

# EL DORADO COUNTY PROBATION DEPARTMENT M E M O R A N D U M

**TO:** Board of Supervisors

**CC:** Tiffany Schmid, Chief Administrative Officer  
Alison Winter, Principal Management Analyst

**FROM:** Nikki Moeszinger, Chief Fiscal Officer  
Brian J. Richart, Chief Probation Officer

**DATE:** February 28, 2024

**RE:** Retroactive Agreement for Services #8502, George Mason Research Foundation–  
Legistar Item 24-0370; March 19, 2024

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The purpose of this memorandum is to provide a timeline with justification as to the retroactive nature of Agreement for Services #8502 (Agreement) with George Mason Research Foundation (George Mason).

Since December of 2019, the Probation Department (Probation) has been contracting with George Mason Research Foundation (George Mason) for evidence-based practice (EBP) application training for Probation staff. Probation's Mission Statement of "Providing Public Safety through Collaborative Partnerships and Innovative Practices in Corrections, with Accountability and Compassion," is a foundation of Probation's strategic objective to implement EBP.

Evidence-based practices are skills, techniques, strategies, policy initiatives, or core intervention components using current research and the best available data to increase the likelihood of efficient and effective correctional services and favorable outcomes.

Probation staff training on EBP is achieved through coaches' training, which focuses on general coaching strategies with an emphasis on working relationship skills, client engagement skills, and risk management skills. The coaches' training consists of webinars and in-person or online trainings. E-learning is also provided, which consists of account setup and maintenance, monthly completion summaries, and grade reports. Training will enhance skills needed for effective coaching and mentoring of justice-involved individuals in EBP and motivational interviewing.

Agreement #5432 with George Mason expired on March 1, 2024. Probation began the contract process for a new agreement with George Mason on November 15, 2023. There were numerous communications between Probation and George Mason, especially to agree on a mutually beneficial Scope of Services and Compensation for Services. Draft agreement reviews were completed by Probation on February 7, 2024, and George Mason on February 9, 2024. This retroactive item was processed to be brought before the Board as soon as practicable after that date.

Thank you for your consideration.



Nikki Moeszinger, Chief Fiscal Officer