

EXHIBIT A
(Standard Agreement)

SCOPE OF WORK

- A. The Contractor (California Department of Social Services (CDSS), hereinafter referred to as the CDSS) agrees to provide to Nevada County Department of Social Services, (hereinafter referred to as the County), Agency adoption services under the authority of Welfare and Institutions Code (W&I Code), Section 16130 and in accordance with Title 22 California Code of Regulations (CCR), Sections 35127 through 35239. The CDSS will provide the following adoption services:
1. Consult and review of children in out-of-home care who need concurrent planning services.
 2. Assess and provide a written analysis of the adoptability of a child pursuant to W&I Code, Section 361.5, 366.21 or 366.22.
 3. Inform caregivers and birth families of provisions and availability of kinship adoptions, post adoption contact agreements and related services.
 4. Provide relinquishment services for birth/legal parents who are considering the option of adoption.
 5. Recruit prospective adoptive families, including families who fully support reunification goals, for children referred to the CDSS.
 6. Complete adoption homestudies of prospective adoptive families, including requests for adoption homestudies through the Interstate Compact on the Placement of Children (ICPC.)
 7. Make preliminary assessments and written reports concerning the prospective adoptive parents for the W&I Code, Section 366.26 hearing. The CDSS will provide testimony for contested hearings regarding the reports as requested by County Counsel.
 8. Match children with prospective adoptive families and place children for adoption.
 9. Review and provide medical and social background information concerning a child and his or her birth parents to adoptive parents at the time of the adoptive placement.
 10. Supervise adoptive placements until finalization and provide post adoptive placement services to families.
 11. Establish and assess for Adoption Assistance Program (AAP) eligibility and benefits pursuant to governing laws and the County Programs regarding AAP eligibility (i.e., W&I Code, Sections 16115-16123 and Title 22 CCR, Section 35325 et seq.)
 12. Provide other appropriate and necessary adoption services as needed.

B. The CDSS and the County agree to coordinate efforts in the following areas:

1. Promote concurrent planning services and permanence for children who are in out-of-home care.
2. Exchange information about dependent children and keep each other informed of general progress in cases involving children in out-of-home placement and changes that may affect the casework provided by the other agency. This exchange may include, but is not limited to, any information (e.g., complaints, concerns or licensing violations) that would reflect the suitability of the prospective adoptive family or their ability to provide appropriate care for a child.
3. Keep each other informed of general progress in the case and changes that may affect the casework provided by the other agency, including potential placement changes.
4. Notify the other agency before taking any action that may have the potential to disrupt or terminate placement unless events are of an emergency nature or are so serious that immediate action is required to protect the child from harm.
5. Establish mutually agreed upon timelines for joint reviews, referrals and reports required by the CDSS, the County, or the juvenile court.
6. Provide written materials or reports required to carry out effective adoption planning and to meet the mandates of the juvenile court.
7. Work jointly and share responsibilities to recruit and train an adequate pool of families to serve the permanency needs of children.
8. Pay AAP benefits in compliance with Title 22 CCR, Section 35325 et seq.
9. Use the Child Welfare Services/Case Management System (CWS/CMS) to record information and case activities for dependent children and foster families.
10. Provide other appropriate and necessary coordination as needed.
11. Services for the Child Before a Permanent Plan is Determined
 - a. The County and the CDSS Will:
 - i. Jointly assess the child pursuant to W&I Code, Section 361.5(g) and before the filing date of a report recommending that Family Reunification (FR) services not be provided.
 - ii. Jointly assess the child approximately 90 days before the 6 month and 12 month reviews required by W&I Code, Section 366.21 and the 18 month review required by W&I Code, Section 366.22.
 - iii. Jointly assess relatives and/or other potential caregivers that are being considered as permanency resources for a child prior to placement or as soon thereafter as possible. Both the CDSS and the County will comply with

all home approval and placement statutes and regulations that are applicable to each agency.

- b. The County Will:
- i. Refer children in out-of-home care for a joint assessment prior to FR services being terminated.
 - ii. Identify and search for all of the child's presumed and alleged parents and document search efforts, including, but not limited to, providing the CDSS with current and past marital history including date and places of marriage and divorce. Also, obtain birth records on the child as soon as possible.
 - iii. Determine whether the child is Native American and whether the Indian Child Welfare Act is applicable. If the child has possible Indian ancestry, the County will complete process of notifying all possible tribes and documenting this in court.
 - iv. Share with the CDSS background information as it is obtained about the child, including developmental history, psychological and family health history.
 - v. Advise the birth parent of the option of forgoing FR services and/or relinquishing parental rights. Contact CDSS if the parent indicates an interest in relinquishment or would like additional information about relinquishment or adoption.
 - vi. Provide a written referral to CDSS when FR services are not ordered (W&I Code, Section 361.5), when FR services are terminated due to an order by the court (W&I Code, Section 360 if applicable, 366.21 or 366.22) or when a referral is made for the child before termination of services due to concurrent planning. Provide all necessary documents to the CDSS in order to carry out adoption or concurrent planning services.
 - vii. Provide child abuse and neglect reports and information concerning prospective adoptive parents when requested by the CDSS.
 - viii. Provide Department of Justice criminal record clearance(s) of the foster family when requested.
 - ix. Work with the CDSS to prepare a report for the W&I Code, Section 366.26 hearing. The CWS social worker's portion of the report will include:
 - a. An evaluation of the child's medical, developmental, scholastic, mental, and emotional status.
 - b. A review of the amount and nature of contact between the child and parent(s) since placement.
 - c. A summary of current search efforts for any absent parent.

- d. Documentation of the relationship of the child to any caretaker, the duration and character of the relationship, the motivation, and a statement from the child about placement and permanence (unless the child is unable to give a meaningful response in which case the child's condition should be stated.)
- e. A preliminary assessment of the eligibility and commitment of any identified prospective caretaker to provide permanence for the child. The assessment will contain a social history, including screening for criminal records and prior referrals for child abuse or neglect; the capability to meet the child's needs; and an understanding of the legal and financial rights and responsibilities of the recommended plan.
- x. The County will provide or purchase Psychological Evaluations and Competency Statements in cases where they are required by statute or regulation.
- xi. Retain case management responsibility until finalization of the adoption or dismissal of dependency (Manual of Policies and Procedures, Division 31-320.412.)
- xii. Send notice of hearing, the social worker's court report and the judge's court orders to the CDSS Adoptions Regional/Field Office for W&I Code, Section 360 if applicable, 361.5 (g), 366.21, 366.22, and 366.26 hearings and any subsequent hearings. Send notice of any appeals filed concerning juvenile court actions, and the appellate court's decisions, to the CDSS.
- xiii. Prepare a court report every six months for the Juvenile Court to identify progress towards the goal of adoption. Attach the adoption status report provided by the CDSS.
- xiv. Provide AAP payments as directed by the CDSS to adopting families. Provide Notice of Action and AAP re-assessment forms as required.
- xv. Send all court orders to CDSS within 30 calendar days after the date of the court hearing.
- xvi. Retain case management responsibility until finalization of the adoption or dismissal of dependency. Transfer primary assignment on the CWS/CMS application to CDSS Adoptions Regional/Field Office before closing CWS services case.
- xvii. Pursuant to Title 22 CCR § 89179(a), the adoption agency shall maintain adequate case records which include:
 - a. Separate records for each client and for each placement facility studied and used by the agency.

- b. Current administrative records in such a form as to provide an index to all cases, including location of all clients under care and of all placement facilities in use.
 - i. Adoption case records shall be retained by the agency indefinitely. In the event of an agency terminating its adoption services, full case records on all completed adoptions, placements for adoption and children relinquished for adoption shall be forwarded to the CDSS for permanent filing and reference. Records and documents shall include those regarding the natural parents, the child and the adoptive parents. Such forwarding by the terminating agency shall be conducted in the manner prescribed by the CDSS.
- c. The CDSS Will:
 - i. Assess the child with the County pursuant to W&I Code, Section 361.5 (g) as soon as practically possible, and before the filing date of the report recommending FR services not be provided.
 - ii. Assess the child with CWS approximately 90 days before the 6 month and 12 month review required by W&I Code, Section 366.21 and the 18 month review required by W&I Code, Section 366.22.
 - iii. Jointly review the assessment of relatives and/or other potential caregivers that are being considered as a placement resource for a child where successful FR is unlikely, prior to placement or as soon thereafter as possible.
 - iv. Consult with the CWS social worker about the possibility of parental relinquishment of the child. If the parent expresses an interest in pursuing adoption, the adoption worker will discuss relinquishment with the parent. If a relinquishment is taken, the CDSS will provide written notice to the juvenile court, the relinquishing parent(s) attorney, the child's attorney and the County.
 - v. Interview the birth parent whenever possible to advise him or her of the availability of a post adoption agreement and to secure medical/social background information concerning the child and birth parent. The birth parent will be advised that adoption records are kept permanently, and of the opportunity to place information in the adoptions case files after finalization of the adoption. They will also be informed of the procedures for sharing information or having contact after the adoptee becomes an adult.
 - vi. Provide assessment of the child before the W&I Code, Section 366.26 hearing. This assessment may include a review of the case record, discussions with the CWS social worker, contacts with the child, the present caretaker, and any other collateral persons involved with the child.

- vii. Work with the County to prepare a report for the W&I Code, Section 366.26 hearing. The CDSS report will be submitted to the County 21 calendar days before the hearing, and shall include:
 - a. An evaluation of the child's medical, developmental, scholastic, mental, and emotional status.
 - b. The relationship of the child to any siblings, identified prospective adoptive parents, the duration and character of the relationships, the potential for a post adoption contact agreement, the motivation for seeking adoption, and a statement from the child about placement and the adoption (unless the child is unable to give a meaningful response, in which case the child's condition should be stated.)
 - c. A preliminary assessment of eligibility and commitment of any identified prospective adoptive parent, particularly the child's caretaker, to adopt the child. The assessment will contain a social history, including screening for criminal records and prior referrals for child abuse and neglect; the capability to meet the child's needs; and an understanding of the legal and financial rights and responsibilities of adoption.
 - d. An analysis of the likelihood that the child will be adopted if parental rights are terminated.
- viii. Be available for contested W&I Code, Section 366.26 hearings to present expert testimony regarding the child's adoptability and other relevant information.
- ix. If the juvenile court identifies adoption as a permanent goal, it can without terminating parental rights, order the CDSS to locate an adoptive home for the child within 180 days. This applies only to a child whom the court determines is difficult to place for adoption and there is no identified adoptive family. During the 180 days period, the CDSS shall contact other private and public adoption agencies about the child availability for adoption.
- x. Provide information concerning adoption to prospective adoptive parents including the availability of and requirements for post adoption contact agreements, pursuant to Family Code (FC) Section 8714.7.
- xi. Recruit adoptive families, including those who can fully support and cooperate in the provision of FR services. If necessary, (in cases where the child has been placed cooperatively with another adoption agency) request an adoption homestudy of the identified prospective adoptive family.
- xii. Approve or deny family adoptive assessments homestudies.
- xiii. Prepare the child for adoption. (This may or may not include a placement change.)

- xiv. Coordinate efforts with ICPC to establish and maintain adoptive placements for dependent children who are placed out-of-state.
- xv. Place the child for adoption. Placing a child for adoption may include both moving a child to an adoptive home and signing adoption placement document or signing documents to change the child's current foster placement status to adoption.
- xvi. Promptly notify the County of the date of adoptive placement and date foster care payment is discontinued. These events may not necessarily occur on the same date.
- xvii. Establish AAP eligibility of the child, determine benefit amount and duration, and review and re-assess AAP benefits as needed. Prepare the AAP paperwork, including payment instructions to the County. The duration and amount of all AAP benefits must comply with State regulations.
- xviii. Assume exclusive care and control of the child for the purpose of supervising the adoptive placement of pursuant to W&I Code, Section 366.26 (j) until finalization of the adoption.
- xix. Prepare and present a report to the court in the county in which the Adoption Request was filed with a recommendation concerning the adoption. If the Adoption Request includes a post adoption contact agreement, the CDSS will address in its report whether the post adoption contact agreement is in the child's best interest.
- xx. Confirm in writing to the County that the adoption is finalized and request dependency be dismissed. The CDSS is not authorized to provide the County with a copy of the final decree of adoption.
- xxi. Document case management activities in CWS/CMS pursuant to state guidelines.
- xxii. Conduct other appropriate and necessary permanency planning activities as needed.

12. Services after Permanency Planning.

- a. The County and the CDSS Will:
 - i. Jointly assess each child in long-term foster care, no less than 45 days before the 12 month review of the permanent plan pursuant to W&I Code, Section 366.3 (d).
 - ii. Jointly review the assessment of relatives and/or other potential caregivers that are being considered as potential placement resources for a child prior to placement or as soon thereafter as possible.

- b. Responsibility for responding to requests for adoption records shall rest with the party in possession of the records as specified in this Scope of Work.
- c. The County Will:
 - i. Refer the child to the CDSS for an adoption assessment when indicated pursuant to a joint review.
 - ii. Provide a written referral packet for accepted referrals within five (5) working days, including all necessary documents for the agency to carry out its functions. Only documents not previously submitted will be needed.
 - iii. Make a secondary assignment on the CWS/CMS application to the CDSS Adoptions Regional/Field Office "in-box caseload" at the time of referral for adoption services.
- d. The CDSS Will:
 - i. Assign an Adoptions Specialist for each child for an adoption assessment pursuant to this joint review.
 - ii. For each child accepted for study, a written assessment of the child's potential for adoption will be provided 21 calendar days before an annual court review hearing.
 - iii. Provide case progress reports to the County 21 calendar days prior to each 6 month review following the W&I Code, Section 366.26 hearing until such time as the adoption is finalized or the case is referred to the County because adoption is no longer the plan for the child.

The case progress report may include:

- a) A summary of contacts.
- b) Adjustment of the child to the adoptive home.
- c) Specific circumstances or problems that affect the child or the placement.
- d) Progress made in the adoption process.
- e) Steps needed to complete the adoption.

C. CONFLICT RESOLUTION REGARDING CASE MANAGEMENT

The County and the CDSS will use customary and available problem-solving methods and resources in efforts to resolve differences. Any disagreements or conflicts regarding a case will be resolved as follows:

1. The primary social workers from the County and the CDSS will meet and confer to resolve differences.

2. If the primary social workers are unable to resolve differences, the County supervisor and the CDSS supervisor and primary social workers will meet and confer to resolve differences.
3. If the supervisors and social workers are unable to resolve differences, the County Program Manager and the CDSS Adoption Regional/Field Office Manager and their respective supervisors and social workers will meet and confer to resolve differences.
4. If issues that are regulatory or statutory in nature cannot be resolved adequately at the local level through the above procedures, the matter in dispute will be referred in writing to the appropriate state administrative office(s) for clarification and direction.

D. PROJECT REPRESENTATIVE

The project representatives during the term of this agreement will be:

Carmen George
Adoptions Services Bureau
744 P Street, MS 8-12-31
Sacramento, CA 95814
(916) 651-8106
Fax: (916) 651-8143

Mike Dent
County of Nevada
950 Maidu Avenue
Nevada City, CA 95959
Telephone number (530) 265-1410
Fax: (530) 265-9860

Changes to the project representative information may be made by written notice to the other party and shall not require an amendment to this Agreement.

E. CONFIDENTIALITY

The CDSS and the County staff will comply with the provision of W&I Code, Section 10850 and FC, Section 9200 et seq. to assure that all applications and records concerning individuals made or kept by any officer or agency in connection with the administration of any service under this contract will be kept confidential. The CDSS and the County will maintain the confidentiality of all information and records in accordance with current laws, regulations and policies. Exchange of information will be for the purpose of promoting the best interests of the child and the administration of the program.

Each County and CDSS office will maintain their own confidentiality regulations and guidelines to review and follow. The location of those guidelines shall be made known to all employees. The CDSS and the County agree to inform all of its employees, agents, and subcontractors of the confidentiality provisions and further agree that any person knowingly and intentionally violating the provisions of said laws is guilty of a misdemeanor.

F. FORM 700

All employees and managers required to file an annual Form 700 pursuant to the Conflict of Interest Code and/or Government Code, Section 87200 do so with the CDSS Central Office located at 744 P Street, MS 8-12-31, Sacramento, CA 95814.

GENERAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS

1. Indemnification

a. Claims Arising from Acts or Omissions of the County

The County hereby agrees to defend and indemnify the California Department of Social Services (CDSS), its agents, officers, and employees (hereinafter collectively referred to as the CDSS), from any claim, action or proceeding against the CDSS, arising out of acts or omissions of the County in the performance of this Contract. At its discretion, the CDSS may participate at its own expense in the defense of any claim, action or proceeding, but such participation shall not relieve the County of any obligation imposed by this Contract. The CDSS shall notify the County promptly of any claim, action or proceeding and cooperate fully.

b. Claims Arising from Acts or Omissions of the CDSS

The CDSS hereby agrees to defend and indemnify the County, its agents, officers, and employees (hereinafter collectively referred to as the County), from any claim, action, or proceeding against the County arising out of the acts or omissions of the CDSS in the performance of this Contract. At its discretion, the County may participate at its own expense in the defense of any claim, action or proceeding, but such participation shall not relieve the CDSS of any obligation imposed by this Contract. The County shall notify the CDSS promptly of any claim, action or proceeding and cooperate fully.

2. Relationship Of The Parties

The CDSS is acting as a contractor for the delivery of the services; this is not a joint venture agreement between the parties. It is understood by both parties that this Contract does not create an employer-employee relationship between the parties. Each party agrees that it shall not enter into agreements or make representations or promises on behalf of the other party.

3. Insurance Requirements

The CDSS is a self-insured public entity, which possesses the ability to cover liabilities, including general, professional, motor vehicle, and worker compensation liabilities arising from or in connection with the performance of services under this Contract by CDSS, its employees, officers, or directors. Evidence of self-insurance is provided with Exhibit B, incorporated herein by reference.

The CDSS's self-insurance for liabilities (Exhibit C) from the use of motor vehicles includes owned, non-owned, and hired vehicles used by CDSS employees in the performance of services.

4. Maintenance Of Records

The parties shall keep and maintain an accurate record of the referrals to the CDSS Adoptions Regional/Field Office. The CDSS and the County shall keep a copy of all invoices presented to the County on a quarterly basis which must include the weekly number of the open active child cases and the open active family cases. All such records shall be made available to the County, its authorized representative, or officials of the State of California for review and audit during normal business hours, upon reasonable advance notice.

5. Retention Of Records For Audit Purposes

The CDSS shall maintain and preserve all records related to this Contract for a period of three years from the close of the fiscal year in which final payment is made. Such records shall be maintained for a three year period or retained for a longer duration, if an audit involving the records is then pending. The obligation to insure the maintenance of the records beyond the initial three year period shall only arise if notice is provided to the CDSS of the commencement of the audit prior to the expiration of the three year period.

6. Title To Documents; Copyrights

Excluding records, reports, or documents containing personal or confidential information, all reports and other materials collected or produced by the CDSS pursuant to this Contract are the property of the CDSS and shall not be subject to any copyright claimed by the County, its employees, subcontractors or agents. However, the County may use for administrative purposes completed materials developed or produced by the CDSS. Incomplete documents or projects may not be used without the prior written consent of the CDSS.

Records, reports, or documents containing personal or confidential information shall not be used for any commercial purpose and shall not be copyrighted by either party, including the employees, officers, directors, or agents of each party.

7. Conflict Of Interest

The parties agree to enforce the requirements of the California Government Code, Sections 1090 through 1099 and Sections 87100 through 87105, including regulations promulgated by the California Fair Practices Commission, to prevent a public officer or employee, including a subcontractor, from participating in an activity that would constitute a conflict of interest.

8. Compliance With Applicable Laws

The parties shall comply with all applicable federal, CDSS and local laws now, or hereafter, in force, and with any applicable regulations, in performing the work and providing the service specified in this Contract. This obligation includes, without limitation, the acquisition, and maintenance of any permits, licenses, or other entitlements necessary to perform the duties imposed expressly or impliedly under this Contract.

9. Change In Statutes Or Regulations

If there is a change of statute or regulations applicable to the performance of this Contract, both parties agree to be governed by the new provisions, unless either party gives notice to terminate pursuant to the terms of this Contract or identifies through written correspondence that the changes in law require negotiation of the responsibilities or terms of the Contract.

10. Time Is Of The Essence

Time is of the essence for the performance of the services of this Contract. Each party shall promptly perform the services and responsibilities described in the Contract and promptly comply with each term and condition.

11. Time

Each of the parties to this Contract shall devote such time to the performance of the services pursuant to this Contract as may be reasonably necessary for the satisfactory performance of

the obligations of this Contract. Neither party shall be considered to be in default of this Contract to the extent the performance is prevented or delayed by any cause, present or future, which is beyond the reasonable control of the party.

12. Modification

No modification or waiver of any provisions of this Contract or its attachments shall be effective unless such waiver or modification shall be in writing, signed by both parties.

13. Nondiscrimination

The parties shall not discriminate in the employment of persons necessary to perform this Contract on any legally impermissible basis, including on the basis of the race, color, national origin, ancestry, religion, age, sex, or disability of such person. In the provision of services each party shall be responsible for the actions of its employees, directors or officers so that employees and applicants for employment and any member of the public are free from any unlawful discrimination. The parties warrant and represent that each is aware and shall follow: 1) the Federal Civil Rights Act of 1964 (Act) and all amendments, administrative rules and regulations issued pursuant to this Act; and 2) the Fair Employment and Housing Act (Government Code, Section 12900 et. seq.) and the regulations promulgated to enforce the Fair Employment and Housing Act. The parties agree to include the non-discrimination and compliance provision of this paragraph in all subcontracts to perform services under this Contract.

14. Bankruptcy

The parties shall immediately notify the other in the event that either ceases conducting business in the normal manner or becomes insolvent, makes a general assignment for the benefit of creditors, suffers or permits the appointment of a receiver for its business on assets, or avails itself of, or becomes subject to, any proceeding under the Federal Bankruptcy Act or any other statute of any state relating to insolvency or protection of the rights of creditors.

15. Prohibition Against Assignment And Delegation Of Duties

Except as specifically authorized within the Contract, no rights may be assigned and no duties under this Contract may be delegated by the parties without the prior written consent of the other, and any attempted assignment or delegation without such consent shall be void.

16. Negotiated Contract

This Contract has been arrived at through negotiation between the parties. Neither party is to be deemed the party which prepared this Contract within the meaning of California Civil Code, Section 1654.

17. Severability

Should any provision herein be found or deemed to be invalid, this Contract shall be construed as not containing such provision. All other provisions which are otherwise lawful shall remain in full force and effect. To this end, the provisions of this Contract are declared to be severable.

18. Entire Contract

This Contract is the entire agreement of the parties for the performance of services. There are no understandings or agreements pertaining to this Contract except as are expressly stated in

writing in this Contract or in any document attached hereto or incorporated by reference. It is the intention of the parties hereto that this Contract shall supersede any prior agreements, discussions, commitments, representations, agreements, written, or oral, between the parties.

19. Budget Statement

Assembly Bill (AB) 118 (Chapter 40, Statutes of 2011) and ABX1 16 (Chapter 13, Extraordinary Session, Statutes of 2011) realigned the funding for Agency adoptions from the CDSS to the local governments and redirected specific tax revenues to fund these services. AB 118 and ABX1 16 realigned a total of \$6 million general fund to the counties who have not had a licensed public adoption agency. As stated in County Fiscal Letter (CFL) Number 11/12-18 dated September 16, 2011, the county specific distribution of the \$6 million general fund were based on a percent to total of each county's specific combined 12 year average of child and family referrals to the CDSS Adoptions Regional/Field Offices that have been providing Agency adoption services to these counties.

a. Invoicing

In consultation with the Child Welfare Director's Association, for those counties opting to contract directly with CDSS to continue the Agency adoption services, CDSS will invoice each on a weekly cost per case basis of \$62 based on the county specific distribution provided in CFL No. 11/12-18. The CDSS will invoice the County quarterly the total cost for each active child case and each family case referred to the CDSS Adoptions Regional/Field Office for adoption services. This rate would be claimed up to but not exceeding the amount of the allocation (\$146,927) for fiscal year 2015/16) received by the County.

20. Termination

Either party may terminate this Contract, with or without cause, with one hundred twenty (120) days advance written notice. In order to terminate this Contract, the terminating party shall give advance written notice to the other party. The termination notice shall be made as specified in number 21 below. In the event of termination, the County shall pay the CDSS for all work satisfactorily performed prior to the effective date of the termination.

21. Notice

Notices to the parties in connection with the administration of this Contract shall be given to the parties' Project Representative personally, by regular mail, or by facsimile transmission as more particularly specified in this paragraph. Notices will be deemed given on:

- a. The day the notice is personally delivered to the party's Project Representative as specified in the Exhibit A, Scope of Work, page 9, Section D.
- b. Five days after the date the notice is deposited in the United States mail, addressed to a party's Project Representative as indicated in Section D, with first-class postage fully prepaid; or
- c. On the day the notice is transmitted by facsimile to the facsimile number specified as specified in Section D, provided that an original of such notice is deposited in the United States mail, addressed to the party's project representative as specified in Section D, on the same day as the facsimile transmission is made.

22. Partial Invalidity

Should any part, term, portion, or provision of this Contract agreement be finally decided by a court of competent jurisdiction to be in conflict with any law of the United States or the State of California, or otherwise be unenforceable or ineffectual, the validity of the remaining parts, terms, portions, or provisions will be deemed severable and will not be affected thereby, provided such remaining portions or provisions can be construed in substance to constitute the agreement which the parties intended to enter into in the first place.

23. Responsibility Of Project Representatives

All matters concerning the administration of this Contract, which are within the responsibility of the parties shall be under the direction of, or shall be submitted to, the respective Project Representative or the party's employee specified, in writing, by the Project Representative. A party may, in its sole discretion, change its designation of its Project Representative upon providing written notice to the other party at least ten days prior to such change. The Project Representatives for parties are specified in the Exhibit A, Scope of Work, Page 9, in Section D.

24. Waiver

Waiver by either party of a breach of any covenant of this Contract will not be construed to be a continuing waiver of any subsequent breach. A party's receipt of consideration with knowledge of the other's violation of a covenant does not waive the party's right to enforce any covenant of this Contract. However, neither party shall waive any provision of this Contract unless the waiver is not against public policy or current laws, in writing, signed by a representative of each party with the authority to sign, and signed by all parties.

25. Authority and Capacity

Each party and each party's signatory warrant and represent that each has full authority and capacity to enter into this Contract in accordance with all requirements of law. The parties also warrant that any signed amendment or modification to the Contract shall comply with all requirements of law, including capacity and authority to amend or modify the Contract.

26. Binding On Successors

All of the conditions, covenants, and terms identified in this Contract apply to any successor or assignee of the parties to this Contract with each assignee or successor held jointly and severally liable under this Contract. However, no assignment or subcontract of either party is permitted, except with the prior written authorization of the other party.

27. Cumulative Remedies

All of the various rights, powers, and remedies of the parties shall be construed as cumulative, and no one of them exclusive of any other or of any other legal or equitable remedy which a party might otherwise have in the event of a breach or default of any condition, covenant, or term by the other party. The exercise of any single right, option, election, power, or remedy shall not in any way, impair any other right, option, election, power or remedy until all duties and obligations imposed shall have been full performed.

28. Independent Advice

Each party represents and warrants that in executing this Contract it does so with full knowledge of the rights and duties it may have with respect to the other party. Each party also warrants and represents that it has received independent legal advice from its attorney with respect to the matters set forth in this Contract and the rights and duties arising out of this Contract, or that such party willingly foregoes any such consultation.

29. No Reliance On Representations

Each party warrants and represents that it is not relying and has not relied upon any representation or statement made by the other party with respect to the facts involved or its rights or duties. Each party understands and agrees that the facts relevant, or believed to be relevant to this Contract, have been independently verified. Each party further understands that it is responsible for verifying the representations of law or fact provided by the other party.

30. Information Subject To A Business Associate Agreement

The parties agree to identify for the other party protected health information in the adoption records that was provided through a business associate agreement of a covered entity, as required by 42 U.S.C 1320d and its implementing regulations at 45 CFR Parts 142, 160, 162, and 164, collectively referred to as the HIPAA Privacy Rule.

31. Conflicting Disclosure Laws

The parties agree to follow the requirements of the law for the disclosure of confidential adoption records. When in doubt as to whether a record in its possession should be disclosed or withheld, each party agrees to contact its Legal Counsel for direction.

32. Confidentiality

The CDSS and County staff will comply with the provision of W&IC, Section 10850 and Family Code, Section 9200 et seq. to assure that all applications and records concerning individuals made or kept by any officer or agency in connection with the administration of any service under this Contract will be kept confidential. The CDSS and the County will maintain the confidentiality of all information and records in accordance with current laws, regulations and policies. Exchange of information will be for the purpose of promoting the best interests of the child and the administration of the program.

Each County and CDSS Adoptions Regional/Field Office will maintain their own confidentiality regulations and guidelines to review and follow. The location of those guidelines shall be made known to all employees. The CDSS and the County agree to inform all of its employees, agents, and subcontractors of the confidentiality provisions and further agree that any person knowingly and intentionally violating the provisions of said laws is guilty of a misdemeanor.

33. Mailing Of Confidential Information

The parties may use the United States Postal Service to deliver records containing personal or confidential information to the other provided that the record(s) are double enveloped with the interior envelope identified as confidential with the name of the recipient of the mail on the interior envelope. Additionally, each shall require that the records being delivered shall only be delivered to the addressee with an acknowledgement of receipt. The party sending the records is responsible for obtaining a copy of the signed receipt and maintaining it.

34. Transporting Records

The parties agree that all records containing personal or confidential information shall be transported in a secure manner. When using a third party who is not a party to this Contract to transport records to the other party, the parties each agree to notify the other before sending records to the other containing personal or confidential information, as defined in law. Notice may be provided electronically, but receipt of the message must be confirmed before commencing the transport of the records to the other party. Additionally, except for personal delivery by a representative of the parties a bonded courier service shall be used. The records shall be securely double-enveloped or boxed with the interior envelope or box identified as confidential and properly addressed to the intended recipient/employee. Upon delivery, the courier shall obtain a signed acknowledgement of receipt from the entity receiving the documents. The party sending the records is responsible for obtaining a copy of the signed receipt and maintaining it.

35. Venue

It is agreed by the parties to this Contract that, unless expressly waived by the CDSS, any action brought to enforce any of the provisions of this Contract for declaratory relief shall be filed in and remain in a court of competent jurisdiction in the County of Sacramento in the State of California.

36. Controlling Law

The validity, interpretation and performance of this Contract shall be construed under the laws of the State of California, or when applicable federal law.

37. Captions

The captions of this Contract are for convenience in reference only and the words contained in the captions shall in no way be held to explain, modify, amplify or aid in the interpretation, construction, or meaning of the provisions of this Contract.

38. Definitions

"Shall" and "will" and "agrees" are mandatory. "May" is permissive.

39. Contract Term

This Contract shall commence on July 1, 2015 and end on June 30, 2016. All Services required to be provided by this Contract shall be completed no later than the Contract Termination Date of June 30, 2016.

40. Maximum Contract Price

The County shall pay to Contactor for services as described in Exhibit "A" (Standard Agreement) a maximum contract price not to exceed \$146,927 for the contract term of July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2016.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties hereto have executed this Agreement as set forth below:

Date: May 6, 2015

By: *Deborah Pearce*
California Department of Social Services
Deborah Pearce, Chief
Contracts and Purchasing Bureau

COUNTY OF NEVADA:

Date: _____

By: _____
Honorable Edward C. Scofield
Chair, Board of Supervisors

Attest: _____
~~Donna Landi~~ Julie Patterson Hunter
Clerk of the Board of Supervisors

Approved as to Form:

County Counsel

April 13, 2015

**STATE OF CALIFORNIA
PUBLIC LIABILITY AND WORKERS' COMPENSATION INSURANCE
FISCAL YEAR JULY 1, 2015/ JUNE 30, 2016
Exhibit B**

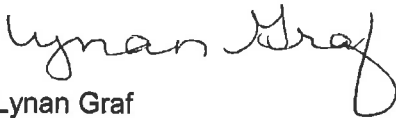
To Whom It May Concern:

The State of California has elected to be self-insured for general liability exposures. (Gov. Code section 990, et. seq.) Under this form of insurance, the State and its employees (as defined in Section 810.2 of the Government Code) are insured for any tort liability that may develop through the carrying out of official State activities and operations. All general liability tort claims against the State of California should be presented to the Victim Compensation and Government Claims Board, P.O. Box 3035, Sacramento, CA 95812-3035. (Gov. Code section 900, et. seq.) Internet link: www.vcgcb.ca.gov.

In addition, the State of California has elected to be insured for its motor vehicle liability exposures through a self-insurance program, administered by the Office of Risk and Insurance Management. Under this program, the Office of Risk and Insurance Management administers liability claims arising out of the operation of motor vehicles. This self-insurance program and the protection it affords applies to vehicles owned and leased by the State of California. All motor vehicle liability tort claims against the State of California should be presented to the Office of Risk and Insurance Management, P.O. Box 989052 MS-403, West Sacramento, CA 95798-9052, (800) 900-3634.

The State of California has a Master Agreement with the State Compensation Insurance Fund regarding workers' compensation benefits for all state employees, as required by the Labor Code.

Sincerely,



Lynan Graf
Associate Risk Analyst
DGS / Office of Risk and Insurance Management
707 3rd Street, 1st Floor, Room 1-330
West Sacramento, CA 95605
Phone: (916) 376-5290

April 13, 2015

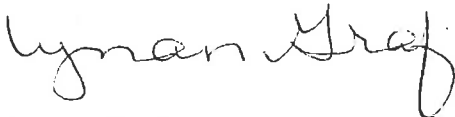
**STATE OF CALIFORNIA
AUTOMOBILE LIABILITY / PHYSICAL DAMAGE
FISCAL YEAR July 1, 2015 / June 30, 2016
Exhibit C**

To whom it may concern:

Please accept this letter as certification that the State of California has elected to be self-insured for liability and physical damage arising out of the ownership, maintenance, and operation of land motor vehicles.

Under this program, the Office of Risk and Insurance Management administers liability claims arising out of the operation of the vehicle. Physical Damage to such vehicle may be reimbursed by the Employing State Agency in accordance with State Administrative Manual (SAM) sections 2420 and 4116.

Sincerely,



Lynan Graf
Associate Risk Analyst
Office of Risk and Insurance Management
Department of General Services
707 3rd Street, 1st Floor
West Sacramento, CA 95605
Phone: (916) 376-5290
Fax: (916) 376-5275
Lynan.graf@dgs.ca.gov