MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING (MOU) REGARDING A JOINT REGIONAL NEXT-GENERATION 9-1-1 ROUTING PROJECT BETWEEN BAKER COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS, FLAGLER COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS, **ALACHUA COUNTY BOARD** OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS, PUTNAM COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS, COLUMBIA COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS, ST. JOHNS COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS, DUVAL CITY COUNCIL, NASSAU COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS, UNION COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS, LEVY COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS, MARION COUNTY **BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**

WHEREAS, this memorandum of understanding ("MOU") is made and entered into by and between Baker County Board Of County Commissioners (hereinafter, Baker BOCC), Flagler County Board Of County Commissioners (hereinafter, Flagler BOCC), Alachua County Board of County Commissioners (hereinafter, Alachua BOCC) Putnam County Board of County Commissioners (hereinafter, Putnam BOCC), Columbia County Board of County Commissioners (hereinafter, Columbia BOCC), St. Johns County Board of County Commissioners (hereinafter, St. Johns BOCC), Duval County City Council (hereinafter, Duval City Council), Nassau County Board of County Commissioners (hereinafter, Nassau BOCC), Union County Board of County Commissioners (Levy Board of County Commissioners (Levy Bocc), and Marion County Board of County Commissioners (Marion BOCC) who desire to enter a Memorandum of Understanding regarding the parties Joint Regional Next Generation 9-1-1 (NG9-1-1) Systems and Services Project ("Project").

WHEREAS, the Board Of County Commissioners listed in this agreement will be referred to collectively as the "Parties" and individually referred to as a "Party".

WHEREAS, the Parties are authorized by 163.01, Florida Statutes, to enter into interlocal agreements to cooperatively and efficiently use their powers to provide public services that will advance the general health, safety, and welfare of their respective citizens. WHEREAS, an MOU is a requirement of the State E9-1-1 Board to receive multiple-year grant funding to support NG9-1-1 Systems and Services.

I. PURPOSE

The AlachuaBaker BOCC, BakerFlagler BOCC, Alachua Bradford BOCC, Putnam Clay BOCC, Columbia BOCC, St. JohnsDixie BOCC, Duval City Council, Nassau Flagler BOCC, Union Gilchrist BOCC, Levy BOCC, and Marion BOCC, Nassau BOCC, Putnam BOCC, St. Johns BOCC, and Union BOCC encompass a portion of the 9-1-1 Region 35 as designated by the Florida Department of Management Services (DMS) for the purposes of establishing regional 9-1-1 initiatives. Emergency incidents and disasters do not recognize county boundaries.

Additionally, the legacy routing of 9-1-1 calls, built around landline telephone technology does not route cellular callers to the authorities based on their physical location. A large majority of calls for assistance now come from cellular callers. This MOU serves to further the 2019 legislative initiative of HB 441 that subsequently created FS 365.177. "Transfer of [emergency] calls between systems". Each BOCC and City Council outlined in this MOU recognizes the need to move toward NG9-1-1and allow for improved 9-1-1 services across jurisdictional boundaries. Each BOCC and City Council agrees to participate. This MOU will establish the framework through which each individual county will collaborate to implement the Project. Specifically, the counties desire to plan, operate and maintain a shared NG9-1-1 Network and critical components and services necessary to ensure the most accurate and efficient routing of 9-1-1 calls. This may include but is not limited to an Emergency Services IP Network (ESInet), Next Generation (NG) Core Services, Geographic Information System (GIS) data accuracy, GIS data aggregation and Cybersecurity.

II. GRANT AWARD

The Florida 9-1-1 State Grant Program allows for a five-year award for regional projects with the provision of an MOU between the participating counties of that region. These state grants are awarded to assist Public Safety Answering Points (PSAPs) in upgrading to NG9-1-1 capabilities. The Florida E9-1-1 Board, as Grantor, will be distributing funds to qualifying local governments in accordance with grant guidelines. Each party understands that it will be responsible for submitting a grant application and subsequent documentation for grant reimbursement. All the parties agree to abide by the grant conditions.

III. REGIONAL COORDINATION

The parties agree to:

- A. Collaborate on NG9-1-1 requirements that ensure maximum levels of interoperability through the involvement of the appropriate local, state, and tribal authorities within the counties and other entities.
- B. Collaborate on NG9-1-1-related matters and encourage collaboration between PSAPs and GIS authorities in the development, maintenance, and sharing of the critical GIS data needed to support NG9-1-1 services across the region and the State of Florida.

IV. INFORMATION AND OWNERSHIP

Each party shall retain ownership, control of, and remain the public record custodian of all information it contributes to the shared NG-9-1-1 system. Counties may access shared data in the secure network or through shared data repositories as necessary for the effective operation of the system.

As it relates to the NG9-1-1 ESInet and Core Services, each party agrees to select NG9-1-1 providers that meet the latest <u>NENA i3 Standard</u>, <u>NENA GIS Data Model</u>, and NENA <u>Next Generation Security standards</u>.

V. TERMINATION

Each party's obligation to perform in accordance with this MOU is contingent upon the availability and appropriation of grant funds that are appropriated or allocated for the purpose of carrying out this MOU. Any party may terminate their participation in this MOU if it does not receive funds to allow it to participate in the Project. Any party wishing to terminate its participation pursuant to this provision shall notify the other parties in writing at least thirty (30) days before withdrawing from the Project.

- A. All parties agree that they will not terminate their participation in this MOU prior to the end of the grant project period without the E9-1-1 Board and DMS (the grantor) written approval. After the grant project period has ended, any party may terminate their participation in this agreement upon thirty (30) days of written notice to all other parties.
- B. Any party who terminates its participation in the Project shall bear the cost of any local modifications necessary to exit participation in the shared 9-1-1 system necessitated by the termination. No terminating party shall be entitled to a refund of any payments made to the shared system.

VII. LIABILITY

No participating party shall be liable to any other party for any third-party claim, which may arise out of the shared 9-1-1 system itself, its operation or use, or its failure to operate as anticipated, upon whatever cause of action any claim is based. The shared 9-1-1 system is designed to enhance regional 9-1-1 functions and assist emergency services agencies to provide backup to one another in disasters. It is not intended to be a substitute for the exercise of judgment or supervision of individual county professionals or employees. All participating parties acknowledge that the responsibility for providing 9-1-1 and public safety services or other government-related services rests with the respective county which is providing such service and not with any other party to this MOU.

IX. NOTICE

All notices required to be given under this MOU shall be deemed sufficient to each party when delivered by email or registered or certified mail to:

Alachua County Board of County Commissioners

Baker County Board of County Commissioners

Bradford County Board of County Commissioners

Clay County Board of County Commissioners

Columbia County Board of County Commissioners

Dixie County Board of County Commissioners

Duval City Council

Flagler Board of County Commissioners

Gilchrist Alachua County Board of County Commissioners

Levy County Board of County Commissioners

Marion County Board of County Commissioners

Nassau County Board of County Commissioners

Putnam County Board of County Commissioners

Columbia County Board of County Commissioners

Union County Board of County Commissioners

X. MODIFICATIONS

This MOU may be amended by a written agreement signed by each of the Board of County Commissioners. Modifications of this MOU do not relieve counties from implementing the content of the approved grant awards. Modifications to this MOU may require approval by the E9-1-1 Board and DMS.

XI. EFFECTIVE/DURATION

This MOU shall be effective on the date of the signature hereon. The term of this MOU shall be perpetual unless earlier terminated by any party as provided herein.

Signatures continue on the next pages

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