

AGREEMENT FOR LEGAL SERVICES BETWEEN
EL DORADO COUNTY AND DIEPENBROCK HARRISON

This Agreement is made and entered into between EL DORADO COUNTY ("COUNTY"), a governmental entity organized and existing under the laws of the State of California, and DIEPENBROCK HARRISON ("Attorney"), a professional corporation duly authorized to do business in the State of California, whose address is 400 Capitol Mall, Suite 1800, Sacramento, CA 95814, effective on the date services were first performed for the county in the matters described below, for the performance of specified legal services for county.

1. **Scope of Services.** County hereby retains Attorney to advise, assist, and represent County as co-counsel with County Counsel in the case of *California Native Plant Society, et al., v. County of El Dorado, et. al.*, El Dorado County Superior Court Case no. PC20070021.

Attorney may also provide such additional services as may be mutually agreed by the parties; provided, that such additional services must be authorized in writing by the County and may require an amendment to this Agreement.

2. **Independent Contractor.** Attorney and all persons who perform services for or through Attorney pursuant to this Agreement shall be an independent contractor and shall not be deemed to be an employee of County for any purpose. Attorney's services shall be under the general direction of the County Counsel who shall also be responsible for administering this Agreement.

3. **Standards of Performance.** Attorney and every employee thereof shall provide their services, advice and any reports in full compliance with all applicable law and professional standards. Attorney represents that it is specially trained, experienced, expert and competent to perform the services required under this Agreement, and that each individual providing legal services is a member in good standing of the State Bar and is licensed to practice in California. Further, Attorney certifies that it will not accept representation in any matters, including litigation, under this Agreement if it or any employee thereof has any personal or financial interest therein.

1 4. **Compensation.** County shall compensate Attorney for professional services
2 rendered at the respective hourly rates of the individuals employed by Attorney providing the
3 services at a blended rate of \$290.00 per hour for attorneys, and at the customary rate for
4 paralegals. Total compensation paid under this Agreement shall not exceed \$50,000.00 without
5 further written approval by the County.

6 Attorney shall keep proper records to enable County to verify the services rendered, and
7 such records shall be made reasonably available to County or its agents for inspection and
8 audit.

9 5. **Cost Reimbursement.** In addition to the above, County shall reimburse
10 Attorney for the actual, reasonable and necessary expense of travel in accordance with the
11 policies of El Dorado County set forth in Exhibit A, attached hereto and incorporated herein by
12 this reference. Any individual travel expense which will exceed \$100.00 must be approved by
13 County in advance. County shall reimburse Attorney for the reasonable costs of long distance
14 telephone calls, mailing, photocopying, legal research on electronic databases, and, upon prior
15 approval, for extraordinary photocopying and extraordinary facsimile transmissions. Other
16 reasonable, customary and necessary expenses, including but not limited to statutory fees,
17 witness fees, reporters' per diem and transcription fees, jury fees, and expenses of serving
18 process, shall be advanced by Attorney and reimbursed by County. Expert consultants and
19 witnesses may be retained by Attorney on terms acceptable to County. Such expert consultants
20 and witnesses shall invoice Attorney. Attorney may submit approved invoices in excess of
21 \$750.00 to County in special billings for expedited payment, to be deposited in Attorney's trust
22 account for payment from Attorney to said expert consultants and witnesses.

23 6. **Billings.** Attorney shall submit to County for County Counsel's review and
24 approval a confidential itemized statement of services rendered and costs incurred under this
25 Agreement monthly. Such statement shall describe the nature of the services rendered, and
26 specify the time expended in rendering such services, calculated in one-quarter (.25) hour
27 segments. Provided, however, that in Attorney's discretion, such statements need not be
28 submitted until the total amount due exceeds five hundred (\$500.00) dollars. Attorney
acknowledges that County intends to submit billings received under this Agreement to the

1 project proponent for payment pursuant to an indemnity provision contained in the project
2 approvals, prior to remitting amounts due to Attorney, in order to avoiding County having to
3 advance funds for this purpose. Attorney acknowledges that such process may involve
4 reasonable delay from normal County payment procedures.

5 7. **Qualifications.** Attorney certifies that it accepts this retention because it has the
6 time, energy, skills and ability necessary to perform the duties required in an efficient,
7 trustworthy, professional and businesslike manner. It is understood that the services under this
8 Agreement must be provided immediately, and that they are time-critical. Attorney is engaged
9 by County for its unique qualifications and skills. Attorney shall not subcontract, delegate or
10 assign the services to be provided under this Agreement, in whole or in part, to any other
11 person or entity not employed in Attorney's firm without consent of County. It is specifically
12 agreed that a partner attorney of the firm will be primarily involved in the conduct of the work,
13 and that a partner will be available to attend meetings of the County Board of Supervisors as
14 directed.

15 8. **Insurance.** Attorney shall continuously maintain, and shall provide proof of,
16 insurance in a form acceptable to County to be in full force and effect from the first day of the
17 term of this Agreement, as set forth below:

18 a. Full Worker's Compensation and Employer's Liability Insurance
19 covering all employees of Law Firm as required by law in the State of California.

20 b. Commercial General Liability Insurance of not less than \$1,000,000
21 combined single limit per occurrence for bodily injury and property damage.

22 c. Automobile liability insurance of not less than \$500,000 is required in
23 the event motor vehicles are used by Attorney in the performance of the contract.

24 d. Professional liability (for example, malpractice insurance) covering
25 services provided under this Agreement is required with a limit of liability not less than
26 \$1,000,000 per occurrence.

27 e. Attorney shall furnish a certificate of insurance satisfactory to the El
28 Dorado County Risk Manager as evidence that the insurance required above is being
maintained.

1 f. The insurance will be issued by an insurance company acceptable to the
2 Risk Management Division, or be provided through partial or total self-insurance likewise
3 acceptable to the Risk Management Division.

4 g. Attorney agrees that the insurance required above shall be in effect at all
5 times during the term of this contract. In the event said insurance coverage expires at any time
6 or times during the term of this contract, Attorney agrees to provide at least thirty (30) days
7 prior to said expiration date, a new certificate of insurance evidencing insurance coverage as
8 provided for herein for not less than the remainder of the term of the contract, or for a period of
9 not less than one year. New certificates of insurance are subject to the approval of the Risk
10 Management Division and Attorney agrees that no work or services shall be performed prior to
11 the giving of such approval. In the event Attorney fails to keep in effect at all times insurance
12 coverage as herein provided, County may, in addition to any other remedies it may have,
13 terminate this contract upon the occurrence of such event.

14 h. The certificate of insurance must include the following provisions stating
15 that:

16 1. The insurer will not cancel the insured's coverage without thirty
17 (30) day prior written notice to the County; and

18 2. The County, its officers, officials, employees, and volunteers are
19 included as additional insured, but only insofar as the operations under this contract are
20 concerned. This provision shall apply to all liability policies except worker's compensation and
21 professional liability insurance policies.

22 1. Attorney's insurance coverage shall be primary insurance as respects the
23 County, its officers, officials, employees and volunteers. Any insurance or self-insurance
24 maintained by the County, its officers, officials, employees or volunteers shall be excess of
25 Attorney's insurance and shall not contribute with it.

26 j. Any deductibles or self-insured retentions must be declared to and
27 approved by the County. At the option of the County, either: the insurer shall reduce or
28 eliminate such deductibles or self-insured retentions as respects the County, its officers,

officials, employees, and volunteers; or Attorney shall procure a bond guaranteeing payment of losses and related investigations, claim administration and defense expense.

k. Any failure to comply with the reporting provisions of the policies shall not affect coverage provided to the County, its officers, officials, employees or volunteers.

l. The insurance companies shall have no recourse against the County, its officers and employees or any of them for payment of any premiums or assessments under any policy issued by any insurance company.

m. Attorney's obligations shall not be limited by the foregoing insurance requirements and shall survive the expiration of this agreement.

n. In the event Attorney cannot provide an occurrence policy, Attorney shall provide insurance covering claims made as a result of performance of this contract for not less than three years following completion of performance of this agreement.

o. The certificate of insurance shall meet such additional standards as may be determined by the contracting County either independently or in consultation with the Risk Management Division, as essential for protection of the County.

9. **Standard of Liability.** County understands and acknowledges that the performance of the services provided for herein may invite criticism, controversy, or litigation which may be motivated by public or private opposition to any project although not based on the adequacy or accuracy of Attorney's performance. County agrees that any such criticism, controversy, or litigation alone shall not cause County to withhold payments due to Attorney hereunder. County further agrees that the mere failure of County or any third party, including a court in litigation, to agree with Attorney's findings, conclusions, or recommendations alone shall not be construed as a failure on the part of Consultant to perform its obligations under this Agreement, or to meet the standard of care this Agreement requires.

10. **Attorney-Client Relationship.** Attorney agrees that it will comply with all ethical duties, will maintain the integrity of the attorney-client relationship, and will take all steps available to preserve all applicable legal privileges, confidences, and records from disclosure. All documents and information obtained by or generated by Attorney pursuant to this Agreement, all opinions and conclusions of Attorney, any reports, information, data,

1 statistics, forms, procedures, systems, studies and all communications with County, are
2 confidential. Attorney agrees to take all steps reasonably necessary to maintain this
3 confidentiality. Attorney is responsible for insuring that it and all of its employees faithfully
4 adhere to the confidentiality requirements of law and this Agreement.

5 11. **Ownership of Documents.** All documents and writings prepared by or for
6 Attorney in the course of performing this Agreement shall become County's property
7 immediately and County shall have the right to use such materials in its discretion without
8 notice or compensation to Attorney or anyone else other than compensation provided under this
9 Agreement.

10 12. **Notification of Conflict.** Attorney shall immediately notify County if any
11 services to be performed under this Agreement involves an actual or potential conflict of
12 interest, financial or otherwise. Attorney shall not engage in any activity under this Agreement
13 that involves any actual or potential conflict of interest unless Attorney first makes a full and
14 complete disclosure of all relevant facts and obtains a written waiver of such conflict in
15 advance from County.

16 13. **Indemnity.** Attorney shall be responsible for performing the work under this
17 Agreement a safe, professional, skillful and workmanlike manner, and shall be liable for its
18 own negligence and the negligent acts of its employees. To the fullest extent allowed by law,
19 Attorney shall defend, indemnify, and hold harmless the County against and from any and all
20 claims, suits, losses, damages, and liability for damages of every name, kind and description,
21 including reasonable attorneys' fees and costs incurred, which are claimed to or in any way
22 arise out of, directly or indirectly, or are connected with: (1) any negligent act, whether passive
23 or active, error or omission, or willful misconduct, of Attorney, its subcontractor(s), agents or
24 employee(s) or any of these; or (2) any breach of any statutory, regulatory, contractual or legal
25 duty of any kind related, directly or indirectly, to the services, responsibilities or duties required
26 of Attorney by this Agreement. This duty of Attorney to indemnify and save County harmless
27 includes the duties to defend set forth in California Civil Code section 2778.

28 14. **Term.** The term of this Agreement shall begin on the date first stated above,
and shall remain in effect until terminated by any party or until all work contemplated

hereunder shall be completed. However, this Agreement shall be terminable by County at any time and for any reason, or without cause. Funds budgeted for the purpose of this Agreement are made available on a fiscal year basis, and budgeting is subject to change at any time. Should funding not be made available, this Agreement shall be automatically terminated in its entirety. Attorney may terminate this Agreement upon sufficient written notice to County, made in such a manner so that the County shall not be prejudiced, but in no event less than thirty (30) days notice. Upon termination of this Agreement for any reason, Attorney shall immediately cease all work, except as may be reasonably required to avoid prejudice to County which shall be immediately reported to County, shall immediately transfer all files relating to County's matters either to County or any other lawyer hired by County, at County's direction, and within ten (10) days shall provide a final bill to County for all services rendered. The obligation of confidentiality shall continue and shall not terminate when this Agreement ends. Attorney shall take all steps necessary to ensure smooth transition to any other counsel which may be designated by County.

15. **State Filing.** All independent consultants providing services to the County must file a State of California Form 590 certifying their California residency or, in the case of a corporation, certifying that it has a permanent place of business in California. Attorney will be required to submit a Form 590 prior to execution of this Agreement or County shall withhold seven (7) percent of each payment to be made to Attorney during the term of this Agreement. Attorney's taxpayer identification number is 68-0339014.

16. **Contract Administrator.** For the purpose of administering this Agreement, the County shall be represented by its County Counsel, Louis Green, or successor. Notices provided pursuant to this Agreement shall be effective immediately upon receipt and shall be directed as follows:

For County: Louis Green, County Counsel
El Dorado County
330 Fair Lane
Placerville, California 95667

For Attorney: Mark Harrison
Michael Brady
Diepenbrock Harrison
400 Capitol Mall, Suite 1800

Sacramento, California 95814

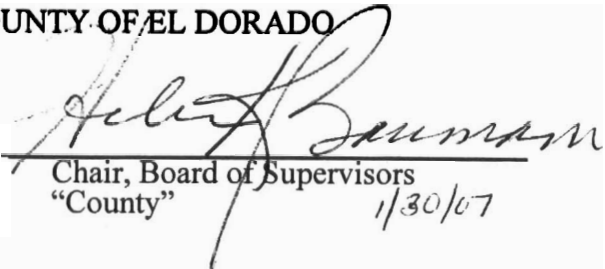
17. **Entire Agreement.** This Agreement and the exhibits thereto are the entire agreement between the parties and they supersede all prior written or oral agreements or understandings between the parties. This Agreement may be modified only with the consent of the parties in writing fully executed by duly authorized officers of the parties.

18. **Venue.** Any dispute resolution action arising out of this Agreement, including but not limited to litigation, mediation or arbitration, shall be brought in El Dorado County, California, and shall be resolved in accordance with the laws of the State of California. In any action to enforce the terms of this Agreement, the prevailing party shall recover its reasonable attorneys' fees. Attorney waives any removal rights it may have under Code of Civil Procedure section 394.

Dated:

COUNTY OF EL DORADO


By:


Chair, Board of Supervisors
"County" 1/30/07

ATTEST:

CINDY KECK
Clerk of the Board of Supervisors

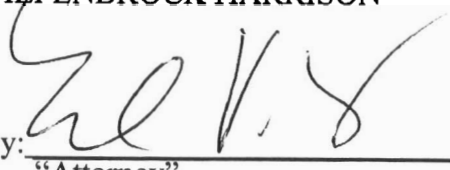
By


Deputy Clerk 1-30-07

Dated:

DIEPENBROCK HARRISON

By:


"Attorney"
State Bar Number 176370

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