-wide requirements for drug-free work place (Financial Assistance), issued by the Office of Management and Budget (2 C.F.R. Part 182) to implement the provisions of the Drug-Free Work Place Act of 1988 is incorporated by reference and the contractor shall comply with the relevant provisions thereof, including any amendments to the final rule that may hereafter be issued.

### V. Accessibility of Public Information

**Note: NO EXCEPTIONS OR REVISIONS WILL BE CONSIDERED**

**1)** Pursuant to S.B. 1368 of the 83rd Texas Legislature, Regular Session, Vendor is required to make any information created or exchanged with the State pursuant to this Contract, and not otherwise excepted from disclosure under the Texas Public Information Act, available in a format that is accessible by the public at no additional charge to the State.

**2)** Each State government entity should supplement the provision set forth in Subsection 1, above, with the additional terms agreed upon by the parties regarding the specific format by which the Vendor is required to make the information accessible by the public.

### W. Vendor Reporting Responsibilities

**Note: NO EXCEPTIONS OR REVISIONS WILL BE CONSIDERED**

Vendor shall comply with Subtitle C, Title 5, Business & Commerce Code, Chapter 109 as added by HB 2539 of the 83rd Texas Legislature, Regular Session, requiring computer technicians to report images of child pornography.

## 10. Contract Enforcement

**Note: NO EXCEPTIONS OR REVISIONS WILL BE CONSIDERED TO A, B.2), B.5)-B.7).**

### A. Enforcement of Contract and Dispute Resolution

**Note: NO EXCEPTIONS OR REVISIONS WILL BE CONSIDERED**

**1)** Vendor and DIR agree to the following: (i) a party's failure to require strict performance of any provision of the Contract shall not waive or diminish that party's

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right thereafter to demand strict compliance with that or any other provision, (ii) for disputes not resolved in the normal course of business, the dispute resolution process provided for in Chapter 2260, Texas Government Code, shall be used, and (iii) actions or proceedings arising from the Contract shall be heard in a state court of competent jurisdiction in Travis County, Texas.

**2)** Disputes arising between a Customer and the Vendor shall be resolved in accordance with the dispute resolution process of the Customer that is not inconsistent with subparagraph A.1 above. DIR shall not be a party to any such dispute unless DIR, Customer, and Vendor agree in writing.

3) State agencies are required by rule (34 TAC §20.1115) to report vendor performance through the Vendor Performance Tracking System (VPTS) on every purchase over $25,000.

## B. Termination

**Note: NO EXCEPTIONS OR REVISIONS WILL BE CONSIDERED TO B.2), B.5) - B.7)**

### 1) Termination for Non-Appropriation

#### a) Termination for Non-Appropriation by Customer

Customer may terminate Purchase Orders if funds sufficient to pay its obligations under the Contract are not appropriated: (i) by the governing body on behalf of local governments; (ii) by the Texas legislature on behalf of state agencies; or (iii) by budget execution authority provisioned to the Governor or the Legislative Budget Board as provided in Chapter 317, Texas Government Code. In the event of non-appropriation, Vendor will be provided ten (10) calendar days written notice of intent to terminate. Notwithstanding the foregoing, if a Customer issues a Purchase Order and has accepted delivery of the services, they are obligated to pay for the services or they may discontinue using services under any return provisions that Vendor offers. In the event of such termination, the Customer will not be considered to be in default or breach under this Contract, nor shall it be liable for any further payments ordinarily due under this Contract, nor shall it be liable for any damages or any other amounts which are caused by or associated with such termination.

#### b) Termination for Non-Appropriation by DIR

DIR may terminate Contract if funds sufficient to pay its obligations under the Contract are not appropriated: by the i) Texas legislature or ii) by budget execution authority provisioned to the Governor or the Legislative Budget Board as provided in Chapter 317, Texas Government Code. In the event of non-appropriation, Vendor will be provided thirty (30) calendar days written notice of intent to terminate. In the event of such termination, DIR will not be considered to be in default or breach under this Contract, nor shall it be liable for any further payments ordinarily due under this Contract, nor shall it be liable for any damages or any other amounts which are caused by or associated with such termination.

### 2) Absolute Right

**Note: NO EXCEPTIONS OR REVISIONS WILL BE CONSIDERED**

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DIR shall have the absolute right to terminate the Contract without recourse in the event that: i) Vendor becomes listed on the prohibited vendors list authorized by Executive Order #13224, *"Blocking Property and Prohibiting Transactions with Persons Who Commit, Threaten to Commit, or Support Terrorism"*, published by the United States Department of the Treasury, Office of Foreign Assets Control; ii) Vendor becomes suspended or debarred from doing business with the federal government as listed in the *System for Award Management (SAM)* maintained by the General Services Administration; or (iii) Vendor is found by DIR to be ineligible to hold this Contract under Subsection (b) of Section 2155.006, Texas Government Code. Vendor shall be provided written notice in accordance with Section 11.A, Notices, of intent to terminate.

**3) Termination for Convenience**

DIR may terminate the Contract, in whole or in part, by giving the other party thirty (30) calendar days' written notice. A Customer may terminate a Purchase Order or other contractual document or relationship by giving the other party thirty (30) calendar days' written notice.

**4) Termination for Cause**

**a) Contract**

Either DIR or Vendor may issue a written notice of default to the other upon the occurrence of a material breach of any covenant, warranty or provision of the Contract, upon the following preconditions: first, the parties must comply with the requirements of Chapter 2260, Texas Government Code in an attempt to resolve a dispute; second, after complying with Chapter 2260, Texas Government Code, and the dispute remains unresolved, then the non-defaulting party shall give the defaulting party thirty (30) calendar days from receipt of notice to cure said default. If the defaulting party fails to cure said default within the timeframe allowed, the non-defaulting party may, at its option and in addition to any other remedies it may have available, cancel and terminate the Contract. Customers purchasing services under the Contract have no power to terminate the Contract for default.

**b) Purchase Order**

Customer may terminate a Purchase Order or other contractual document or relationship upon the occurrence of a material breach of any term or condition: (i) of the Contract, or (ii) included in the Purchase Order or other contractual document or relationship in accordance with Section 3.B.2 above, upon the following preconditions: first, the parties must comply with the requirements of Chapter 2260, Texas Government Code, in an attempt to resolve a dispute; second, after complying with Chapter 2260, Texas Government Code, and the dispute remains unresolved, then the non-defaulting party shall give the defaulting party thirty (30) calendar days from receipt of notice to cure said default. If the defaulting party fails to cure said default within the timeframe allowed, the non-defaulting party may, at its option and in addition to any other remedies it may have available, cancel and terminate the Purchase Order. Customer may immediately suspend or terminate a Purchase Order without advance notice in the event Vendor fails to comply with confidentiality, privacy, security requirements, environmental or safety laws or

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regulations, if such non-compliance relates or may relate to vendor provision of goods or services to the Customer.

**5) Immediate Termination or Suspension**

**Note: NO EXCEPTIONS OR REVISIONS WILL BE CONSIDERED**

DIR may immediately suspend or terminate this Contract without advance notice if DIR receives notice or knowledge of potentially criminal violations by Vendor (whether or not such potential violations directly impact the provision of goods or services under this Contract). In such case, the Vendor may be held ineligible to receive further business or payment but may be responsible for winding down or transition expenses incurred by Customer. DIR or Customer will use reasonable efforts to provide notice (to the extent allowed by law) to vendor within five (5) business days after imposing the suspension or termination. Vendor may provide a response and request an opportunity to present its position. DIR or Customer will review vendor presentation, but is under no obligation to provide formal response.

**6) Customer Rights Under Termination**

**Note: NO EXCEPTIONS OR REVISIONS WILL BE CONSIDERED**

In the event the Contract expires or is terminated for any reason, a Customer shall retain its rights under the Contract and the Purchase Order issued prior to the termination or expiration of the Contract. The Purchase Order survives the expiration or termination of the Contract for its then effective term.

**7) Vendor Rights Under Termination**

**Note: NO EXCEPTIONS OR REVISIONS WILL BE CONSIDERED**

In the event a Purchase Order expires or is terminated, a Customer shall pay: 1) all amounts due for products or services ordered prior to the effective termination date and ultimately accepted, and 2) any applicable early termination fees agreed to in such Purchase Order.

### C. Force Majeure

DIR, Customer, or Vendor may be excused from performance under the Contract for any period when performance is prevented as the result of an act of God, strike, war, civil disturbance, epidemic, or court order, provided that the party experiencing the event of Force Majeure has prudently and promptly acted to take any and all steps that are within the party's control to ensure performance and to shorten the duration of the event of Force Majeure. The party suffering an event of Force Majeure shall provide notice of the event to the other parties when commercially reasonable. Subject to this provision, such non-performance shall not be deemed a default or a ground for termination. However, a Customer may terminate a Purchase Order if it is determined by the Customer that Vendor will not be able to deliver services in a timely manner to meet the business needs of the Customer.

## 11. Notification

**Note: NO EXCEPTIONS OR REVISIONS WILL BE CONSIDERED**

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### A. Notices

**Note: NO EXCEPTIONS OR REVISIONS WILL BE CONSIDERED**

All notices, demands, designations, certificates, requests, offers, consents, approvals and other instruments given pursuant to the Contract shall be in writing and shall be validly given on: (i) the date of delivery if delivered by email, facsimile transmission, mailed by registered or certified mail, or hand delivered, or (ii) three business days after being mailed via United States Postal Service. All notices under the Contract shall be sent to a party at the respective address indicated in Section 6 of the Contract or to such other address as such party shall have notified the other party in writing.

### B. Handling of Written Complaints

**Note: NO EXCEPTIONS OR REVISIONS WILL BE CONSIDERED**

In addition to other remedies contained in the Contract, a person contracting with DIR may direct their written complaints to the following office:

Public Information Office
Department of Information Resources
Attn: Public Information Officer
300 W. 15th Street, Suite 1300
Austin, Texas 78701
(512) 475-4759, facsimile

## 12. Captions

**Note: NO EXCEPTIONS OR REVISIONS WILL BE CONSIDERED**

The captions contained in the Contract, Appendices, and its Exhibits are intended for convenience and reference purposes only and shall in no way be deemed to define or limit any provision thereof.