First Revised and Restated
Joint Exercise of Powers Agreement
San Mateo County Operational Area Emergency Services Organization

THIS JOINT POWERS AGREEMENT ("Agreement") is made as of the Effective Date by and between the public entities set forth below, creating the San Mateo County Operational Area Emergency Services Organization Authority ("Organization").

Each public entity executing this Agreement shall be referred to individually as a "Member Agency," with all referred to collectively as "Member Agencies."

RECITALS

Whereas the Member Agencies' goal is to establish a unified emergency services organization; and

Whereas the Member Agencies agree that the purpose of this Organization will be to operate pursuant to Presidential Directive 5, the National Response Framework, National Incident Management System (NIMS), Presidential Directive 8, the National Preparedness Goal and California's Standardized Emergency Management System (SEMS) and local adopted Emergency Operations Plans and Annexes.

Whereas the Member Agencies agree that the participants within this Organization may include all local governments within the geographic area of the County, special districts, unincorporated areas, and participating non-governmental entities; and

Whereas the Member Agencies agree that the collective goal is to provide coordinated plans for the protection of persons and property based on the phases of emergency management; and

Whereas the Member Agencies have the authority to enter into this Agreement under the Joint Exercise of Powers Act, California Government Code Section 6500 et seq. ("Act").

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the recitals and mutual obligations of the Member Agencies as herein contained, the Member Agencies agree as follows:

Article I - GENERAL PROVISIONS

1.01 Purpose
This Agreement creates an entity to exercise the powers shared in common by the Members Agencies to engage in local and regional cooperative planning and coordination and delivery of services. As part of this Organization's purpose, Members Agencies seek to meet or exceed the current Emergency Response Planning and Management Capabilities within the Operational Area. Further, Member Agencies seek to support existing regional Public Information and Notification Systems, and to continue to support the regional hazardous materials emergency response program. Such purposes are to be accomplished and the Members Agencies' common powers exercised as set forth in this Agreement.

1.02 Creation of Authority
Pursuant to the Joint Exercise of Powers Act, the Member Agencies hereby create a public entity to be known as the "San Mateo County Operational Area Emergency Services Organization Authority" ("Organization.") The Organization shall be a public entity separate and apart from the Member Agencies. The geographic jurisdiction of the Organization is all territory within the geographic

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boundaries of the Member Agencies; however, the Organization may undertake any action outside those geographic boundaries as is necessary and incidental to accomplishing its purpose.

1.03 Membership in the Organization
Membership in the Organization is limited to public entities, as defined by the Joint Exercise of Powers Act, located or operating within San Mateo County that have approved and executed this Agreement, and contributed resources of any kind toward establishing and supporting the Organization (including, but not limited to financial, personnel, equipment, or other resources) as approved by the Emergency Services Council.

1.04 Participating Members/Partners in the Organization
Participation in the Organization is intended to ensure cooperative emergency planning and response; all participating Member Agencies and partners are expected to attend all regular and special meetings of the Emergency Services Council, encourage active participation by their jurisdictions in the development of plans and training programs, drills, exercises and training opportunities, and otherwise assist in supporting the implementation of this Agreement.

1.05 Powers of the Organization
The Organization may purchase, lease, own and/or dispose of property and equipment and enter into contract(s), as required to satisfy the purposes of this Agreement. The Organization may employ agents and/or employees, operate works and improvements, sue and be sued in its own name, and invest surplus funds.

Article II- COMMON TERMINOLOGY

2.01 Terminology Defined
Not all vocabulary of technical terms listed in the Agreement is used in the Agreement. In part, the terms are included as a resource to further clarify terminology utilized in documentation, field operations and/or applicable subject matter.

2.02 All-Hazards: “Grouping classification encompassing all conditions, environmental or manmade, that have the potential to cause injury, or death; damage to or loss of equipment, infrastructure services, or property; or alternately causing functional degradation to societal, economic or environmental aspects. Annotation: All-hazards preparedness ensures that if a disaster occurs, people are ready to get through it safely, and respond to it effectively. FEMA began development of an Integrated Emergency Management System with an all-hazards approach that included ‘direction, control and warning systems which are common to the full range of emergencies from small isolated events to the ultimate emergency – war.” (DHS, Lexicon, October 23, 2007, p. 1)

2.03 Catastrophe: An event during which a society incurs, or is threatened to incur, such losses to persons and/or property that the entire society is affected and extraordinary resources and skills are required, some of which must come from other nations.

2.04 Community Emergency Response Team (CERT): “Community Emergency Response Team” (CERT) training is one way for citizens to prepare for an emergency. CERT training is designed to prepare people to help themselves, their families and their neighbors in the event of a catastrophic disaster. Because emergency services personnel may not be able to help everyone immediately, residents can make a difference by using the training obtained in the CERT course to save lives and protect property. (DHS, National Response Framework (Comment Draft). DHS, September 10, 2007, p. 18)
2.05 Command: The act or directing and or controlling by virtue of explicit legal, agency or delegated authority. The term “Command” may also refer to the Incident Commander.

2.06 Emergency: Any incident, whether natural or manmade, that requires responsive action to protect life or property. Under the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act, an emergency means any occasion or instance for which, in the determination of the President, federal assistance is needed to supplement state and local efforts and capabilities to save lives and to protect property and public health and safety or to lessen or avert the threat of a catastrophe in any part of the United States.

2.07 Emergency Management: A subset of incident management, the coordination and integration of all activities necessary to build, sustain and improve the capability to prepare for, protect against, respond to, recover from or mitigate against threatened or actual natural disasters, acts of terrorism or other manmade disasters.

2.08 Emergency Operations Center (EOC): The physical location at which the coordination of information and resources to support incident management activities normally takes place. An EOC may be a temporary facility or may be located in a more central or permanently established facility, perhaps at a higher level of organization within a jurisdiction.

2.09 Incident: An occurrence or event, natural or manmade, which requires a response to protect life or property. Incidents can, for example, include major disasters, emergencies, terrorist attacks, terrorist threats, civil unrest, wild land and urban fires, floods, hazardous materials spills, nuclear accidents, aircraft accidents, earthquakes, hurricanes, tornadoes, tropical storms, tsunamis, war-related disasters, public health and medical emergencies and other occurrences requiring an emergency response.

2.10 Incident Command System (ICS): A standardized on-scene emergency management construct specifically designed to provide for the adoption of an integrated organizational structure that reflects the complexity and demands of single or multiple incidents, without being hindered by jurisdictional boundaries. It is used for all kinds of emergencies and is applicable to small as well as large and complex incidents.

2.11 Local Emergency: The duly proclaimed existence of conditions of disaster or extreme peril to the safety of persons and/or property within territorial limits of a county, city and county, or city caused by such conditions as fire, flood, storm, epidemic, riot, drought, sudden and severe energy shortage, plant or animal infestation or disease, earthquake, tsunami or other conditions which are likely to be beyond the control of the services, personnel, equipment and facilities of that local political subdivision to combat.

2.12 Local Government: A county, municipality, city, town, township, local public authority, school district, special district, intrastate district, council of governments (regardless of whether the council of governments is incorporated as a nonprofit corporation under state law); regional or interstate government entity or agency or instrumentality of a local government; an Indian tribe or authorized tribal entity, or in Alaska a Native Village or Alaska Regional Native Corporation; a rural community, unincorporated town or village or other public entity. See Section 2 (10), Homeland Security Act of 2002, P.L. 107–296, 116 Stat. 2135 (2002).
2.13 Mitigation: Activities providing a critical foundation in the effort to reduce the loss of life and/or property from natural and/or human-caused disasters by avoiding or lessening the impact of a disaster and providing value to the public by creating safer communities. Mitigation seeks to fix the cycle of disaster damage, reconstruction, and repeated damage. These activities or actions, in most cases, will have a long-term sustained effect.

2.14 National Incident Management System (NIMS): System that provides a proactive approach guiding government agencies at all levels, the private sector and nongovernmental organizations to work seamlessly to prepare for, prevent, respond to, recover from, and mitigate the effects of incidents, regardless of cause, size, location or complexity, in order to reduce the loss of life or property and harm to the environment.

2.15 National Response Framework: This document establishes a comprehensive, national, all-hazards approach to domestic incident response. It serves as a guide to enable responders at all levels of government and beyond to provide a unified national response to a disaster. It defines the key principles, roles, and structures that organize the way U.S. jurisdictions plan and respond.

2.16 Operational Area: An intermediate level of the state emergency services organization, consisting of the County and all political subdivisions within the county area. In a state of emergency, the operational area shall serve as a link in the system of communications and coordination between the political subdivisions comprising the operational area and the Regional or State Emergency Operations Center.

2.17 Preparedness: Actions that involve a combination of planning, resources, training, exercising and organizing to build, sustain and improve operational capabilities. Preparedness is the process of identifying the personnel, training and equipment needed for a wide range of potential incidents and developing jurisdiction-specific plans for delivering capabilities when needed for an incident.

2.18 Recovery: The development, coordination and execution of service- and site-restoration plans; the reconstitution of government operations and services; individual, private-sector, nongovernmental and public-assistance programs to provide housing and to promote restoration; long-term care and treatment of affected persons; additional measures for social, political, environmental and economic restoration; evaluation of the incident to identify lessons learned; and post-incident reporting and development of initiatives to mitigate the effects of future incidents.

2.19 Resources: Personnel and major items of equipment, supplies and facilities available or potentially available for assignment to incident operations and for which status is maintained. Under the National Incident Management System, resources are described by kind and type and may be used in operational support or supervisory capacities at an incident or at an emergency operations center.

2.20 Response: Immediate actions to save and sustain lives, protect property and the environment, and meet basic human needs. Response also includes the execution of plans and actions to support short-term recovery.

2.21 Standardized Emergency Management System: The Standardized Emergency Management System (SEMS) is the cornerstone of California’s emergency response system and the fundamental structure for the response phase of emergency management. SEMS is required by the California Emergency Services Act (ESA) for managing multiagency and multijurisdictional responses to emergencies in California. The system unifies all elements of California’s emergency management.
community into a single integrated system and standardizes key elements. SEMS incorporates the use of the Incident Command System (ICS), California Disaster and Civil Defense Master Mutual Aid Agreement (MMAAA), the Operational Area (OA) concept and multiagency or inter-agency coordination. State agencies and local governments are required to use SEMS in order to be eligible for any reimbursement of response-related costs under the state’s disaster assistance programs.

**Article III – GOVERNANCE**

**3.01 Composition of the Council**
The Organization shall be administered by the Emergency Services Council ("Council") consisting of the following members:

- a) A member of the San Mateo County Board of Supervisors, who shall be designated by the Supervisors.
- b) Each governing body of a Member Agency shall annually select and appoint a representative to serve on the Council and may select and appoint an alternate representative. Each representative and alternative representative must be a member of the governing body of the Member Agency.
- c) The Chair of the Emergency Services Council shall be the representative from the Board of Supervisors.
- d) A Vice-Chair shall be selected by the Council.

**3.02 General Purpose of the Organization**
The general purpose of the Organization is to:

- a) Provide structure for administrative and fiscal policies and procedures;
- b) Identify and pursue funding sources;
- c) Set policy;
- d) Maximize the utilization of available resources; and
- e) Oversee all committee activities.

**3.03 Specific Responsibilities of the Council**
The specific responsibilities of the Council shall be as follows:

- a) To review and recommend adoption by the Board of Supervisors and City Councils of each City, Emergency Plans, programs and agreements, in addition to the basic agreements as deemed necessary to carry out the purpose of the Organization.
- b) To approve an annual budget in an amount necessary to carry out the purposes of the Organization. Upon review and approval of the annual budget by the Council, each Member Agency shall recommend the budget to the governing body of the Member Agency for the purpose of securing from each the appropriations in accordance with each Member Agency’s identified allocation (via Budget Sheets.)
- e) Each Member Agency’s Executive Officer shall identify and designate at the beginning of each fiscal year, a local coordinator for regular participation in the San Mateo County Emergency Managers Association. Should the identified Coordinator change at any time during the year, the Member Agency shall advise the Director of Emergency Services within 30 days.
- d) If a Member Agency participates in a contract relationship for the provision of emergency services, it is still required to name a local emergency coordinator to the Emergency Managers Association who will assure the continuity of communication between the Member Agency, the County Office of Emergency Services (OES) and the Organization.
3.04 Meetings of the Organization.
   a) **Regular Meetings:** The Council shall approve a schedule for its regular meetings provided, however, that the Council shall hold at least one regular meeting quarterly. The Council shall fix the date, hour and location of regular meetings by resolution and the Secretary shall transmit a copy of the resolution to each Member Agency at the first meeting of the fiscal year.
   b) **Special Meetings:** Special meetings of the Council may be called in accordance with the Brown Act by the Chair, a majority of the Council or the Director.
   c) **Call, Notice and Conduct of Meetings:** All meetings of the Council, including without limitation, regular, adjourned regular and special meetings, shall be noticed, held and conducted in accordance with the provisions of the Ralph M. Brown Act, California Government Code section 54950 et seq. As soon as practicable, but no later than the time of posting, the Secretary shall provide notice and the agenda to each Member Agency. Any Member Agency may request that an item be considered for placement on the Agenda by submitting the request to the Director of Emergency Services.
   d) Meetings of the Council shall be conducted by the Chair or by the Vice-Chair in the absence of the Chairperson. In the absence of both Chair and Vice-Chair, the meeting shall be chaired by member of the Council selected by a majority vote of the Council.

3.05 Minutes
The Secretary of the Organization shall cause to be kept a digital recording of each meeting, which shall be posted on the SMC OES Website. The Secretary will create brief summary written minutes for approval by the Council.

3.06 Voting
All power of the Organization shall reside with the Council. Each Member Agency shall have one vote. A Member Agency’s alternate representative may participate and vote in the proceedings of the Council only in the absence of that Member Agency’s regular representative. No absentee ballot or proxy voting is permitted.

3.07 Quorum; Required Votes; Approvals
A quorum of the Council is a majority of the representatives of the Member Agencies of the Organization. If the number of Member Agencies is an even number, a majority is fifty percent of the Member Agencies, plus one. The Council may not take any substantive action without a majority of the Member Agencies voting to take that action. Action on non-substantive procedural matters may be taken by a majority of a quorum.

Article IV – PARTICIPATING PARTNERS, EMPLOYEES AND ADVISORY COMMITTEES

4.01 Participating Partners
In order to ensure cooperative emergency planning and response, the following may be invited to attend, as non-voting members, all regular and special meetings of the Council, participate in the development of plans and training programs, and otherwise assist in supporting the implementation of this Agreement:

a) A representative of the American Red Cross to be invited by the Chair with the approval of the Council.

b) One representative each from the San Mateo County Fire Chiefs Association and the San Mateo County Police Chiefs and Sheriff Association as may be invited by the Chair with approval of the Council.

c) One representative for Water Districts as may be invited by the Chair with approval of the Council.
d) One representative for Sanitary Districts as may be invited by the Chair with approval of the Council.

e) One representative for the San Mateo County Harbor District as may be invited by the Chair with approval of the Council.

f) One representative for the Port Authority as may be invited by the Chair with approval of the Council.

g) One representative for San Mateo County Transit District as may be invited by the Chair with approval of the Council.

h) One representative for Pacific, Gas and Electric Company as may be invited by the Chair with approval of the Council.

i) One representative for the Office of Education as may be invited by the Chair with approval of the Council.

j) One representative for the Hospital Consortium as may be invited by the Chair with approval of the Council.

k) One representative for the EMS Agency as may be invited by the Chair with approval of the Council.

l) One representative for the San Mateo Emergency Managers Association as may be invited by the Chair with approval of the Council.

Should other interested parties be identified for participation, the Organization shall consider a written request for participation and may be invited by the Chair with approval of the Council.

4.02 Treasurer
The Treasurer of the County of San Mateo shall be the Treasurer of the Organization. The Treasurer shall be the depository, shall have custody of the accounts, funds and money of the Organization from whatever source, and shall have the duties and obligations set forth in the Joint Exercise of Powers Act.

4.03 Auditor and Financial Accountability
The Organization will ensure financial accountability as required by Section 6505 of the Government Code. The Organization will ensure that audits are conducted as required by that Section. Unless the Council votes to appoint a separate auditor, audits will be conducted by auditor selected to conduct the audit of the Sheriff’s Office. In the event that the Council selects a separate auditor, the full cost of the audit will be the responsibility of the Organization.

The Auditor shall perform the functions of auditor for the Organization and shall make or cause an independent annual audit of the accounts and records of the Organization by a certified public accountant, in compliance with the requirements of the Joint Exercise of Powers Act and generally accepted auditing standards.

4.04 Legal Counsel
The San Mateo County Counsel’s Office shall be the legal counsel for the Organization. To the extent permitted by the Joint Exercise of Powers Act, the Organization may change, by resolution, the legal counsel to the Organization. The full cost of outside legal counsel will be the responsibility of the Organization.

4.05 Secretary to the Organization
The San Mateo County Office of Emergency Services shall provide a Secretary and administrative support to the Organization.

4.06 Contractors
The Organization shall have the power by resolution to appoint and employ such other consultants and independent contractors as may be necessary to carry out the purposes of the Organization. The Organization will be responsible for any/all incurred costs.
4.07 Committees
The Organization may form and dissolve Committees as determined by the Council.

4.08 Director of Emergency Services
The Sheriff or his/her designee is the Director of the San Mateo County Area Office of Emergency Services ("Director"). The SMC Area Office of Emergency Services is responsible for the on-going operation of the San Mateo County Operational Area and is also responsible for achieving the purposes of the Organization as follows:

a) Emergency Response - coordination and planning during any regional emergency in accordance with adopted emergency plans.

b) Plans and Operations - preparation, development, coordination, and integration of compatible and complimentary unified area-wide emergency plans for approval by the State of California and adoption by the Council.

c) Communications - coordination, development and maintenance of an area-wide emergency communications service, including public alert and warning systems, and other situational awareness tools.

d) Public Education and Information - coordination and support of an area-wide public education and information program.

e) Training and Exercise - coordination and assistance in the training and exercising of all County employees identified as Disaster Service Workers, as defined by Sect. 3100 of the California Government Code and volunteers. The Member Agencies will be responsible for the training and exercise of their identified employees; however, OES will provide needed support as requested.

f) Grant Program Administration - coordination and assistance with designated emergency coordinators within the Operational Area in the securing and distribution of grant funds for regional emergency management initiatives and program support.

g) General Administration - coordination and assistance in the procurement and inventory of emergency equipment, management of, maintenance and distribution of area-wide inventories of vital supplies and equipment.

h) The Organization does not intend to acquire title to any property. But in the event that it does, pursuant to Section 6505.1 of the Government Code, the Organization designates the Director to handle that property. In the event that the Organization does acquire title to property, the Director will obtain a bond in the amount determined by the contracting parties.

4.09 Staffing Reimbursement
The County Office of Emergency Services is a bureau of the Sheriff’s Office, staffed by sworn officers and other civil service employees of the County of San Mateo appointed by the Sheriff. The Office of Emergency Services supports the purposes of the Organization. A portion of the cost of Office of Emergency Services staff is reimbursed by the Organization in an amount determined by the funding allocation in this Agreement.

Article V – BUDGET AND COST-SHARING
In consideration of the mutual promises herein contained, it is hereby agreed that the cost of maintaining the Organization will be shared as described below.
a) From the total amount of the annual budget there shall be deducted estimated revenue from federal "matching funds," state grants, and other service revenues.

b) The balance of the annual budget remaining after anticipated revenues have been deducted shall be paid as follows:

1. The county shall pay 50% of the remaining balance.
2. The cities shall pay the remaining 50% of the balance, apportioned in accordance with the following formula:
   i. One half of said 50% to be apportioned by people units or population.
      a) Total population of all member cities divided into one-half of the total of the cities’ share of the budget equals a factor in cents.
      b) Population of each member city times the factor in cents equals the share for each city.
   ii. The remaining one-half of said 50% to be apportioned on the basis of assessed valuation as follows:
      a) Total assessed value of real and personal property in all member cities divided into one-half of the total of the city’s share of the budget equals a factor in mils.
      b) Assessed value of real and personal property of each member city times the factor in mils equals the share for each city.

c) For the purpose of this Agreement the total assessed valuation of real and personal property in all Member Agencies shall be the most recent such total maintained by the offices of the County Assessor.

d) The figures used for population in each city shall be determined by a method and from a source that is mutually acceptable to the majority of members.

e) It is understood and agreed that the financial obligations incurred by the Member Agencies under the provisions of this Agreement will be incurred annually, subject to the limitation that the county and cities are financially able to make funds available.

f) If the Member Agencies representing 25% or more of the county’s population do not approve the budget in any fiscal year, the proposed budget will be referred back to the Director and the Finance Committee for revision and recommendation. If no resolution can be reached by the committee, the Member Agencies may proceed to adopt budgets that provide those services they deem necessary for adequate emergency services protection as a whole, but any Member Agency shall be financially responsible for that portion of the budget unilaterally adopted. Any Member Agency that does not meet its financial commitment under the adopted budget will lose its voting status and/or other such privileges of membership as determined by the Council.

g) It is further agreed that any excess in federal or state funds, in any year, shall be reviewed by the Finance Committee, who will then make a recommendation to the Council, as to the disposition of the excess funds.

h) With respect any Member Agency that is not a City or the County, the amount to be contributed is determined by a negotiation between those Member Agencies and the Director Emergency Services and must be approved by the Council. A letter memorializing the agreed contribution will be an attachment to this Agreement.

Article VI - INSURANCE

a) The County shall add the Organization and Emergency Services Council to its existing excess liability insurance coverage and shall maintain such coverage in full force and effect during the life of the Agreement. Member Agencies understand that the County is partially self-insured. Unless the Organization decides otherwise, County shall provide for the defense of any claims or litigation within the self-insured retention. Legal representation by the County will ordinarily be provided by the County Counsel.
b) Any out-of-pocket expense or loss, by way of judgment or settlement, arising out of the operation of this Agreement, within the limits of the County’s self-insured retention shall be shared by the parties in accordance with the formula as described in Article V (b).

Article VII - EFFECTIVENESS
This Agreement shall be effective upon its execution by all Member Agencies. It is effective as to new Members Agencies upon adoption and approval by the Council and by the new Member Agency’s governing body. This Agreement shall continue in effect until terminated as provided herein.

Article VIII – TERM AND TERMINATION

8.01 Withdrawal by Members
a) Any Member Agency may withdraw from this Agreement by written notice given by such Member Agency to all other Member Agencies, which notice shall be given at least 120 days prior to the commencement of the fiscal year in which it is to take effect. For the purpose of such notice, a fiscal year is defined as July 1 of a calendar year through June 30 of the succeeding calendar year.

b) Any former or prospective Member Agency may enter or re-enter the organization by petition to the Council by its governing body, and majority approval of the petition by the Council. Upon approval, the new Member Agency must agree in writing to all terms of this Agreement.

c) Should a Member Agency withdraw less than 120 days prior to the commencement of the fiscal year, the withdrawal will be effective but that Member Agency will be responsible for its calculated contribution for the year pursuant to Article V.

d) Should a Member Agency give required notice and withdraw from the Agreement, the prior contribution of that Member Agency will be divided equally by formula among the remaining Member Agencies.

8.02 Termination of Organization and Disposition of Surplus Money and Property
This Agreement shall terminate effective upon a vote of the Council, the County and by at least eleven (11) cities representing the majority of the population of the County. In the event that the Organization ceases to exist, surplus funds will be returned consistent with Section 6512 of the Government Code in proportion to the contributions made. The Organization does not intend to acquire title to any property. But in the event that it does, title to all property acquired by the Organization, shall be owned by the County of San Mateo to be used for “County Wide” purposes.

8.03 Amendments
Any proposed Amendments to this Agreement may be recommended by the Council but must be ratified by each Member Agency’s governing body.

8.04 Review of this Agreement
The Council will conduct a review of this Agreement in 2020 and every five years thereafter to determine whether any changes to the Agreement are necessary or advisable. In the event that the Council concludes that changes should be made, each Member Agency representative will take those recommended changes to the governing body of the Member Agency for ratification.

8.05 Bylaws
The Council may, from time to time, adopt and/or amend Bylaws for the conduct of its affairs; provided the purpose is consistent with this Agreement and/or are necessary and appropriate.
Article IX - MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS

9.01 Notices
It shall be the responsibility of the Sheriff or his/her designee to ensure all notices are provided to Member Agencies and posted in compliance with the legal requirements of the Agreement.

9.02 Severability
If any one or more of the terms, provisions, promises, covenants, or conditions of this Agreement were, to any extent, adjudged invalid, unenforceable, void, or voidable for any reason whatsoever by a court of competent jurisdiction, each and all of the remaining terms, provisions, promises, covenants, and conditions of this Agreement shall not be affected thereby and shall be valid and enforceable to the fullest extent permitted by law.

9.03 Supersession
It is mutually understood and agreed by the Member Agencies that this Agreement supersedes the 1997 San Mateo County Operational Area Joint Powers Agreement, any previous agreements on this subject matter and any amendments thereto.

9.04 Assignment
No Member Agency shall assign any rights or obligations under this Agreement without the prior written consent of the Council.

9.05 Governing Law
This Agreement is made and to be performed in the State of California, and as such, California substantive and procedural law shall apply. Venue for any litigation under this Agreement shall be in the County of San Mateo.

9.06 Headings
The section headings herein are for convenience only and are not to be construed as modifying or governing the language of this Agreement.

9.07 Counterparts
This Agreement may be executed in counterparts, each of which will be deemed an original and all of which shall constitute this Agreement.

9.08 No Third Party Beneficiaries
This Agreement and the obligations hereunder are not intended to benefit any party other than the Authority and its Members Agencies, except as expressly provided otherwise herein. No entity that is not a signatory to this Agreement shall have any rights or causes of action against any party to this Agreement as a result of that party's performance or non-performance under this Agreement, except as expressly provided otherwise herein.

9.09 Filing of Notice of Agreement
Within 30 days after the Effective Date, the Secretary shall cause to be filed with the Secretary of State the notice of Agreement required by the Act. Within 30 days after any amendment to this Agreement, the Secretary shall file the amendment with the Secretary of State.

9.10 Conflict of Interest Code
The Organization shall adopt a conflict of interest code as required by law. Member Agencies understand that representatives and alternate representatives are listed on the Organization’s Conflict of Interest Code and will be responsible for filing a Form 700 with the Organization.
9.11 Indemnification
The Organization shall defend, indemnify and hold harmless each Member Agency (and each
Member Agency's officers, agents, and employees) from any and all liability, including but not
limited to claims, losses, suits, injuries, damages, costs and expenses (including attorney's fees,)
 arising from or as a result of any acts, errors or omissions of the Organization or its officers, agents
or employees.

Each Member Agency shall defend, indemnify and hold harmless the other Member Agencies (and
their officers, agents, and employees) from any and all liability, including but not limited to claims,
losses, suits, injuries, damages, costs and expenses (including attorney's fees,) arising from or as a
result of any acts, errors or omissions of that party or its officers, agents or employees.

9.12 Dispute Resolution/Legal Proceedings
Disputes regarding the interpretation or application of any provision of this Agreement shall, to the
extent reasonably feasible, be resolved through good faith negotiations between the Member
Agencies and/or the Organization.

9.13 Authorization to Enter Into Agreement
Each party warrants that the person signing this Agreement on its behalf is authorized to bind that
party to this Agreement.

9.14 Confirmation of Jurisdictional Authority
By signing this Agreement, the Member Agencies retain all authority granted to them by the State
and/or their respective Charters. The powers and/or authority granted pursuant to this Agreement
shall in no way serve to limit or restrict an individual Member Agency’s jurisdictional authority.

9.15 Participation Understanding
The Member Agencies understand that to facilitate proper emergency response, each public entity
has an important role to play. By adopting this Agreement, the Member Agencies recognize the
importance of that role. Descriptions of the activities that are expected of each Member Agency are
contained in Attachment A to this Agreement. Attachment A may be modified by a majority of the
Council at a meeting of the Organization.

(SIGNATURES ARE ON FOLLOWING PAGE)
IN WITNESS WHEREOF, each Member Agency has caused this Agreement to be executed and attested by its proper officers thereunto duly authorized, as follows:

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