

**EXHIBIT A  
STANDARD CONTRACT CONDITIONS  
(Short Form)**

1. Description of Work.

1.1 Work To Be Performed. The Contractor shall provide work or services as described in the Scope of Work and, if the Contractor has submitted a work proposal, the Contractor shall provide work or services in accordance with that proposal, which shall be attached to and, by this reference, made a part of the Agreement. In the event that any provision or description of work in the Contractor's proposal conflicts or is inconsistent with any similar provision or description of work described in the Scope of Work, the Scope of Work shall prevail, control or otherwise have precedence. Services and work provided by the Contractor will be performed in a timely manner in compliance with all applicable federal, state and county laws, ordinances, regulations and resolutions.

1.2 Contract Manager. Each party shall designate in writing a contract manager who shall be the day-to-day representative for administration of this agreement, and, except as otherwise specifically provided, shall have full authority to act on behalf of the respective party with respect to this Agreement. The County Department Head, or designee, or the Board of Supervisors, may also perform any and all acts which could be performed by the contract manager under this Agreement.

1.3 Work Schedule. A work schedule for the hours and times for completion of said services and work shall be prepared and implemented by the Contractor; provided, however, that such schedule is subject to review by and concurrence of the County.

2.1 Lump Sum Payment. If the signature page of the Agreement indicates lump sum payment, then the Contractor shall be compensated for work performed or services provided under the Agreement on a lump sum basis for each task as described in the Scope of Work, or in any proposal submitted by the Contractor, that is attached to and made part of the Agreement, by making periodic or progress payments upon completion of each task or item of work. The County shall retain ten (10) percent of all periodic or progress payments made to the Contractor until completion and acceptance of all work tasks and payment of all subcontractors retained, hired or used by the Contractor

2.2 Time & Materials Payment. If the signature page of the Agreement indicates time and materials payment, then the Contractor shall be compensated on a time and materials basis, based on the hours worked by the Contractor and/or the Contractor's employees or subcontractors, multiplied by the applicable rate set forth in the Contractor's current, dated schedule of rates attached hereto and, by this reference, made a part hereof; provided, however, the Consultant will provide the County 30-days notice before any change in the rate schedule takes effect.

2.3 Expenses. In addition to the aforementioned fees, Contractor will be reimbursed for the following expenses, plus any expenses agreed to in writing by the parties, that are reasonable, necessary and actually incurred by the Contractor in connection with providing or performing the work or services under the Agreement.

- (a) Any filing fees, permit fees, or other fees paid or advanced by the Contractor.
- (b) Expenses, fees or charges for printing, reproduction or binding of documents at actual costs.
- (c) The cost of any subcontractors, consultants, experts or investigators retained by the Contractor, provided the County has agreed in writing to reimburse the Contractor for such costs.
- (d) Travel costs, including transportation, lodging and meals, provided the County has agreed in writing to reimburse the Contractor for such costs. Any reimbursement for travel costs shall be subject to and not exceed those amounts paid to the County's employees under the current Stanislaus County Travel Policy.

2.4 Invoices. The Contractor shall provide the County with a monthly or a quarterly statement, as services warrant, of fees earned and costs incurred for services provided during the billing period, which the County shall pay in full within 30 days of the date each invoice is approved by the County. The statement will generally describe the services performed, the applicable rate or rates, the basis for the calculation of fees, and a reasonable itemization of costs. All invoices for services provided shall be forwarded in the same manner and to the same person and address that is provided for service of notices herein.

2.5 Maximum Amount of Contract. The parties hereto acknowledge the maximum amount to be paid by the County for services provided and expenses shall not exceed the amount set forth in Paragraph 3 of the signature page of the Agreement, including, without limitation, the cost of any subcontractors, consultants, experts or investigators retained by the Contractor in the performance of work or services under the Agreement.

2.6 Other Compensation. Contractor shall not be entitled to nor receive compensation in the form of overtime, health insurance benefits, retirement benefits, disability retirement benefits, sick leave, vacation time, paid holidays or other paid leaves of absence of any type or kind whatsoever.

2.7 Taxes. County will not withhold any Federal or State income taxes or Social Security tax from any payments to Contractor. The Contractor, not the County, has the sole responsibility to promptly pay all taxes and other assessments levied on any payments made to the Contractor.

2.8 Payment to Subcontractors and Suppliers. Pursuant to Penal Code section 484b and to Business and Professions Code section 71 08.5, the Contractor must apply all funds and progress payments received by the Contractor from the County for payment of services, labor, materials or equipment to pay for such services, labor, materials or equipment. Pursuant to Civil Code section 1479, the Contractor shall direct or otherwise manifest the Contractor's intention and desire that payments made by the Contractor to subcontractors, suppliers and materialmen shall be applied to retire and extinguish the debts or obligations resulting from the performance of this Agreement.

3. Termination. The County may terminate this agreement upon 30 days prior written notice to the Contractor. Termination of this Agreement shall not affect the County's obligation to pay for all fees earned and reasonable costs necessarily incurred by the Contractor, subject to any applicable setoffs.

4. Licenses, Certificates and Permits. Any licenses, certificates or permits required by the federal, state, county or municipal governments for Contractor to provide the services and work under the Agreement must be procured and maintained in full force and effect during the term of the Agreement at the Contractor's sole cost and expense.

5. Office Space, Supplies, Equipment, Etc. Unless otherwise provided in another exhibit to the Agreement, the Contractor shall provide at its sole cost and expense, all office space, supplies, equipment, vehicles, reference and other written materials, and telephone service as is necessary for Contractor to provide the services under the Agreement.

6. Insurance.

6.1 Automobile Insurance. If the Contractor uses a motor vehicle in performing any of the work or services under this Agreement, including driving to a location to provide services, the Contractor shall furnish to the County proof of the Contractor's ability to respond in damages resulting from the ownership or operation of a motor vehicle as required under Chapter 3 (commencing with section 16430) of Division 7 of the California Vehicle Code.

6.2 Workers' Compensation Insurance. Contractor shall provide Workers' Compensation insurance as required by the California Labor Code. In signing this contract, the Contractor certifies under section 1861 of the Labor Code that the Contractor is aware of the provisions of section 3700 of the Labor Code which requires every employer to be insured against liability for workmen's compensation or to undertake self-insurance in accordance with the provisions of that code, and that the Contractor will comply with such provisions before commencing the performance of the work of this Agreement.

6.3 Deductibles. The Contractor shall pay, at its cost and expense, any deductible or self-insured retention, and will pay all costs, losses, related investigations, claim administration and defense expenses related to or arising out of the Contractor's defense and indemnification obligations under the Agreement.

6.4 Primary Coverage. The Contractor's insurance coverage shall be primary insurance, and the County's insurance shall be excess insurance, regarding any incident or occurrence related to the performance of services under the Agreement.

6.5 Proof of Insurance. At least ten (10) days prior to the date the Contractor begins performance of its obligations under this Agreement, Contractor shall furnish County with certificates of insurance and applicable endorsements effecting coverage required by this Agreement. County reserves the right to require complete copies of all required insurance policies and endorsements, at any time.

7. Defense and Indemnification. To the fullest extent permitted by law, Contractor shall indemnify, hold harmless and defend the County and its agents, officers and employees from and against all claims, damages, losses, judgments, liabilities, expenses and other costs, including litigation costs and attorneys' fees, arising out of, resulting from, or in connection with the performance of this Agreement by the Contractor or Contractor's officers, employees, agents, representatives or subcontractors and resulting in or attributable to personal injury, death, or damage or destruction to tangible or intangible property, including the loss of use.

8. Status of Contractor. All acts of Contractor and its officers, employees, agents, representatives, subcontractors relating to the performance of the Agreement, shall be performed as independent contractors and not as agents, officers or employees of County. Except as otherwise expressly provided in the Agreement, Contractor has no authority to bind or incur any obligation on behalf of County or to exercise any rights or power vested in the County. No agent, officer or employee of the County is to be considered an employee of Contractor. It is understood by both Contractor and County that this Agreement shall not be construed or considered under any circumstances to create an employer-employee relationship or a joint venture.

9. Records and Audit. Contractor shall maintain and keep all writings, documents and records prepared or compiled in connection with the performance of this Agreement for a minimum of four (4) years after the termination or completion of this Agreement. Any authorized representative of County shall have access to any such records writings as defined above for the purposes of making audit, evaluation, examination, excerpts and transcripts during the period such records are to be maintained by Contractor.

10. Nondiscrimination. During the performance of this Agreement, Contractor and its officers, employees, agents, representatives or subcontractors shall not unlawfully discriminate in violation of any federal, state or local law, rule or regulation against any employee, applicant for employment or person receiving services under this Agreement because of race, religion, color, national origin, ancestry, physical or mental handicap, medical condition (including genetic characteristics), marital status, age, political affiliation, sex, or sexual orientation. Contractor and its subcontractors shall comply with all applicable Federal, State and local laws and regulations related to non-discrimination and equal opportunity, including without limitation the County's nondiscrimination policy; the Fair Employment and Housing Act (Government Code, § 12900 et seq.); California Labor Code sections 11 01, 11 02 and 11 02.1 ; the Federal Civil Rights Act of 1964 (P.L. 88-352),

as amended; and all applicable regulations promulgated in the California Code of Regulations or the Code of Federal Regulations.

11. Assignment. County has relied upon the skills, knowledge, experience and training of Contractor and the Contractor's firm, associates and employees as an inducement to enter into this Agreement. Contractor shall not assign or subcontract this Agreement without the express written consent of County. Further, Contractor shall not assign any monies due or to become due under this Agreement without the prior written consent of County.

12. Amendment and Modification. The Agreement may be amended by the mutual written consent of the parties; provided, however, the County may, at any time, without notice to any sureties, by written order designated or indicated to be a "contract modification," make any change in the work to be performed under this Agreement so long as the modified work is within the general scope of work called for by this Agreement, including but not limited to changes in the specifications or in the method, manner or time of performance of work. If the Contractor intends to dispute the change, the Contractor must, within ten (10) days after receipt of a written "contract modification," submit to the County a written statement setting forth the disagreement with the change.

13. Disputes. Any dispute arising under or relating to the terms of the Agreement, or related to performance under the Agreement, shall be decided in writing by the County contract manager. The Contractor shall be furnished a copy of the written decision and the decision shall be final and conclusive unless, within fifteen (15) calendar days from the date of receipt of such copy, the Contractor mails or delivers a written appeal to the Director of the County Department. The decision of the Director, or designee, shall be final and conclusive unless determined by a court of competent jurisdiction to have been fraudulent, capricious, arbitrary or so grossly erroneous as necessarily to imply bad faith, or not supported by any substantial evidence. Pending final decision on any dispute, the Contractor shall proceed diligently with the performance of work as directed by the contract manager unless the Contractor has received a notice of termination.

14. Waiver of Default. Waiver of any default by either party to this Agreement shall not be deemed to be waiver of any subsequent default. Waiver or breach of any provision of this Agreement shall not be deemed to be a waiver of any other or subsequent breach, and shall not be construed to be a modification of the terms of this Agreement unless this Agreement is modified as provided below.

15. Notice. Any notice or communication regarding Agreement that a party is required or may desire to make shall be in writing and may be personally served or sent by prepaid first class mail to the respective parties at the address set forth on the signature page of this Agreement. Notice is deemed received upon deposit in the mail.

16. Conflicts. Contractor agrees that it has no interest and shall not acquire any interest direct or indirect which would conflict in any manner or degree with the performance of the work and services under this Agreement.

17. Entire Agreement. The Agreement supersedes any and all other agreements, either oral or in writing, between any of the parties and contains all the agreements between the parties with respect to the subject matter of the Agreement. No other agreement, statement or promise not contained in this Agreement shall be valid or binding.

18. Governing Law and Venue. This Agreement shall be deemed to be made under, and shall be governed by and construed in accordance with, the laws of the State of California. Any action brought to enforce the terms or provisions of this Agreement shall have venue in the County of Stanislaus, State of California.

END OF STANDARD CONDITIONS (SHORT FORM)