

STATE OF TEXAS §
 § **INTERLOCAL COOPERATION AGREEMENT**
COUNTY OF TARRANT §

This Interlocal Agreement for Emergency 9-1-1 Communications Center and Dispatch Services (“Agreement”) is entered into by and between the City of Everman, Texas, a home-rule municipal corporation (“Everman”) and the City of Azle, Texas, a home-rule municipal corporation (“Azle”) by and through their authorized representatives. Everman and Azle are at times each referred to herein as a “Party” or collectively as the “Parties.”

RECITALS:

WHEREAS, Everman has established a comprehensive regional public safety and public service communications and dispatch center (“Communications Center”); and

WHEREAS, Everman’s Communications Center is equipped with radio, telephone and data equipment and is designated as an emergency 9-1-1 communications Public Safety Answering Point (“PSAP”); and

WHEREAS, Everman currently has equipment and operator capacity above and beyond the immediate needs of Everman and has offered to make such equipment and operators available to address the regional communications/dispatch needs for the purpose of local government/agency communications; and

WHEREAS, Everman has determined that it is in the best interests of the public to share its communication facility, equipment and personnel capabilities with cities, towns, fire departments, emergency medical care providers and other governmental entities in order to facilitate more effective and efficient use of the Communications Center; and

WHEREAS, Azle has requested that Everman provide emergency 9-1-1 communications and dispatch services to Azle as outlined in this Agreement, and Everman has agreed to provide such services under the terms and conditions of this Agreement and pursuant to the provisions of Chapter 791 of the Texas Government Code (otherwise known as the Interlocal Cooperation Act) and specifically Section 791.006 of the Texas Government Code, as amended; and

WHEREAS, the provision of emergency 9-1-1 communications and dispatch services is a governmental function that serves the public health and welfare and is of mutual concern to the Parties; and

WHEREAS, Everman and Azle deem it to be in the best interest of both Parties to enter into this Agreement; and

WHEREAS, each Party paying for the performance of governmental functions or services will make payments from current revenues available to the paying Party and all payments are in an amount that fairly compensates the performing Party for the services or functions performed under this Agreement;

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the mutual covenants contained herein, Everman and Azle hereby agree as follows:

Article I
Performance of Services

1.1 Everman shall provide to Azle, on a non-exclusive basis, emergency 9-1-1 communication and dispatch services through its Communications Center for the following emergencies: fire, medical, weather, hazardous materials and general civil emergencies (collectively, "Services"). In order to facilitate the Services, Azle shall provide to Everman's communications personnel, on a continuing basis, all necessary street, apparatus and response information, as well as all necessary dispatching information unique to Azle's operations.

1.2 Azle shall further be responsible for contacting and coordinating with Tarrant 9-1-1 and any other applicable agencies or authorities and take all actions necessary for establishment, configuration, and operation required to facilitate Everman's provision of the Services and for payment of all associated costs.

1.3 Without waiving any governmental immunity to which it is entitled, Everman agrees to and accepts full responsibility for the acts, negligence and/or omissions of all Everman employees and agents in connection with the performance of the Services. Without waiving any governmental immunity to which it is entitled, Azle agrees to and accepts full responsibility for the acts, negligence and/or omissions of all Azle employees and agents. It is also the responsibility of Azle to ensure that its use of the Communications Center conforms to all Federal Communications Commission rules and regulations. The Parties understand and agree that this assignment of liability is intended to be different than liability that would otherwise be assigned pursuant to Government Code Section 791.006(a).

1.4 On an ongoing basis, Everman and Azle agree to provide complete and adequate training to personnel selected by Azle and/or Everman in the use of the Communications Center.

1.5 It is specifically agreed and understood by the Parties hereto that no property rights are granted under this Agreement.

1.7 Correspondence, comments, requests, and complaints regarding Services rendered under this Agreement shall be in writing and forwarded to the persons designated below for receipt of notices. Failure to properly forward comments, requests, demands, and complaints may be considered as sufficient cause to terminate this Agreement under Section 1.6 above.

1.8 It is understood by the Parties that unforeseen circumstances may arise which prevent Everman from providing Services at a particular time, however, Everman agrees that it has the duty and responsibility of rendering Services twenty-four hours per day, seven days a week to citizens of both Everman and Azle.

1.9 There is hereby created a Chiefs Advisory Board. During the term of this Agreement, the Chiefs Advisory Board shall be composed of the Police and Fire Chiefs from Everman, the Police and Fire Chiefs from Azle, the police chief(s) from any other cities or entities that enter into a similar Interlocal Agreement for police dispatch services with Everman, and the fire chief(s) from any other cities or entities that enter into a similar Interlocal Agreement for fire dispatch services with Everman. The Everman Chief of Police shall be the Chairman of the Chiefs

Advisory Board and shall have the authority to call meetings of the Chiefs Advisory Board. A majority of the members of the Chiefs Advisory Board constitutes a quorum to conduct business. The Chiefs Advisory Board will, by majority vote of the full membership, set policies and procedures for personnel and equipment required for the provision of Services under this Agreement, including but not limited to criteria for determination of priorities in the dispatching and use of equipment and personnel.

Article II Term

The term of this Agreement shall commence on Effective Date and shall terminate five (5) years after the Effective Date ("Primary Term"), unless terminated earlier in accordance with this Agreement. Upon the completion of the Primary Term, this Agreement shall automatically renew for two (2) successive five (5) year periods ("Renewal Terms"), unless terminated earlier by either Party in accordance with this Agreement.

Article III Termination

3.1 This Agreement may be terminated on the occurrence of either of the following:

- (a) Either Party may terminate the Agreement by providing the other Party written notice of termination at least one hundred and eighty (180) days prior to the anticipated date of termination; or
- (b) Mutual agreement of termination of the Agreement, executed in writing by both Parties, without the requisite one hundred and eighty (180) days prior written notice.

3.2 In the event of a termination, Everman shall be compensated on a pro-rata basis for all Services performed to the termination date. In the event of termination, should Everman be over-compensated on a pro-rata basis for all Services performed to the termination date, Azle shall be reimbursed on a pro-rata basis for all such over-compensation. Receipt of payment and/or reimbursement shall not constitute a waiver of any claim that may otherwise arise out of this Agreement. At the sole discretion of Everman, this Agreement may be terminated or renegotiated in the event Azle annexes additional territory into its corporate limits and/or increases the area the Azle services. Immediately upon the completion of any annexation proceedings, Azle shall notify Everman of the annexation, in writing, and provide Everman with a legal description of the annexed area.

Article IV Fee for Services

4.1 Azle, out of current available revenue, shall annually pay to Everman the amounts set forth below as compensation for Everman's provision of the Services during the Term and each

Renewal Term of this Agreement, except as otherwise provided in this Section (the "Annual Compensation Amount"). Such amount is based upon the annual costs incurred by Everman in order to fulfill Everman's obligations under this Agreement. Azle shall pay the Annual Compensation Amount to Everman annually on or before the Effective Date of this Agreement and each annual anniversary of the Effective Date thereafter during the Term and each Renewal Term of this Agreement. The Annual Compensation Amount for the first year of the Primary Term under this Agreement shall be \$38,500.00, subject to sections 4.2 and 4.3 of this Agreement. For each year of the Primary Term thereafter and for any year of a Renewal Term, the Annual Compensation Amount shall be set in accordance with the provisions of sections 4.2 and 4.3 of this Agreement.

4.2 For the second through fifth years of the Primary Term and for any year of a Renewal Term, the Parties may, by mutual agreement, leave unchanged or decrease the Annual Compensation Amount. If increases are needed for costs for providing the Services, the increases shall be communicated by Everman to Azle in writing on or before March 1 of each year during the Primary Term and any Renewal Term. To the extent that the total amount of any such increases communicated by Everman would be in excess of fifteen percent (15%) of the full amount of Azle's payment due for the then-current term, Azle may, at its discretion, elect to terminate this Agreement by providing Everman written notice of termination at least one hundred and eighty (180) days before the start of the next successive Primary or Renewal Term (i.e. on or before July 5 of the then-current year). In such an event, this Agreement shall be deemed to terminate immediately before said Primary or Renewal Term would have commenced and the Parties shall have no further obligations under this Agreement.

Article V Indemnification

5.1 **TO THE EXTENT ALLOWED BY LAW, EACH PARTY HERETO SHALL INDEMNIFY AND SAVE HARMLESS THE OTHER PARTY, ITS OFFICERS, AGENTS, AND EMPLOYEES FROM ALL SUITS, ACTIONS, LOSSES, DAMAGES, CLAIMS, OR LIABILITY OF ANY CHARACTER, TYPE, OR DESCRIPTION, INCLUDING WITHOUT LIMITING THE GENERALITY OF THE FOREGOING ALL EXPENSES OF LITIGATION, COURT COSTS, AND ATTORNEY'S FEES FOR INJURY OR DEATH TO ANY PERSON, OR INJURY TO ANY PROPERTY, RECEIVED OR SUSTAINED BY ANY PERSON OR PERSONS OR PROPERTY, ARISING OUT OF, OR OCCASIONED BY, THE ACTS OF THE PARTY, ITS OFFICERS, AGENTS, OR EMPLOYEES IN THE EXECUTION OR PERFORMANCE OF THIS AGREEMENT.**

5.2 **IT IS EXPRESSLY UNDERSTOOD AND AGREED THAT, IN THE EXECUTION OF THIS AGREEMENT, NO PARTY WAIVES, NOR SHALL BE DEEMED HEREBY TO WAIVE, ANY IMMUNITY OR DEFENSE THAT WOULD OTHERWISE BE AVAILABLE TO OR AGAINST CLAIMS ARISING IN THE EXERCISE OF GOVERNMENTAL FUNCTIONS RELATING HERETO OR OTHERWISE. BY ENTERING INTO THIS AGREEMENT, THE PARTIES DO NOT CREATE ANY OBLIGATIONS EXPRESSED OR IMPLIED, OTHER THAN THOSE SET FORTH HEREIN, AND THIS AGREEMENT SHALL NOT CREATE ANY RIGHTS IN ANY PARTIES NOT SIGNATORY HERETO.**

5.3 EACH PARTY AGREES TO AND ACCEPTS FULL RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE ACTS, NEGLIGENCE AND/OR OMISSIONS OF SUCH PARTY'S OFFICERS, AGENTS AND EMPLOYEES IN THE EXECUTION AND PERFORMANCE OF THIS AGREEMENT.

Article VI
Miscellaneous Provisions

5.1 **Consideration.** This Agreement contains the entire agreement of the parties with respect to the matters contained herein and may not be modified or terminated except upon the provisions hereof or by the mutual written agreement of the parties hereto.

5.2 **Notice.** Any notice provided or permitted to be given under this Agreement must be in writing and may be served by depositing same in the United States mail, addressed to the Party to be notified, postage pre-paid and registered or certified with return receipt requested, or be delivered the same in person to such Party via a hand-delivery service, Federal Express or any courier service that provides a return receipt showing the date of actual delivery of same to the addressee thereof. Notice given in accordance herewith shall be effective upon receipt at the address of the addressee. For purposes of notification, the addresses of the Parties shall be as follows:

If to Azle, to:	City of Azle Attn: _____ 505 W. Main St Azle, Texas 76020
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If to Everman, to:	City of Everman Attn: Craig Spencer City Manager 212 N. Race Street Everman, Texas 76140
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5.3 **Entire Agreement.** This Agreement represents the entire and integrated agreement between the Parties hereto and supersedes all prior negotiations, representations and/or agreements, either written or oral. This Agreement may be amended only by a written instrument signed by both parties

5.4 **Venue and Governing Law.** This Agreement is performable in Tarrant County, Texas and any of its terms or provisions, as well as the rights and duties of the Parties hereto, shall be governed by the laws of the State of Texas, and both Parties agree that venue shall be in Tarrant County, Texas.

5.5 **Binding Effect.** This Agreement shall be binding on and inure to the benefit of the Parties and their respective heirs, executors, administrators, legal representatives, successors, and assigns when permitted by this Agreement.

5.6 **Authority to Execute.** The individuals executing this Agreement on behalf of the respective Parties below represent to each other and to others that all appropriate and necessary

action has been taken to authorize the individual who is executing this Agreement to do so for and on behalf of the Party for which his or her signature appears, that there are no other parties or entities required to execute this Agreement in order for the same to be an authorized and binding agreement on the Party for whom the individual is signing this Agreement and that each individual affixing his or her signature hereto is authorized to do so, and such authorization is valid and effective on the date hereof.

5.7 **Severability.** The provisions of this Agreement are severable. In the event that any paragraph, section, subdivision, sentence, clause or phrase of this Agreement shall be found to be contrary to the law, or contrary to any rule or regulation having the force and effect of the law, such decisions shall not affect the remaining portions of this Agreement. However, upon the occurrence of such event, either Party may terminate this Agreement by giving the other Party fifteen (15) days written notice of its intent to terminate.

5.8 **Amendments.** Everman and Azle may amend this Agreement only by mutual agreement of the Parties in writing.

5.9 **Counterparts.** This Agreement may be executed in a number of identical counterparts, each of which shall be deemed an original for all purposes. An electronic mail and/or facsimile signature will also be deemed to constitute an original if properly executed and delivered to the other Party.

5.10 **Assignment.** Except as may be permitted under this Agreement, the Agreement may not be assigned by any Party without the prior written consent of the other Party.

5.11 **Force Majeure.** In the event that any performance by either Everman or Azle of any of its obligations under this Agreement shall be in any way prevented, interrupted, or delayed by an act of God, acts of war, riot or civil commotion, by and act of State, by strikes, fire or flood, pandemic, or by the occurrence of any other event or development beyond the control of either Everman or Azle; either Party, as applicable, shall be excused from such performance for such a period of time as is reasonably necessary after such occurrence abates for the effects thereof to have dissipated or for Everman or Azle to have effected a reasonable recovery therefrom, as the case may be. Everman acknowledges, however, the vital importance of the services provided under this Agreement and, therefore, will undertake all steps necessary to ensure that said services are uninterrupted by any Force Majeure event, to the fullest extent possible. Failure of Everman to implement steps necessary to avoid interruption caused by a Force Majeure event will be deemed a breach of this Agreement.

5.11 **Representations.** Each signatory represents this Agreement has been read by the Party for which this Agreement is executed, that each Party has had an opportunity to confer with counsel, on the matters contained herein.

5.12 **Drafting Provisions.** This Agreement shall be deemed to have been drafted equally by all Parties hereto. The language of all parts of this Agreement shall be constructed as a whole according to its fair and common meaning, and any presumption or principle that the language herein is to be construed against any Party shall not apply. Headings in this Agreement are for the convenience of the Parties and are not intended to be used in construing this Agreement.

5.13 **Independent Contractor.** Except as otherwise expressly provided herein, Azle and Everman agree and acknowledge that each entity is not an agent of the other entity and that each entity is responsible for its own acts, forbearance, negligence and deeds, and for those of its agents or employees in conjunction with the performance of work covered under this Agreement.

5.14 **No Third-Party Beneficiaries.** Nothing in this Agreement shall be construed to create any right in any third party not a signatory to this Agreement, and the Parties do not intend to create any third-party beneficiaries by entering into this Agreement.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Agreement is effective on this the ___ of _____, 2023 (the "Effective Date").

CITY OF AZLE, TEXAS

CITY OF EVERMAN, TEXAS



Tom Muir, City Manager

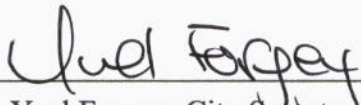
Craig Spencer, City Manager

Date: 8/2/2023

Date: _____

ATTEST:

ATTEST:



Yael Forgey, City Secretary

Mindi Parks, City Secretary

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

John Oliver, Asst. City Attorney
(051923vwtTM135151)

