

George Hills Company, Inc.

SECOND AMENDMENT TO AGREEMENT FOR SERVICES #275-S1611

THIS SECOND AMENDMENT to that Agreement for Services #275-S1611 made and entered into by and between the County of El Dorado, a political subdivision of the State of California (hereinafter referred to as "County"), and George Hills Company, Inc., a corporation duly qualified to conduct business in the State of California, whose principal place of business is 1517 Terracina Drive, El Dorado Hills, California 95762, and whose mailing address is Post Office Box 278, Rancho Cordova, California 95741 (hereinafter referred to as "Contractor");

RECITALS

WHEREAS, Contractor has been engaged by County to provide liability claims administrative services for the Human Resource Department, Risk Management Division pursuant to Agreement for Services #275-S1611, dated December 15, 2015, and First Amendment to Agreement for Services #275-S1611, dated December 8, 2020, incorporated herein and made by reference a part hereof (hereinafter referred to as "Agreement");

WHEREAS, the parties hereto desire to amend the Agreement to augment the scope of work in accordance with current policies and procedures, amending **ARTICLE I, Scope of Services**;

WHEREAS, the parties hereto desire to amend the Agreement to extend the expiration date of December 31, 2021 for three (3) additional years, amending **ARTICLE II, Term**;

WHEREAS, the parties hereto desire to amend the Agreement to increase the not-to-exceed compensation amount of the Agreement by \$605,000 for the extended term of the Agreement for a total not-to-exceed amount of \$1,629,116, amending **ARTICLE III, Compensation for Services**;

WHEREAS, the parties hereto desire to amend the Agreement to update County's notice recipient and addresses, amending **ARTICLE XII, Notice to Parties**;

WHEREAS, the parties hereto desire to amend the Agreement to update County's Contract Administrator, amending **ARTICLE XXV, Administrator**;

WHEREAS, the parties hereto desire to fully-replace specific Articles and add new Articles to include updated contract provisions and memorialize the independent contractor relationship created through this agreement;

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the foregoing and the mutual promises and covenants hereinafter contained, County and Contractor mutually agree to amend the terms of the Agreement in this Second Amendment to Agreement on the following terms and conditions:

I. **ARTICLE I, Scope of Services**, of the Agreement is amended to add the following:

Q. Contractor shall provide first party subrogation claims services for claims with a value in excess of \$1000. Contractor's services are unique to a first party loss of the County caused by the intentional or negligent act of a third party. For each subrogation claim, services shall require prior written approval (email is acceptable) from the County's Contract Administrator, or designee, and shall include the following:

- i. To act as a representative of County for the investigation, adjustment, processing, supervision, and evaluation of an ultimate recovery of potential money from damage claims against parties for whom it is alleged to be legally responsible.
- ii. To engage the services of a litigation attorney to consult, review, and determine the best legal strategy available at the time to obtain the best possible result for County. Upon determination by the attorney that a civil action is in the best interest of County, Contractor shall notify County and obtain authorization to pursue recovery in accordance with the recommendations of the litigation attorney.
- iii. To appear in small claims court for recovery of funds. Authority for the pursuit of recovery through small claims will be requested prior to the filing of documents with the court to initiate the small claims action.
- iv. While Contractor is handling a subrogation claim for County pursuant to the terms of this Contract, if the institution of a civil action is determined by County to be the best course of action, County may elect to do so at County's own expense, and recall the claim to County's control so that County may pursue recovery in a manner to be determined by the County's attorney to be in the best interest of the County.
- v. Contractor has the authority to reject any claim for any reason, relieving County of any fiscal responsibility for rejected claims only.
- vi. Contractor reserves the right to cease working on any claim whereas information has not been made available to Contractor within one hundred twenty (120) days after Contractor has submitted the information and/or documentation request to County, at such time the claim will be closed. Contractor shall not bill the County for time spent on a closed claim. If the County wishes to pursue at a later date, a new claim shall be opened.

II. **ARTICLE II, Term**, of the Agreement is amended in its entirety to read as follows:

ARTICLE II

Term: This agreement shall become effective upon final execution by both parties hereto and shall cover the period of January 1, 2016 through December 31, 2024.

III. **ARTICLE III, Compensation for Services**, of the Agreement is amended in its entirety to read as follows:

ARTICLE III

Compensation for Services: For services provided herein, County agrees to pay Contractor a monthly flat rate for claims administration services including, but not limited to those detailed in ARTICLE I - Scope of Services.

For the purposes of this Agreement, the monthly billing rate shall be as follows:

For the term:	2016	\$13,518	(\$162,216 annualized)
	2017	\$13,788	(\$165,456 annualized)
	2018	\$14,063	(\$168,756 annualized)
	2019	\$14,344	(\$172,128 annualized)
	2020	\$14,630	(\$175,560 annualized)
	2021	\$15,000	(\$180,000 annualized)
	2022	\$15,000	(\$180,000 annualized)
	2023	\$15,416.66	(\$185,000 annualized)
	2024	\$15,833.33	(\$190,000 annualized)

For the period beginning January 1, 2022 through December 31, 2024, compensation for subrogation services will be issued as follows:

For the purposes of this Agreement, the fee for subrogation claim services shall be thirty percent (30%) for each and every recovery obtained, which fee is to be deducted from the recovery obtained by Contractor on a contingency basis. The minimum amount to be paid to Contractor will be \$250 per claim upon recovery. For any claim collected, Contractor shall provide documentation used to corroborate the amount collected.

For costs for services not covered by the contingent thirty percent (30%) fee, Payment shall be made within forty-five (45) days following County's receipt and approval of itemized invoices identifying the services rendered, and shall be compensated as follows:

In the event County recalls a subrogation claim, County shall be responsible for payment to Contractor for any and all time at \$92 per hour and expenses incurred by Contractor's subrogation claim adjuster and/or other subrogation

division staff up to the time wherein the claim has been recalled by County. There shall be no markup on any expenses for Contractor. Any invoices that include expenses shall be accompanied by backup documentation to substantiate Contractor costs for the services billed on those invoices.

Each small claims court appearance shall be an additional fee of \$150. All costs for the handling of small claims court actions (i.e. service of process of documents on the responsible parties, mileage, parking, and tolls) shall be an additional cost and will be the responsibility of the Contractor.

Additional allocated costs shall be billed separately upon the cost being incurred, such as, but not limited to: skip tracing, service of process, and third-party subcontracted investigation services. There shall be no markup on any additional allocated costs for Contractor. Any invoices that include additional allocated costs shall be accompanied by backup documentation to substantiate Contractor costs for the services billed on those invoices.

The total amount of this Agreement shall not exceed \$1,629,116, as amended inclusive of all costs, taxes, and expenses. Costs for services not covered by the contingent thirty percent (30%) fee shall not exceed \$50,000.

It is agreed and understood that the dedicated adjuster is a George Hills employee and is afforded all insurance coverage and employee benefits by Contractor.

III. ARTICLE XII, Notice to Parties, of the Agreement is amended in its entirety to read as follows:

ARTICLE XII

Notice to Parties: All notices to be given by the parties hereto shall be in writing and served by depositing same in the United States Post Office, postage prepaid and return receipt requested. Notices to County shall be in duplicate and addressed as follows:

To County:

County of El Dorado
Risk Management Division
330 Fair Lane
Placerville, California 95667

Attn.: Michael Andersen
Risk Manager

County of El Dorado
County Counsel
330 Fair Lane
Placerville, California 95667

With a copy to:

County of El Dorado
Chief Administrative Office
330 Fair Lane
Placerville, California 95667

Attn.: Michele Weimer
Procurement and Contracts Manager

Attn.: David Livingston
County Counsel

or to such other location as County directs.

Notices to Contractor shall be addressed as follows:

George Hills Company, Inc.
Post Office Box 278
Rancho Cordova, California 95741

Attn.: John E. Chaquica
Chief Executive Officer

or to such other location as Contractor directs.

- IV. ARTICLE XXV, Administrator,** of the Agreement is amended in its entirety to read as follows:

ARTICLE XXV

Administrator: The County Officer or employee with responsibility for administering this Agreement is Joseph Carruesco, Director, Human Resources Department, or successor and David Livingston, County Counsel, or successor.

- V. The following Article of the Agreement are fully-replaced in their entirety to read as follows:**

ARTICLE VI

Contractor to County: It is understood that the services provided under this Agreement shall be prepared in and with cooperation from County and its staff. It is further understood that this Agreement does not create an exclusive relationship between County and Contractor, and Contractor may perform similar work or services for others. However, Contractor shall not enter into any agreement with any other party, or provide any information in any manner to any other party, that would conflict with Contractor's responsibilities or hinder Contractor's performance of services hereunder, unless County's Contract Administrator, in writing, authorizes that agreement or sharing of information.

ARTICLE VIII

Independent Contractor: The parties intend that an independent Contractor relationship will be created by this contract. Contractor is, and shall be at all times, deemed independent and shall be wholly responsible for the manner in which it performs services required by the terms of this Agreement. Contractor exclusively assumes responsibility for acts of its employees, agents, affiliates, and subcontractors, if any are authorized herein, as they relate to the services or work to be performed under this Agreement during the course and scope of their employment by Contractor. Those persons will be entirely and exclusively under the direction, supervision, and control of Contractor.

County may designate the tasks to be performed and the results to be accomplished under this Agreement, provide information concerning the work or services, approve or disapprove the final work product and/or services provided, and set deadlines for the completion of the work or services, but County will not control or direct the manner, means, methods, or sequence in which Contractor performs the work or services for accomplishing the results. Contractor understands and agrees that Contractor lacks the authority to bind County or incur any obligations on behalf of County.

Contractor, including any subcontractor or employees of Contractor, shall not receive, nor be eligible for, any benefits County provides for its employees, including, but not limited to, vacation pay, paid holidays, life insurance, health insurance, social security, disability insurance, pension, or 457 plans. Contractor shall not receive, nor be eligible for, workers' compensation, including medical and indemnity payments. County is not responsible for withholding, and shall not withhold, Federal Income Contribution Act amounts or taxes of any kind from any payments which it owes Contractor. Contractor shall not be subject to the work schedules or vacation periods that apply to County employees.

Contractor shall be solely responsible for paying its employees, and for withholding Federal Income Contribution Act amounts and other taxes, workers' compensation, unemployment compensation, medical insurance, life insurance, or any other benefit that Contractor provides for its employees.

Contractor acknowledges that it has no authority to bind the County or incur any obligations on behalf of the County with regard to any matter, and shall not make any agreements or representations on the County's behalf.

ARTICLE XI

Default, Termination, and Cancellation:

- A. Termination by Default: If either party becomes aware of an event of default, that party shall give written notice of said default to the party in default that shall state the following:
1. The alleged default and the applicable Agreement provision.
 2. That the party in default has ten (10) days upon receiving the notice to cure the default (Time to Cure).

If the party in default does not cure the default within ten (10) days of the Time to Cure, then such party shall be in default and the party giving notice may terminate the Agreement by issuing a Notice of Termination. The party giving notice may extend the Time to Cure at their discretion. Any extension of Time to Cure must be in writing, prepared by the party in default for signature by the party giving notice, and must specify the reason(s) for the extension and the date in which the extension of Time to

Cure expires.

If County terminates this Agreement, in whole or in part, for default:

1. County reserves the right to procure the goods or services, or both, similar to those terminated, from other sources and Contractor shall be liable to County for any excess costs for those goods or services. County may deduct from any payment due, or that may thereafter become due to Contractor, the excess costs to procure from an alternate source.
2. County shall pay Contractor the sum due to Contractor under this Agreement prior to termination, unless the cost of completion to County exceeds the funds remaining in the Agreement. In which case the overage shall be deducted from any sum due Contractor under this Agreement and the balance, if any, shall be paid to Contractor upon demand.
3. County may require Contractor to transfer title and deliver to County any completed work under the Agreement.

The following shall be events of default under this Agreement:

1. Failure by either party to perform in a timely and satisfactory manner any or all of its obligations under this Agreement.
 2. A representation or warranty made by Contractor in this Agreement proves to have been false or misleading in any respect.
 3. Contractor fails to observe and perform any covenant, condition or agreement on its part to be observed or performed under this Agreement, unless County agrees, in writing, to an extension of the time to perform before that time period expires.
 4. A violation of ARTICLE XVIII, Conflict of Interest.
- B. Bankruptcy: County may terminate this Agreement immediately in the case of bankruptcy, voluntary or involuntary, or insolvency of Contractor.
- C. Ceasing Performance: County may terminate this Agreement immediately in the event Contractor ceases to operate as a business or otherwise becomes unable to substantially perform any term or condition of this Agreement.
- D. Termination or Cancellation without Cause: County may terminate this Agreement in whole or in part, for convenience upon thirty (30) calendar days' written Notice of Termination. If such termination is effected, County will pay for satisfactory services rendered before the effective date of termination, as set forth in the Notice of Termination provided to Contractor, and for any other services that County agrees, in writing, to be necessary for contract resolution. In no event, however, shall County be obligated to pay more than the total amount of the Agreement, as

applicable. Upon receipt of a Notice of Termination, Contractor shall promptly discontinue all services affected, as of the effective date of termination set forth in such Notice of Termination, unless the Notice directs otherwise.

ARTICLE XIV

Indemnity: To the fullest extent permitted by law, Contractor shall defend at its own expense, indemnify, and hold the County harmless, its officers, employees, agents, and volunteers, against and from any and all liability, claims, suits, losses, damages, or expenses of every name, kind and description, including reasonable attorney's fees and costs incurred, brought for, or on account of, injuries to or death of any person, including but not limited to workers, County employees, and the public, or damage to property, or any economic or consequential losses, which are claimed to or in any way arise out of or are connected with the negligent acts or omissions of Contractor or its officers, agents, or employees in rendering the services, operations, or performance hereunder, except for liability, claims, suits, losses, damages or expenses arising from the negligence or willful acts of the County, its officers and employees, or as expressly prescribed by statute. This duty of Contractor to indemnify and save County harmless includes the duties to defend set forth in California Civil Code Section 2778.

ARTICLE XVI

Force Majeure: Neither party will be liable for any delay, failure to perform, or omission under this Agreement that is due to any cause that it is beyond its control, not due to its own negligence, and cannot be overcome by the exercise of due diligence. In that event, the affected party will:

1. Promptly give written notice to the other of the fact that it is unable to so perform and the cause(s) that is beyond its control.
2. Once the cause(s) has ceased, provide written notice to the other party and immediately resume its performance under this Agreement.

For purposes of this Article, "cause that is beyond its control" includes labor disturbances, riots, fires, earthquakes, floods, storms, lightning, epidemics, war, disorders, hostilities, expropriation or confiscation of properties, failure of and delays by carriers, interference by civil or military authorities, whether legal or de facto, and whether purporting to act under some constitution, decree, or law, or otherwise, or acts of God.

ARTICLE XVII

Waiver: No failure on the part of the parties to exercise any rights under this Agreement, and no course of dealing with respect to any right hereunder, shall operate as a waiver of that right, nor shall any single or partial exercise of any right preclude the exercise of any other right. The remedies herein provided are cumulative and are not exclusive of any other remedies provided by law.

ARTICLE XVIII

Conflict of Interest: The parties to this Agreement have read and are aware of the provisions of Government Code Section 1090 et seq. and the Political Reform Act of 1974 (Section 87100 et seq.), relating to conflict of interest of public officers and employees. Individuals who are working for Contractor and performing work for County and who are considered to be a "Contractor" within the meaning of Title 2, California Code of Regulations, Section 18700.3, as it now reads or may thereafter be amended, are required to file a statement of economic interest in accordance with County's Conflict of Interest Code. County's Contract Administrator shall at the time this Agreement is executed make an initial determination whether or not the individuals who will provide services or perform work pursuant to this Agreement are considered to be a "Contractor" within the meaning of the Political Reform Act and County's Conflict of Interest Code. Statements of economic interests are public records subject to disclosure under the California Public Records Act.

Contractor covenants that during the term of this Agreement neither it, or any officer or employee of Contractor, has or shall acquire any interest, directly or indirectly, in any of the following:

1. Any other contract connected with, or directly affected by, the services to be performed by this Agreement.
2. Any other entities connected with, or directly affected by, the services to be performed by this Agreement.
3. Any officer or employee of County that are involved in this Agreement.

If Contractor becomes aware of a conflict of interest related to this Agreement, Contractor shall promptly notify County of the existence of that conflict, and County may, in its sole discretion, immediately terminate this Agreement by giving written notice of termination specified in ARTICLE XI, Default, Termination, and Cancellation.

ARTICLE XIX

Nondiscrimination:

- A. County may require Contractor's services on projects involving funding from various state and/or federal agencies, and as a consequence, Contractor shall comply with all applicable nondiscrimination statutes and regulations during the performance of this Agreement including but not limited to the following: Contractor and its employees and representatives shall not unlawfully discriminate against any employee or applicant for employment because of race, religion, color, national origin, ancestry, physical handicap, mental disability, medical condition, genetic information, military or veteran status, marital status, age, gender, gender identity, gender expression, sexual orientation, or sex; Contractor shall,

unless exempt, comply with the applicable provisions of the Fair Employment and Housing Act (Government Code, Sections 12900 et seq.) and applicable regulations promulgated thereunder (California Code of Regulations, Title 2, Sections 11000 et seq.); the applicable regulations of the Fair Employment and Housing Commission implementing Government Code, Section 12990, set forth in Subchapter 5 of Chapter 5 of Division 4.1 of Title 2 of the California Code of Regulations incorporated into this Agreement by reference and made a part hereof as if set forth in full; and Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended. Contractor and its employees and representatives shall give written notice of their obligations under this clause as required by law.

- B. Where applicable, Contractor shall include these nondiscrimination and compliance provisions in any of its agreements that affect or are related to the services performed herein.
- C. Contractor's signature executing this Agreement shall provide any certifications necessary under the federal laws, the laws of the State of California, including but not limited to Government Code Sections 12990 and Title 2, California Code of Regulations, Section 11102.

ARTICLE XXII

County Payee Data Record Form: All independent contractors or corporations providing services to County who do not have a Department of the Treasury Internal Revenue Service Form W-9 (Form W-9) on file with County must file a County Payee Data Record Form with County.

ARTICLE XXIII

Business License: County's Business License Ordinance provides that it is unlawful for any person to furnish supplies or services, or transact any kind of business in the unincorporated territory of El Dorado County without possessing a County business license unless exempt under County Ordinance Code Section 5.08.070. Contractor warrants and represents that it shall comply with all of the requirements of County's Business License Ordinance, where applicable, prior to beginning work under this Agreement and at all times during the term of this Agreement.

ARTICLE XXVII

Partial Invalidity: If any provision, sentence, or phrase of the Agreement is held by a court of competent jurisdiction to be invalid, void, or unenforceable, the remaining provisions, sentences, and phrases will continue in full force and effect without being impaired or invalidated in any way.

ARTICLE XXVIII

California Forum and Law: 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.

VI. The following Articles of the Agreement are added to read as follows:

ARTICLE XXXII

Confidentiality: Contractor shall maintain the confidentiality and privileged nature of all records, including billing records, together with any knowledge therein acquired, in accordance with all applicable state and federal laws and regulations, as they may now exist or may hereafter be amended or changed. Contractor, and all Contractor's staff, employees, and representatives, shall not use or disclose, directly or indirectly at any time, any said confidential information, other than to County's Human Resources Department for the purpose of, and in the performance of, this Agreement. This confidentiality provision shall survive after the expiration or earlier termination of this Agreement.

ARTICLE XXXIII

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

Except as herein amended, all other parts and sections of Agreement for Services #275-S1611 shall remain unchanged and in full force and effect.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties hereto have executed this Second Amendment to Agreement for Services #275-S1611 on the dates indicated below.

--COUNTY OF EL DORADO--

By: 

Dated: 12/14/21

Board of Supervisors
"County"


Attest:
Kim Dawson
Clerk of the Board of Supervisors

By: 

Dated: 12/14/21

Deputy Clerk

--GEORGE HILLS COMPANY, INC.--

By: 

Dated: 11/17/2021

John E. Chaquica
Chief Executive Officer
and Corporate Secretary
"Contractor"