

STATE OF LOUISIANA

PARISH OF LAFAYETTE

**COOPERATIVE ENDEAVOR AGREEMENT BETWEEN
CITY OF YOUNGSVILLE AND LAFAYETTE CHARTER FOUNDATION**

This Cooperative Endeavor Agreement (the "Agreement") is made and entered into on the dates indicated hereinbelow and is effective as of the 1st day of August, 2026 by and between;

THE CITY OF YOUNGSVILLE, a Larason Act municipality and political subdivision of the State R of Louisiana, represented herein by its Mayor, Ken Ritter, as duly authorized by a resolution adopted on the _____ day of _____, 2026, (hereinafter referred to as the "City");

and

LAFAYETTE CHARTER FOUNDATION, INC., a Louisiana non-profit corporation and charter authorizer for the Acadiana Renaissance Charter Academy, herein represented by Dr. Mary Louella Riggs-Cook its duly authorized agent, (hereinafter referred to as the "Foundation");

each represented herein by the undersigned, duly authorized to act herein, who declare as follows:

WITNESSETH

WHEREAS, Article VII, Section 14 of the Constitution of the State of Louisiana of 1974 provides, "For a public purpose, the State and its political subdivisions or political corporations may engage in cooperative endeavors with each other, with the United States or its agencies, or with any public or private association, corporation, or individual"; and

WHEREAS, it is the desire of the City and the Foundation to enter into this Agreement which is and shall constitute an Cooperative Endeavor Agreement as contemplated by Article VII, Section 14 of the Constitution of the State of Louisiana of 1974; and

WHEREAS, it is the intention of the City and the Foundation to enhance the security of students, teachers and employees of the Acadiana Renaissance Charter Academy by providing qualified, POST-Certified police officers as School Resource Officers ("SROs") for such schools; and

WHEREAS, the Foundation has agreed to contribute to the cost for such services in accordance with the terms and conditions set forth in this Agreement; and

WHEREAS, the City and the Foundation understand that it is advantageous to the parents and administration, to enhance and improve the safety of the Acadiana Renaissance Charter Academy Elementary School and the Acadiana Renaissance Charter Academy High School respectively located at 600 & 614 Savoy Road, Youngsville, Louisiana 70592 (collectively referred to as the "Acadiana Renaissance Charter Academy" or the "Academy")

NOW THEREFORE, in consideration of the mutual covenants contained herein, the City and the Foundation agree as follows, to-wit:

PURPOSE

The primary purpose of this Agreement is to enhance the security of students, teachers and employees of the Acadiana Renaissance Charter Academy Elementary School and the Acadiana Renaissance Charter Academy High School respectively located at 600 & 614 Savoy Road, Youngsville, Louisiana 70592.

The City will provide a commissioned, POST-Certified, uniformed officer who meets the qualifications of La. R.S. 17:416.19 to enhance the security at the Acadiana Renaissance Charter

Academy. The duties and responsibilities of the SROs shall include, but not be limited to, the following:

SRO's DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

- A. *Rules and Regulations:* The SROs shall abide by the policies, rules and regulations of the Acadiana Renaissance Charter Academy. The Academy shall supply the SROs with a copy of its rules and regulations.
- B. *Work Hours:* The SROs shall report to work at least fifteen (15) minutes prior to their scheduled work hours. The SRO's work schedule shall be set and distributed by the Academy principals, following consultation with the City's Chief. Any departure from this schedule must be approved by the City's Chief, who shall act as the SRO Program Manager (herein referred to as "SRO Program Manager"). The Academy's Principals shall be notified accordingly by the SRO Program Manager.
- C. *Uniform:* The SRO shall be required to wear their Class A uniforms at all school activities that he/she attends in a job-related capacity. Exceptions may be approved by the City's Chief, or SRO Program Manager.
- D. *Equipment:* SRO is required to have a marked police vehicle, service weapon, and body camera with sufficient recording capability for 30 days of storage. Each SRO is further responsible for maintaining and having available any other equipment assigned in connection with the performance of his/her duties. The Academy will provide a workspace adequate for the SRO to complete interviews and paperwork and may provide hand-held metal detectors where available in connection with performing his/her duties.
- E. *Lunch:* The SRO shall be given thirty (30) minutes each day for lunch. The lunch break shall be scheduled by the SRO and the school Principal. This lunch period shall be taken on campus.
- F. *Violations:* The SRO shall not be responsible for enforcement of the Academy's policies but shall report any violations of the Academy's policy to the school Principal or his/her designee.
- G. *Parent Conferences:* The SRO may attend parent conferences with the consent of the parent and upon request of Acadiana Renaissance Charter Academy's administration. However, the SRO does not assume the role of the school caseworker or counselor. The SRO may make recommendations regarding intervention and preventative strategies and community resources which might be available to the child.
- H. *Criminal Violations:* Criminal violations shall be handled as prescribed by the Louisiana Criminal Code, Louisiana Code of Criminal Procedure and any other applicable laws. No Foundation or Academy official has the authority to mandate that an SRO allow a criminal violation of any type to be handled administratively. The SRO and Principal will communicate as to the legal intervention and administrative discipline for each criminal violation, taking into account the best interest of the student(s) and the safety of the school in general.
- I. *Non-Criminal Violations of Foundation Rules or Regulations:* Non-criminal discipline matters will be addressed and handled by the administration of the school. In any non-criminal discipline matters, an SRO is not authorized to and shall not administer discipline to any student.
- J. *Due Process Hearings:* SRO may attend due process hearings in cases that involve violations of state statutes for the purpose of providing information or testimony, as long as it does not compromise an ongoing criminal investigation.
- K. *Security:* The primary duty of SRO is maintaining school security. When it pertains to preventing a disruption that would, if ignored, place students, faculty and staff at risk of harm, the SRO shall attempt to resolve the problem to preserve the school climate. The SRO

shall advise the school Principal(s) regarding the security needs of assigned schools and ways to potentially improve such security.

- L. *Investigation:* The SRO will conduct an initial investigation and where practicable, shall complete an initial report regarding any and all incidents at the school involving students, school employees (including but not limited to faculty), third-party contractors, and/or any other persons on the school premises at the time of the reported incident and shall forward the initial report to the law enforcement agency that has primary jurisdiction where the offense/incident occurred.

If further investigation of such an incident is necessary, it shall be conducted by the law enforcement agency that has primary jurisdiction, unless the City requests further investigation be conducted by detectives allocated by any law enforcement agency.

If an incident reported to the SRO is alleged to have occurred at a location away from the school, the SRO shall take reasonable steps to assure that the appropriate law enforcement agency with primary jurisdiction over that location is notified.

- M. *Interaction:* The SRO shall interact with students to promote and reinforce the development of basic life skills, social behavior, appropriate activity, personal control and responsibilities for one's actions.
- N. *Patrols:* The SRO shall perform preventative patrols of various areas of the school campus. The SRO shall maintain a deterring physical presence by parking their marked vehicle in front of the school entrance, patrolling the campus during school hours, maintaining a presence in areas of large student concentration, and avoiding extended time in school offices.
- O. *Traffic:* The SRO may assist with directing surrounding traffic as needed before and after school hours.
- P. *Metal Detector Searches:* The SRO shall assist in metal detector searches of students where metal detectors are utilized by the assigned school.
- Q. *Outsider's Presence:* The SRO shall address security and/or safety issues observed by the SRO and/or expressed to the SRO by school officials and/or employees regarding the presence of any outsider or unidentified person on the premises of the school.
- R. *Coordination Between Agencies:* The SRO will reasonably assist in promoting cooperation and coordination of law enforcement activity and security among law enforcement personnel, school system personnel, and residents of the surrounding neighborhoods.
- S. *Other Related Duties:* The SRO shall perform other related duties as directed by the City and the SRO Program Manager.

ASSIGNMENT OF SROs

The City will assign a qualified, POST-Certified officer as a School Resource Officer to the Acadiana Renaissance Charter Academy as set forth herein. The City shall identify the SRO recommended for SRO position to the Foundation. The Foundation and/or the SRO Program Manager may reject a recommendation or request an SRO officer be removed from SRO duty for good cause shown. The SRO must obtain annual training from the SRO Program Manager to be qualified as an SRO.

SRO ABSENCES AND LEAVES

In the event that an SRO originally assigned and scheduled is absent from his/her assigned school, another SRO shall be provided as soon as practicable. SRO absences shall be reasonably coordinated in advance with adequate back up officers to account for any planned or unplanned absence. This shall not apply to where an SRO temporarily leaves the campus of his/her assigned school to respond to and/or assist other law enforcement officers.

SRO presence on campus at all times is paramount. Failure to take reasonable steps to adequately staff the SRO position and to avoid any gaps in SRO coverage may be considered a breach of this Agreement.

TRANSPORTATION OF STUDENTS

If transportation of juveniles to or from juveniles' residences, jails, juvenile assessment center, or detention center is required while an SRO is on duty at the school, the SRO will coordinate the transportation through his/her SRO Supervisor. The transport may be provided by the SRO, the law enforcement agency with jurisdiction over the location.. Where the SRO provides the transport, he/she shall take reasonable steps to address security concerns at the assigned school during his/her temporary absence.

SRO ASSIGNMENTS TO THE SCHOOL'S EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

Extracurricular activity/special events at a particular school that requires the presence and/or services of five (5) or less law enforcement officers may be staffed by the City as appropriate to meet security requirements. Extracurricular activity/special events requiring more than five (5) law enforcement officers, the City shall submit an event security operations and staffing plan to be reviewed by the City's Chief.

Costs for services provided pursuant to this Agreement in connection with each extracurricular activity/special event shall be pre-determined and must be approved in advance by the City.

Cash payment of SRO officers is strictly prohibited. Cash payment of services creates an ambiguous situation of the employment status of the officer with regards to Workmen's Compensation and other liability insurance coverage. All payment of SROs for on or off duty activities must be paid for through the official payroll of the City.

No SRO shall travel with any football, basketball or other athletic team for out-of-town games or other events, unless the Principal of the school obtains approval from the City's chief by a written request that a SRO travel with the team for a specific event.

SUPERVISION AND EVALUATION

It is understood and agreed that SROs assigned pursuant to this Agreement will be and at all times shall remain employees of the City. The assigned SRO will maintain a cooperative relationship with the Principal at the Foundation, but instructions and commands pertaining to SRO duties and responsibilities shall be provided by his/her SRO Supervisor, the Chief of Police for the City, and/or the SRO Program Manager.

Any concerns or issues relating to an SRO, including but not limited to performance issues, non-conformance with or violation of policies and procedures, complaints (by students, faculty, administrators or others) and/or disciplinary issues, shall be addressed by the Chief of Police for the City or his designee.

The effectiveness of each SRO will be evaluated at the end of each school year by the Chief of Police for the City. The Principal(s) of Acadiana Renaissance Charter Academy shall provide input for the evaluation. This may include a recommendation to the City that the officer not be assigned to the school the following year. The City will seriously consider the evaluation and the input of the Principal when assigning an officer to the school campus and will make a good faith effort to address any concerns raised. Ultimately, however, the final approval of which peace officer will be assigned as an SRO to the Acadiana Renaissance Charter Academy is within the sole discretion of the Chief of Police for the City or its designee.

INDEMNIFICATION

Throughout the term of this Agreement, each SRO assigned pursuant to this Agreement

shall remain an employee of the City. The City and the Foundation agree to indemnify, defend and hold each other harmless from and against any and all losses, damages, judgments, expenses or other liabilities whatsoever, including, but not limited to judgment value, interest, attorney's fees, court costs and related costs of defense arising out of or in any way connected with claims for personal injury, death, property damage, or contractual liability, that may be asserted against the City or the Foundation respectively, by any party or parties, which arise or allegedly arise out of the fault or negligence of their own employees, agents, or representatives. In other words, it is the specific intention of the City and the Foundation to insulate each other from any and all liability which arises out of conduct of their own employees, agents and representatives so that the City will be protected from liability or damages caused or allegedly caused by the Foundation's school employees, agents or representatives and the Foundation will likewise be protected from liability or damages, caused or allegedly caused by the City's employees, agents or representatives. It is further understood that the City and the Foundation agree to indemnify and hold each other harmless from or against any and all liability for injury, damage or loss occasioned to or sustained by any person or persons arising from or related to this Agreement which results from the fault or negligence of the indemnifying party, their employees or agents.

WORKER'S COMPENSATION AND UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION

For the duration of the Agreement, all SROs directly employed by the City will remain employees of the City. No employee of the City shall be considered an employee, shared employee, or agent of the Foundation or Acadiana Renaissance Charter Academy for any purpose of liability, compensation, wages, benefits, or coverage as provided by the workers compensation laws of the State of Louisiana, same being hereby expressly waived and excluded by all parties thereto, nor for any wages, benefits or compensation which may be due under the unemployment compensation laws of the State of Louisiana.

CONFIDENTIALITY

This contract is entered into by the City and the Foundation in accordance with the provisions of Louisiana Revised Statutes 17:3913, *et seq.*, the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act, 20 U.S.C. § 1231(g), *et seq.*, ("FERPA") and the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, 20 U.S.C. Section 1400, *et seq.*, ("IDEA"). The City hereby acknowledges that all documents which include personally identifiable information contained in or derived from a student's education records are deemed confidential pursuant to La. R.S. 17:3913, *et seq.*, FERPA and IDEA. The City agrees not to re-disclose any such personally identifiable information without the prior written consent of the student's parent or the student, in the case of students who have reached the age of majority, or unless re-disclosure is otherwise authorized by law. The City agrees to return all documents deemed confidential pursuant to La. R.S. 17:3913, *et seq.*, FERPA and/or IDEA to the OPSB upon the termination or expiration of this contract.

REPORTS AND RECORDS

The SROs will generate records, briefings and reports and submit same to the City's chief. All reports and records generated by the SRO will remain confidential and in the possession of the secured juvenile records section(s) of the City.

THE FOUNDATION'S RESPONSIBILITY FOR COSTS

The Foundation is requesting and the City agrees to provide three (3) SRO officers for the term of this agreement. The Foundation shall reimburse the City for costs associated with the provision of SROs in accordance with this agreement. The annual cost for the services delivered by the SRO in accordance with this agreement shall be \$72,617.80 annually per SRO officer to be paid by the Foundation, its successors, assigns or parent corporation. It is the intent of the parties that each SRO will be present at the school every day on which classes are in session from August 2026 through May 2027. Accordingly, the \$72,617.80 fee shall be paid in ten (10) installments of \$7,261.78 from August through May 2027, payable on the first of each month. The first payment for August shall be made on August 1, 2026 when classes officially begin.

During the second year of this agreement there shall be a two percent increase (2%) in the cost of services (\$1,452.36) added to the initial rate. The cost of services for the second year will

be \$74,070.16 or \$7,407.02 per month for 10 months for each SRO officer hired by the Foundation.

Additionally each SRO shall be compensated at a rate of \$50 per hour if said SRO or any other assigned officer is called upon to perform traffic duty prior to the commencement of school and/or following dismissal.

The City further agrees to provide one (1) trained SRO officer for the Foundation’s “Summer Bridge” program for a period not to exceed thirty (30) days. The Foundation agrees to pay \$2,750.00 to the City for the assignment of an SRO trained officer for the “Summer Bridge” program.

NON-APPROPRIATION OF FUNDS

Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in this Agreement, the continuation of the Agreement into a new fiscal year shall be contingent upon the appropriation of funds to fulfill the requirements of this Agreement. If either entity, after diligent and good faith effort fails to appropriate sufficient monies to fulfill the requirements of the Agreement, the Agreement shall terminate on the last day of the designated term for which funds were appropriated.

ASSIGNABILITY

The parties herein shall not assign any interest in this Agreement and shall not transfer any interests without the prior written consent of all parties to this Agreement.

COMPLIANCE WITH LAWS

The City and the Foundation and their employees shall comply with all applicable federal, state and local laws and ordinances in carrying out the provisions of this Agreement.

LEGAL CONSTRUCTION

In case any one or more of the provisions contained in this Agreement shall for any reason be held to be invalid, illegal or unenforceable in any respect, such invalidity, illegality or unenforceability shall not affect any other provision thereof and this Agreement shall be considered as if such invalid, illegal or unenforceable provision had never been contained in this Agreement.

CAPTIONS

The captions to the various clauses of this Agreement are for information purposes only and shall not alter the substance of the terms and conditions of this Agreement.

AMENDMENTS

No amendment to this Agreement shall be effective unless it is in writing, signed by the duly authorized representatives of the City and the Foundation.

TERM OF AGREEMENT

This Agreement shall be effective for a two (2) year term, commencing on August 1, 2026. However, the City or the Foundation may terminate this Agreement with or without cause upon ninety (90) days written notice to the Board President of the Foundation or to the City. This agreement may be extended by mutual agreement of the parties at the end of the two year term, with the intent to renew expressly stated in writing no later than 60 days prior to the termination of each term.

NOTICES

Except as otherwise required by law, any notice, consent, request, approval and other

communication provided for under the terms of this Agreement shall be in writing and shall be deemed validly made or given: (i) on the date on which it is delivered personally with receipt acknowledged; (ii) five business days after it shall have been sent by registered or certified mail;

(iii) one business day after it is sent by overnight courier (charges prepaid); or (iv) on the same business day when sent before 3:00 p.m., and on the next business day when sent after 3:00 p.m., by electronic mail with receipt acknowledged by return electronic mail from the recipient of the notice:

If to the City, addressed to:

The Honorable Ken Ritter City of Youngsville
305 Iberia Street
Youngsville, LA 70592

Attention: Mayor Ken Ritter Email: kenritter@youngsvillela.gov

If to the Foundation addressed to:

Dr. Mary Louella Riggs-Cook
Lafayette Charter Foundation, Inc.
220 Heymann Boulevard
Lafayette, LA 70503

Email: gary@dmsfirm.com

COUNTERPARTS

This Agreement may be executed in one or more identical counterparts, each of which shall be deemed an original, but all of which together shall constitute one and the same Agreement.

SURVIVAL OF CERTAIN TERMS AND CONSIDERATION

After any cancellation, the terms and provisions regarding indemnification and confidentiality shall survive. The consideration for this Agreement is the mutual benefit of the parties to this agreement and the enhancement of the safety of the students attending the Foundation.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties hereto have made and executed this Cooperative Endeavor Agreement as of the day and year first written above.

THUS DONE AND SIGNED, at Lafayette Parish, Louisiana, on this, the ____ day of _____, 2026.

WITNESSES:

CITY OF YOUNGSVILLE

Printed Name: _____

By: _____
Ken Ritter
In His Official Capacity as Mayor

Printed Name: _____

NOTARY PUBLIC

THUS DONE AND SIGNED, at Lafayette Parish, Louisiana, on this, the _____ day of _____, 2026.

WITNESSES:

**LAFAYETTE CHARTER FOUNDATION,
INC.**

By: _____

Printed Name: _____

Dr. Mary Louella Riggs-Cook
In her capacity as Foundation Board
President

Printed Name: _____

NOTARY PUBLIC

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