

SPECIALIZED FORENSIC SERVICES AGREEMENT # 2009

This Specialized Forensic Services Agreement is made and entered into as of this ____ day of _____, 2025, by and between the COUNTY OF EL DORADO (herein referred to as EL DORADO) and the COUNTY OF ALPINE, (herein referred to as ALPINE), of which both parties are political subdivisions of the State of California,

RECITALS

WHEREAS, ALPINE COUNTY has determined that it is necessary to obtain a contractor to provide Specialized Forensic Services (Autopsy, Support and Morgue Services) for cases referred on an "as requested" basis for the ALPINE COUNTY Sheriff/Coroner's Office; and

WHEREAS, the EL DORADO County Coroner's Office has the facilities, staff and resources to provide such services;

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the mutual promises hereinafter set forth, EL DORADO and ALPINE agree as follows:

I. SCOPE OF SERVICES

EL DORADO agrees to furnish personnel and equipment necessary to provide autopsy, support and morgue services on an "as requested" basis for the ALPINE COUNTY Sheriff/Coroner's Office. Services shall include, but not limited to those set forth in Exhibit "A", marked "Scope of Services", incorporated herein and made by reference a part hereof. If a service is performed by EL DORADO that is an additional service, not described in Exhibit "A", but is mutually agreed upon between EL DORADO and ALPINE in advance, the price shall be in accordance with EL DORADO's current list pricing schedule.

II. TERM

This Agreement shall be effective and commence as of July 1, 2025, upon being fully executed by both parties hereto, and shall expire on June 30, 2030.

III. NOTICE

Any notice, demand, request, consent, or approval that either party hereto may or is required to give the other pursuant to this Agreement shall be in writing and shall be either personally delivered or sent by mail, addressed as follows:

EL DORADO:
EL DORADO County Coroner
200 Industrial Drive
Placerville, CA 95667

ALPINE COUNTY:
ALPINE County Sheriff's Office
P.O. Box 278
Markleeville, CA 96120

Either party may change the address to which subsequent notice and/or other communications can be sent by giving written notice designating a change of address to the other party, which shall be effective upon receipt.

IV. COMPLIANCE WITH LAWS

EL DORADO and ALPINE shall observe and comply with all applicable Federal, State, and County laws, regulations and ordinances.

V. GOVERNING LAWS AND JURISDICTION

This Agreement shall be deemed to have been executed and to be performed within the State of California and shall be construed and governed by the internal laws of the State of California. Any legal proceedings arising out of or relating to this Agreement shall be brought in either EL DORADO County, California or ALPINE County, California.

VI. STATUS OF CONTRACTOR

It is understood and agreed that EL DORADO and ALPINE are independent parties contracting solely for the purpose of effectuating this Agreement, and neither party, nor any agents, representatives or employees of that party, shall be considered agents, representatives or employees of the other party. In no event shall this Agreement be construed as establishing a partnership or joint venture or similar relationship between the parties hereto.

VII. CONFIDENTIALITY

Each party, its agents, representatives and employees agrees to keep strictly confidential and hold in trust all confidential information of the other party and not reveal any confidential information to any third party without the express written consent of the other party.

VIII. CONFLICT OF INTEREST

EL DORADO and ALPINE officers and employees shall not have a financial interest, or acquire any financial interest, direct or indirect, in any business,

property or source of income which could be financially affected by or otherwise conflict in any manner or degree with the performance of services required under this Agreement.

IX. NONDISCRIMINATION IN EMPLOYMENT, SERVICES, BENEFITS & FACILITIES

EL DORADO and ALPINE covenant that there shall be no discrimination on the basis of race, national origin, religion, creed, sex, age, veteran status, or handicap in connection with the performance of this Agreement.

X. INDEMNIFICATION

EL DORADO shall defend, indemnify, and hold harmless ALPINE, its Board of Supervisors, officers, directors, agents, employees, subcontractors AND volunteers from and against all demands, claims, actions, liabilities, losses, damages and costs, including reasonable attorney's fees, arising out of or resulting from the performance of this Agreement, caused by the negligent or intentional acts or omissions of EL DORADO'S officers, directors, agents, employees, subcontractors or volunteers.

ALPINE shall defend, indemnify and hold harmless EL DORADO, its Board of Supervisors, officers, directors, agents, employees, subcontractors and volunteers from and against all demands, claims, actions, liabilities, losses, damages, and costs, including reasonable attorney's fees, arising out of or resulting from the performance of this Agreement, caused by the negligent or intentional acts or omissions of ALPINE'S officers, directors, agents, employees, subcontractors or volunteers.

It is the intention of ALPINE and EL DORADO that the provisions of this paragraph be interpreted to impose on each party responsibility to the other for the acts and omissions of their respective officers, directors, agents, employees, volunteers, Board of Supervisors, and subcontractors. It is also the intention of ALPINE and EL DORADO that, where fault is determined to have been contributory, principles of comparative fault will be followed and each party shall bear the proportionate cost of any damage attributable to the fault of that party, its officers, directors, agents, and employees, volunteers, Board of Supervisors and subcontractors.

XI. INSURANCE

EL DORADO and ALPINE finance their liability, property and workers' compensation risks through a combination of self-insurance and insurance. Both parties are knowledgeable of each entity's risk financing programs and agree to

rely on these programs to pay for any liabilities, losses, costs, suits, claims, judgments, expenses, fines or demands of any kind that may arise under the terms of this Agreement.

XII. COMPENSATION AND PAYMENT OF INVOICES LIMITATIONS

- A. Compensation under this Agreement shall be per the provisions set forth in Exhibit B, incorporated herein and made by reference a part hereof, or Exhibit B as modified by EL DORADO in accordance with express provisions as stated on page 4, Section XIV.
- B. EL DORADO shall submit an invoice to ALPINE on a monthly basis, upon verification of services provided. Invoices shall be submitted to ALPINE no later than the fifteenth (15th) day of the month following the invoice period, and ALPINE shall pay EL DORADO within thirty (30) days after receipt of an appropriate and correct invoice.
- C. ALPINE shall maintain for four years following termination of this agreement full and complete documentation of all services and payments associated with performing the services covered under this Agreement. Payment documentation shall include: Dates of Service, County Case Numbers, and Decedents Names.

Total amount of this Agreement shall not exceed \$300,000.

XIII. SUBCONTRACTS, ASSIGNMENT

EL DORADO shall obtain prior written approval from ALPINE before assigning or transferring, in whole or in part, this Agreement or any of its rights, duties or obligations under this Agreement. Any assignment or transfer without such consent shall be null and void. EL DORADO remains legally responsible for the performance of all contract terms including work performed by third parties under subcontracts. Any subcontracting will be subject to all applicable provisions of this Agreement. EL DORADO shall be held responsible by ALPINE for the performance of any subcontractor whether approved by ALPINE or not.

XIV. AMENDMENT AND WAIVER

Except as provided herein, no alteration, amendment, variation, or waiver of the terms of this Agreement shall be valid unless made in writing and signed by both parties. Waiver by either party of any default, breach or condition precedent shall not be construed as a waiver of any other default, breach or condition precedent, or any other right hereunder. No interpretation of any provision of this Agreement

shall be binding upon EL DORADO and ALPINE unless agreed in writing by the EL DORADO COUNTY CORONER and ALPINE COUNTY SHERIFF-CORONER and counsel for both parties.

XV. SUCCESSORS

This Agreement shall insure to the benefit of, and be binding upon, EL DORADO and ALPINE and their respective successors.

XVI. ADMINISTRATOR

The EL DORADO County Officer or employee with responsibility for administering this Agreement is Edward Falkenstein, Captain, Sheriff's Office, or successor.

XVII. TIME

Time is of the essence of this Agreement.

XVIII. INTERPRETATION

This Agreement shall be deemed to have been prepared equally by both of the parties, and the Agreement and its individual provisions shall not be construed or interpreted more favorably for one party on the basis that the other party prepared it.

XIX. DISPUTES

In the event of any dispute out of or relating to this Agreement, the parties shall attempt, in good faith, to promptly resolve the dispute mutually between themselves. If the dispute cannot be resolved by mutual agreement, nothing herein shall preclude either party's right to pursue remedy or relief by civil litigation, pursuant to the laws of the State of California.

XX. TERMINATION

- A. Should either party fail to substantially perform its obligations in accordance with this Agreement, the other party may notify the defaulting party of such default in writing and provide twenty-four (24) hours to cure the default. If such default is not cured within said twenty-four (24) hour period, the party

that gave notice of default may terminate this Agreement upon no less than twenty-four (24) hours advance written notice. The foregoing notwithstanding, neither party waives the right to recover damages against the other for breach of this Agreement.

- B. Either party may terminate this Agreement for any reason by providing the other party at least thirty (30) days advance written notice of termination and specifying the actual date of termination in the written notice.
- C. If this AGREEMENT is terminated, EL DORADO shall be paid for any services completed and provided prior to notice of termination and any services necessary to complete pending autopsies.

XXI. PRIOR AGREEMENTS

This Agreement constitutes the entire contract between EL DORADO and EL DORADO regarding the subject matter of this Agreement. Any prior agreements, whether oral or written, between EL DORADO and ALPINE regarding the subject matter of this Agreement is hereby terminated effective immediately upon full execution of this Agreement.

XXII. DUPLICATE COUNTERPARTS

This Agreement may be executed in duplicate counterparts. The Agreement shall be deemed executed when it has been signed by both parties.

Requesting ALPINE County Contract Administrator Concurrence:

By:



Taylor Green

Sergeant

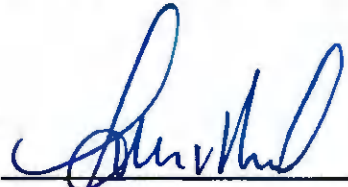
ALPINE County Sheriff

Dated:

7.21.2025

Requesting Department Head Concurrence:

By:



Tom Minder


Sheriff

ALPINE County Sheriff

Dated:

7/21/25

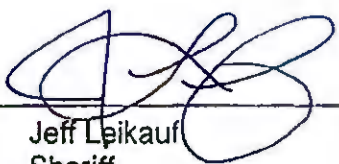
Requesting EL DORADO County Contract Administrator Concurrence:

By: 

Edward Falkenstein
Captain
EL DORADO County Sheriff

Dated: 6/17/25

Requesting Department Head Concurrence:

By: 

Jeff Leikauf
Sheriff
EL DORADO County Sheriff

Dated: 6/17/25

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties hereto have caused this Agreement to be duly executed as of the day and year first written above.

COUNTY OF EL DORADO, a
political subdivision of the State
of California

COUNTY OF ALPINE, a
political subdivision of the State
of California

By _____
Chair, Board of Supervisors
EL DORADO County

By _____
Chair, Board of Supervisors
ALPINE County

ATTEST:

By _____
Clerk of the Board of Supervisors
EL DORADO County

By _____
Clerk of the Board of Supervisors
ALPINE County

REVIEWED AND APPROVED BY EL DORADO AND ALPINE COUNTY COUNSEL

By Stephen Mansell
Stephen Mansell (Jun 18, 2025 09:33 PDT)
Deputy County Counsel
EL DORADO County

By Melissa C. Shaw
County Counsel
Assistant
ALPINE County

Exhibit A - SCOPE OF WORK

In summary, the El Dorado County Sheriff's Office (EL DORADO) will provide all labor, tax, bonds, insurance, permits, premiums, services, disposal, equipment, materials, and appurtenant facilities for pathology and autopsy services. EL DORADO will use whatever means necessary to inquire into the cause of all deaths that are sudden, unexplained, violent, or otherwise, as described in California Government Code 27491. EL DORADO shall employ a or contract with a physician (such physician contract not being subject to the restrictions of Article XIII of the Agreement) licensed to provide pathology services, including performing autopsies and recommending or ordering toxicological, bacteriological, serological, histological, microscopic, and/or other clinical examinations as may be necessary to advise and assist the ALPINE County Sheriff's Office in determining the cause of death.

EL DORADO will perform autopsies when determined necessary by an authorized representative of the ALPINE County Sheriff's Office. In some cases, the death examination may be limited to an external exam or evaluation. When an external exam reveals questions, or issues that in the opinion of the pathologist require an autopsy to be performed, EL DORADO/Pathologist will immediately notify ALPINE County Sheriff's Office staff concerning the need for an autopsy. In all cases, the final determination as to the extent of the examination or autopsy shall rest with an authorized representative of the ALPINE County Sheriff's Office.

1. SERVICES TO BE RENDERED BY EL DORADO.

1.1 Upon request from ALPINE, El Dorado will provide all equipment, supplies and personnel to perform professional Pathology and Autopsy services for ALPINE County Sheriff's Office. El Dorado shall comply with all applicable Federal, State and local laws relating to El Dorado's performance of this Agreement.

1.2 El Dorado shall perform the Work in a manner consistent with the level of competency and standard of care normally observed by a person practicing in pathology and autopsy services. If ALPINE determines that any of the Work is not performed in accordance with such level of competency and standard of care, ALPINE, in its sole discretion, shall have the right to do any or all of the following: (a) require El Dorado to meet with ALPINE to review the quality of the Work and resolve matters of concern; (b) require El Dorado to repeat any substandard Work at no additional charge until it is satisfactory; (c) terminate this Agreement pursuant to Section XX; or (d) pursue any and all other remedies at law or in equity.

1.3 El Dorado is authorized to proceed immediately following full execution of this Agreement. Performance of the Work shall be completed within the time required herein or prescribed for an individual task by ALPINE; provided, however, that if performance is delayed by earthquake, flood, high water or other act of God, or by strike, lockout, or similar labor disturbances, the time for El Dorado's performance of this Agreement shall be extended by the number of days equal to the number of days of delay.

1.4 El Dorado shall complete each project assigned by County ALPINE in accordance with an agreed-upon schedule.

Exhibit B - COMPENSATION

Total compensation to Contractor will be made monthly on a time-and-materials basis with cost- not-to-exceed Three Hundred Thousand and No Cents (\$300,000.00).

The Cost Proposal and Fee Schedule attached hereto, constitute the full and complete understanding and agreement of the parties with respect to the Services to be provided by Contractor, El Dorado County, and they supersede any prior or contemporaneous understanding or agreement, whether written, oral or communicated in any other type of medium, between the parties relating thereto. No amendment or modification of any provision of this Agreement shall be binding unless made in writing and signed by the parties hereto.

The California Constitution requires that any County contract that extends beyond the current fiscal year must be subject to future appropriations.

Standard Autopsy Fee: This fee includes all equipment, labor, tax, insurance, materials, Pathologist fees, disposal, toxicology processing, and facility and administrative fees to conduct a routine autopsy and state the cause of death:
\$1,750.00

Complex Autopsy Fee: This fee includes all equipment, labor, tax, insurance, materials, Pathologist fees, disposal, toxicology processing, and facility and administrative fees to conduct a complex autopsy and state the cause of death:
\$3,500.00

Pediatric Autopsy or Criminally Suspicious Pediatric Death/Homicide Autopsy Fee: This fee includes all equipment, labor, tax, insurance, materials, Pathologist fees, disposal, toxicology processing, and facility and administrative fees to conduct either a pediatric autopsy or criminally suspicious pediatric death/homicide autopsy and state the cause of death: **\$4,000.00**

Brain Autopsy: This fee includes all equipment, labor, tax, insurance, materials, Pathologist fees, disposal, toxicology processing, and facility and administrative fees to conduct a brain autopsy: **\$2,750.00**

External Examination: This fee includes all equipment, labor, tax, insurance, materials,

Pathologist fees, disposal, toxicology processing, and facility and administrative fees to conduct an external examination and state the cause of death: **\$1,000.00**

Consultation Fee: Pathologist= **\$180.00** per hour

Pre-Trial Testimony Fee: Pathologist= **\$180.00** per hour

Morgue Tech= **\$45.00** per hour

Coroner Detective= **\$100.00** per hour

Coroner Detective Sergeant= **\$115.00** per hour

Travel and Waiting Fee: Pathologist= **\$180.00** per hour

Morgue Tech= **\$45.00** per hour

Coroner Detective= **\$100.00** per hour

Coroner Detective Sergeant= **\$115.00** per hour

Mileage Rate: \$.70 per mile, or current IRS rate

Medical Record Review: This fee includes all equipment, labor, tax, insurance, materials, Pathologist fees, and facility and administrative fees to review medical records and state the cause of death: **\$250.00**

Donor Services Harvest Fees: Monday through Friday, 0800-2000hours= **\$250.00**

After hours, weekends, and holidays = **\$590.00**

Initial fixed price contract for a July 1, 2025 – December 31, 2026, with an amendment for the remainder of the contract to follow pending rates being charged by Pathologist to EDSO.

Agreement in place for sum total of five (5) years.