# **Death Audit and Obituary Notification Services**

# **Request for Proposal**

June 2023

**Orange County Employees Retirement System (OCERS)** 

2223 E Wellington Avenue Suite 100 Santa Ana, CA 92701 USA 1-(714)-558-6200 http://www.ocers.org

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#### **Section 1: Introduction**

The Orange County Employees Retirement System ("OCERS") is requesting proposals from qualified firms interested in providing Death Audit and Obituary Notification Services.

Questions about this RFP must be submitted in writing by **5:00 pm, PT, July 14, 2023,** to Jim Doezie, Contracts, Risk & Performance Administrator, by email at <a href="mailto:idoezie@ocers.org">idoezie@ocers.org</a>.

Those who wish to be considered must submit their completed proposal by **5:00 p.m., PT, August 11, 2023.** Specific instructions for proposal submissions are contained in <u>Section 7</u> of this RFP.

#### **Section 2: Background**

OCERS was established in 1945 under the County Employees Retirement Law of 1937, providing members with retirement, disability, death, and cost-of-living benefits. There are approximately 50,000 members served by OCERS, of which over 19,000 are retirees. OCERS is governed by a nine-member Board of Retirement ("Board"), which has plenary authority and fiduciary responsibility for the investment of moneys and administration of the retirement system. OCERS has over one hundred employees, and the Board appoints a Chief Executive Officer responsible for the agency's management. For additional information about OCERS, please refer to the OCERS website at ocers.org.

#### **Section 3: Scope of Services**

The detailed scope of services for this engagement is outlined in the attached Exhibit "B" ("Scope of Services"). The primary objectives are to provide OCERS with:

- 95% or higher Accurate Death Matching Services in an easily usable format with a focus on automation.
- Continual monitoring and reporting of our monthly data files for new death matches
- Ad hoc address search functionality available online for selected OCERS team members

The firm selected for this engagement will be expected to meet requirements that include, but are not limited to, the following:

- 1. The selected firm must provide death auditing services. The audit shall be performed to confirm the death of individual OCERS Members, Domestic Relations Order Payee's (DRO's) and Beneficiaries. There are roughly 50,000 OCERS Members and beneficiaries that would need to be audited monthly via a batch data-load process. There will be an export file from OCERS to the selected firm as well as an import file from the firm back to OCERS. The batch file formats must conform to the formats as noted in Appendix A and Appendix B. Please confirm your firm can provide and receive data in the specified formats (We can customize them though as needed). Accuracy of the death audits should be at 95% or higher.
- 2. The vendor shall provide "anytime" access to all data sources for additional user access reviews via an on-line interactive application.
- 3. The vendor shall provide continual monitoring of our monthly file daily throughout each month and provide OCERS immediate email notification of a member that has a life status change due to death.

- 4. The selected vendor must be a professional firm whose primary line of business includes providing death notification services.
- 5. The vendor must have been in existence as a business entity performing such services for a minimum of five (5) years.
- 6. The firm's system must be able to support Address Searches. This is to enable the OCERS staff to check new or old Member addresses. Please detail this functionality with your system.
- 7. The firm must have all necessary permits and licenses to perform the requested services and must be bonded where applicable.
- 8. Minimum insurance coverage must include the following items, and proof of such insurance must be provided to OCERS prior to the commencement of work, on an annual basis, and upon request:
  - Commercial General Liability: \$1M per occurrence, \$2M aggregate
  - Automobile Liability: \$1M per occurrence, \$2M aggregate
  - Workers Compensation: \$1M per occurrence, \$1M aggregate
  - Professional Liability: \$1M per occurrence, \$2M aggregate
  - Cyber Security Insurance: \$2M per occurrence, \$5M aggregate

OCERS must be listed as an additional insured on the above policies.

- 9. The firm shall provide all personnel, equipment, tools, materials, vehicles, supervision, and other items and services necessary to perform all services, tasks, and functions as requested in this RFP.
- 10. The initial term of the contract awarded pursuant to this RFP will be for a **3-year** period, with OCERS retaining the option to renew the contract, on an annual basis, for up to an additional 3 years. The total term of the contract will not exceed six years.
- 11. All work under the contract awarded shall be performed and all equipment furnished or installed in accordance with applicable safety codes, ordinances, and other regulations, including the regulations of the State of California, Division of Industrial Safety, and the provisions of the California Labor Code.
- 12. Minimum Qualifications
  All respondents are required to sign and return the "Minimum Qualifications Certification," attached as Exhibit "C."
- 13. Please address the security and business continuity concerns as noted in Exhibit F. Specifically responding to each concern is not required if the general concepts and issues are explained.

#### **Section 4: General Conditions**

All terms, conditions, requirements, and procedures included in this RFP must be met for a proposal to be qualified. A proposal that fails to meet any material term, condition, requirement, or procedure of this RFP may be disqualified. OCERS reserves the right to waive or permit the cure of non-material errors or omissions. OCERS reserves the right to modify, amend, or cancel the terms of this RFP at any time.

OCERS may modify this RFP before the date fixed for submission of a proposal by posting, mailing, emailing, or faxing an addendum to the respondents known to be interested in submitting a proposal. However, failure of a respondent to receive or acknowledge receipt of any addendum shall not relieve the respondent of the responsibility for complying with the terms thereof.

A respondent's proposal shall constitute an irrevocable offer for the 120 days following the deadline for submission of proposals. Reference to a certain number of days in this RFP shall mean calendar days unless otherwise specified.

All proposals submitted in response to this RFP will become the exclusive property of OCERS. Therefore, proposals will not be returned to respondents.

By submitting a proposal, the respondent acknowledges that it has read this RFP, understands it, and agrees to be bound by its requirements unless clearly and specifically noted in the proposal submitted.

#### **Section 5: Point of Contact**

A quiet period will be in effect from the date of issuance of this RFP until announcement of the candidate(s) selected. During the quiet period, respondents are not permitted to communicate with any OCERS staff member or Board Member regarding this RFP except through the Point of Contact named herein. Respondents violating this quiet period may be disqualified at OCERS' discretion. In addition, respondents having current business with OCERS must limit their communications to the subject of such business.

OCERS' regular business hours are from 08:00 to 17:00, Monday through Friday, except for federal and state holidays.

The Point of Contact for all matters relating to this RFP is:			
Name:	Jim Doezie		
Title:	Contracts, Risk & Performance Administrator		
Physical Address:	OCERS 2223 E Wellington Ave., Suite 100 Santa Ana, CA 92701		
Mailing Address:	OCERS P.O. Box 1229 Santa, Ana, CA 92702		

Telephone:	(714) 569-4884
Email:	jdoezie@ocers.org
OCERS Website:	www.OCERS.org
Status:	See the OCERS website for status of the RFP and announcements. These items can also be found here: <a href="http://www.ocers.org/rfp/requestforproposal.htm">http://www.ocers.org/rfp/requestforproposal.htm</a>
Planetbids Link:	https://pbsystem.planetbids.com/portal/56826/bo/bo-detail/107241

### **Section 6: Response to Request for Proposal**

Proposals must be submitted to the Point of Contact identified in <u>Section 5</u> and delivered by the due date and time stated below in the RFP Schedule.

OCERS will accept electronic submissions only. Proposals may be submitted electronically in Microsoft Word or Adobe Acrobat PDF format to the email address noted in <u>Section 5</u> or via the Planetbids submission solution.

#### **RFP Schedule**

The following timetable constitutes a tentative schedule for this RFP process. OCERS reserves the right to modify this schedule at any time.

Deliverable	Date	Time
Release of RFP	June 30	
Intent to Respond Deadline RFP Questions Deadline	July 14	5:00 P.M. PDT
RFP Answers Posted	July 28	5:00 P.M. PDT
RFP Submission Deadline	August 11	5:00 P.M. PDT
OCERS Review of RFP Submissions	August 14 thru August 3:	1
Selection of Finalists	Friday, September 1st	
Interviews of Finalists	Week of September 18	
Service Award [or recommendation to the Board]	September 29, 2023	

### **Section 7: Proposal Requirements**

Proposals must include the following information:

- 1. The "Minimum Qualifications Certification," attached as Exhibit "C."
- 2. The "Proposal Cover Page and Check List," attached as Exhibit "D."
- 3. An executive summary that provides the respondent's background, experience, and other qualifications to provide the services included in the Scope of Services.
- 4. A description of the respondent including:
  - a. Brief history, including year the respondent firm was formed.
  - b. Ownership structure.
  - c. Office locations.
  - d. Organization chart.
  - e. Number of employees.
  - f. Annual revenues.
  - g. Scope of services offered.
  - h. Respondent's specialties, strengths, and limitations.
  - i. Does respondent acquire any portion their data used to perform their services from another search firm provider? If so, from which firm.
  - j. Describe the accounting systems used and financial reporting methodologies.
  - k. How soon after period-end (month, quarterly, annual) are the financial results delivered?
  - I. Are the respondent's financial reports independently audited? If so, what is the name of the audit firm?
  - m. An example of the respondent's financial reports.
  - n. The average retention rate (years of service) of the firm's other clients?
- The names and qualifications of the staff that will be assigned to OCERS work, including a detailed profile of each person's background and relevant individual experience.
- 6. At least three (3) references for which the respondent has provided services like those included in the Scope of Services. Please include for each reference the individual point of contact, a summary of the work performed, and the length of time the respondent provided each service.
- 7. Copies of any pertinent licenses required to deliver respondent's product or service (e.g., business license).
- 8. A detailed implementation plan that explains the transfer from the incumbent to the selected firm.
- 9. A copy of respondent's standard professional services contract.
- 10. An explanation of the pricing proposal for the scope of work, including pricing of fees and costs, billing practices, and payment terms that would apply. OCERS does limit the pricing approach to pricing and will consider alternative pricing methods for the scope of work, or portions of it. This

section of the response should include an explanation as to how the pricing approach(es) will be managed to provide the best value to OCERS. The respondent should represent that the pricing offered to OCERS is, and will remain, equivalent to or better than that provided to other public pension fund or institutional investor clients or explain why this representation cannot be provided. All pricing proposals should be "best and final," although OCERS reserves the right to negotiate on pricing.

- 11. An explanation of all actual or potential conflicts of interest that the respondent may have in contracting with OCERS.
- 12. A description of all past, pending, or threatened litigation, including malpractice claims, administrative, state ethics, disciplinary proceedings, and other claims against respondent and/or any of the individuals proposed to provide services to OCERS.
- 13. Any other information that the respondent deems relevant to OCERS' selection process.
- 14. A description of any security or data breaches related to respondents firm.

#### **Section 8: Evaluation Criteria**

Responses will be evaluated based upon the following:

- 1. Experience and reputation of the respondent.
- 2. Quality of the team proposed to provide services to OCERS, including staffing depth, experience, turnover, and compensation.
- 3. Pricing and value.
- 4. Delivery and payment terms.
- 5. Compliance with technical standards contained in this RFP.
- 6. The organization, completeness, and quality of the proposal.
- 7. Information provided by references.
- 8. Other factors OCERS determines to be relevant.

The factors will be considered as a whole, without a specific weighting.

OCERS may require one or more interviews with or personal presentations by finalists to be conducted with staff or members of the Board of Retirement.

If the proposal's information is deemed to be insufficient for evaluation, OCERS may request additional information or reject the proposal outright at OCERS' sole discretion. In addition, false, incomplete, or unresponsive statements in connection with a proposal may result in rejection of the proposal.

#### **Section 9: Non-Discrimination Requirement**

By submitting a proposal, the respondent represents that it and its subsidiaries do not and will not discriminate against any employee or applicant for employment based on race, religion, color, national origin, ethnic group identification, mental disability, physical disability, medical condition, genetic information, marital status, ancestry, sex, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, age, or military and veteran status.

#### Section 10: Notice Regarding the California Public Records Act

The information submitted in response to this RFP will be subject to public disclosure pursuant to the California Public Records Act (California Government Code Section 6250, et. seq., the "Act"). The Act provides that all records relating to a public agency's business are open to public inspection and copying unless exempted explicitly under one of several exemptions set forth in the Act. If a respondent believes any portion of its proposal is exempt from public disclosure under the Act, the respondent must provide a full explanation and mark such portion "TRADE SECRETS," "CONFIDENTIAL," or "PROPRIETARY," and make it readily separable from the balance of the response. Proposals marked "TRADE SECRETS," "CONFIDENTIAL," or "PROPRIETARY" in their entirety will not be honored, and OCERS will not deny public disclosure of all or any portion of proposals so marked.

By submitting a proposal with material marked "TRADE SECRETS," "CONFIDENTIAL," or "PROPRIETARY," a respondent represents it has a good faith belief that the material is exempt from disclosure under the Act; however, such designations will not necessarily be conclusive, and a respondent may be required to justify in writing why OCERS should not disclose such material under the Act. Fee and pricing proposals are not considered "TRADE SECRET," "CONFIDENTIAL," or "PROPRIETARY."

If OCERS receives a request pursuant to the Act for materials that a respondent has marked "TRADE SECRET," "CONFIDENTIAL," or "PROPRIETARY," and if OCERS agrees that the material requested is not subject to disclosure under the Act, OCERS will either notify the respondent so that it can seek a protective order at its own cost and expense, or OCERS will deny disclosure of those materials. OCERS will not be held liable for inadvertent disclosure of such materials, data, and information or for disclosure of such materials if deemed appropriate in OCERS' sole discretion. OCERS retains the right to disclose all information provided by a respondent.

If OCERS denies public disclosure of any materials designated as "TRADE SECRETS," "CONFIDENTIAL," or "PROPRIETARY," the respondent agrees to reimburse OCERS for, and to indemnify, defend, and hold harmless OCERS, its Boards, officers, fiduciaries, employees, and agents from and against:

- 1. Any and all claims, damages, losses, liabilities, suits, judgments, fines, penalties, costs, and expenses, including, without limitation, attorneys' fees, expenses, and court costs of any nature whatsoever (collectively, "Claims") arising from or relating to OCERS' non-disclosure of any such designated portions of a proposal; and
- 2. Any and all Claims arising from or relating to OCERS' public disclosure of any such designated portions of a proposal if OCERS determines disclosure is required by law, or if disclosure is ordered by a court of competent jurisdiction.

### **Section 11: Contract Negotiations**

OCERS will propose a contract to the successful respondent, which will contain such terms as OCERS, in its sole discretion, may require. In addition, the selected firm will agree that this RFP and the firm's proposal will be incorporated into any resulting contract.

This RFP is not an offer to contract. Acceptance of a proposal neither commits OCERS to award a contract to any respondent nor does it limit OCERS' right to negotiate the terms of a contract in OCERS' best interest, including the addition of terms not mentioned in this RFP. The final contract must, among

other terms and conditions required by OCERS, allow OCERS to terminate the contract a) for OCERS' convenience, b) if funds are not appropriated for the services, or c) for default.

The general form of the contract OCERS intends to use is included as Exhibit "E" ("OCERS Services Agreement"). OCERS reserves the right to make changes to the contract prior to execution, including material changes. The final Scope of Services to be included in the contract will be determined at the conclusion of the RFP process.

By submitting a proposal without comment on the OCERS Services Agreement, respondent will be deemed to have agreed to each term in the OCERS Services Agreement, and to not seek any modifications to it. If respondent objects to any term in the OCERS Services Agreement or wishes to modify or add terms to the OCERS Services Agreement, the proposal must identify each objection and propose language for each modification and additional term sought. A rationale should be included for each objection, modification, or addition.

### **Section 12: Reservations by OCERS**

In addition to the other provisions of this RFP, OCERS reserves the right to:

- 1. Cancel or modify this RFP, in whole or in part, at any time.
- 2. Make such investigation as it deems necessary to determine the respondent's ability to furnish the required services, and the respondent agrees to furnish all such information for this purpose as OCERS may request.
- 3. Reject the proposal of any respondent who is not currently able to perform the services, or who has previously failed to perform similar services properly, or in a timely manner, or for any other reason in OCERS' sole discretion.
- 4. Waive irregularities, to negotiate in any manner necessary to best serve the public interest, and to make a whole award, multiple awards, a partial award, or no award.
- 5. Award a contract, if at all, to the firm which will provide the best match to the requirements of the RFP and the service needs of OCERS in OCERS' sole discretion, which may not be the proposal offering the lowest fees.
- 6. Request additional documentation or information from respondents, which may vary by respondent. OCERS may ask questions of any respondent to seek clarification of a proposal or to ensure the respondent understands the scope of the work or other terms of the RFP.
- 7. Reject any or all proposals submitted in response to this RFP.
- 8. Choose to not enter into an agreement with any of the respondents to this RFP or negotiate for the services described in this RFP with a party that did not submit a proposal.
- 9. Determine the extent, without limitation, to which the services of a successful respondent are or are not actually utilized.
- 10. Defer selection of a bidder to a time of OCERS' choosing.
- 11. Consider information about a respondent other than, and in addition to, that submitted by the respondent.

#### **Exhibit A**

#### **Intent to Respond**

If you choose to submit a proposal in response to this RFP, please submit this Intent to Respond to Jim Doezie via email no later than 5:00 p.m., PT, **July 14, 2023.** Failure to submit your Intent to Respond may disqualify your firm from submitting a proposal.

OCERS' responses to written requests for clarification or additional information will be provided to all firms that have submitted an Intent to Respond.

To: Jim Doezie	From:
Co.: OCERS	Title:
	Co.:
Phone: (714) 569-4884	Phone:
Email: <u>jdoezie@ocers.org</u>	Email:
Re: Intent to Respond	Date:
Our firm intends to submit a respo Services.	nse for OCERS' RFP for Death Audit and Obituary Notification
Please forward inquiries to the follow	owing contact:
Name:	
Title:	
Company:	
Mailing Address:	
Telephone:	
Facsimile:	
Email Address:	

Intent to Respond

#### **Exhibit B**

#### **Scope of Services**

- 1. The selected firm must provide death auditing services. The audit shall be performed to confirm the death of individual OCERS Members, DRO's and Beneficiaries. There are roughly 50,000 OCERS Members and beneficiaries that would need to be audited monthly via a batch data-load process. There will be an export file from OCERS to the selected firm as well as an import file from the firm back to OCERS. The batch file formats must conform to the formats as noted in Appendix A and Appendix B. Please confirm your firm can provide and receive data in the specified formats. Accuracy of the death audits should be at 95% or higher (please provide pricing if there is a scale to get higher accuracy rates).
- 2. The vendor shall provide "anytime" access to all data sources for additional user access reviews via an on-line interactive application.
- 3. The vendor shall provide continual monitoring of our monthly file daily throughout each month and provide OCERS immediate email notification of a member that has a life status change due to death.
- 4. The selected vendor must be a professional firm whose primary line of business includes providing death notification services.
- 5. The vendor must have been in existence as a business entity performing such services for a minimum of five (5) years.
- 6. The firm's system must be able to support Address Searches. This is to enable the OCERS staff to check new or old Member addresses. Please detail this functionality with your system.

#### **Exhibit C**

#### MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS CERTIFICATION

All firms submitting a proposal in response to this RFP are required to sign and return this attachment, along with written evidence of how the respondent meets each qualification.

The undersigned hereby certifies that it fulfills the minimum qualifications outlined below, as well as the requirements contained in the RFP.

Minimum Qualifications include:

- 1. The firm must have all necessary permits and licenses to perform the requested services and must be bonded where applicable.
- 2. Minimum insurance coverage must include the following items, and proof of such insurance must be provided to OCERS prior to the commencement of work, on an annual basis, and upon request:
  - Commercial General Liability: \$1M per occurrence, \$2M aggregate
  - Automobile Liability: \$1M per occurrence, \$2M aggregate
  - Workers Compensation: \$1M per occurrence, \$1M aggregate
  - Professional Liability: \$1M per occurrence, \$2M aggregate
  - Cyber Security Insurance: \$2M per occurrence, \$5M aggregate

OCERS must be listed as an additional insured on the above policies.

- 3. The firm shall provide all personnel, equipment, tools, materials, vehicles, supervision, and other items and services necessary to perform all services, tasks, and functions as requested in this RFP.
- 4. The initial term of the contract awarded pursuant to this RFP will be for a **3-year** period, with OCERS retaining the option to renew the contract, on an annual basis, for up to an additional 3 year. The total term of the contract will not exceed six years.
- 5. All work under the contract awarded shall be performed and all equipment furnished or installed in accordance with applicable safety codes, ordinances, and other regulations, including the regulations of the State of California, Division of Industrial Safety, and the provisions of the California Labor Code.
- 6. If selected, the firm agrees to provide a SOC 2 Type II compliant report.

The undersigned hereby certifies that they are an individual authorized to bind the Firm contractually, and said signature authorizes verification of this information.

Authorized Signature	Date	
Name and Title (please print)	Name of Firm	

#### Exhibit D

#### PROPOSAL COVER PAGE AND CHECK LIST (TO BE SUBMITTED IN FIRM'S LETTERHEAD)

Respondent Address:	
By submitting this response, the undersigned hereby affirms and represents that they have review	wea
the proposal requirements and have submitted a complete and accurate response to the best of	thei

knowledge. By signing below, I hereby affirm that the respondent has reviewed the entire RFP and

Respondent specifically acknowledges the following:

intends to comply with all requirements.

Respondent Name:

- 1. Respondent possesses the required technical expertise and has sufficient capacity to provide the services outlined in the RFP.
- 2. Respondent has no unresolved questions regarding the RFP and believes that there are no ambiguities in the scope of services.
- 3. The fee schedule submitted in response to the RFP is for the entire scope of services and no extra charges or expenses will be paid by OCERS.
- 4. Respondent has completely disclosed to OCERS all facts bearing upon any possible interests, direct or indirect, that Respondent believes any member of OCERS, or other officer, agent, or employee of OCERS presently has, or will have, in this contract, or in the performance thereof, or in any portion of the profits thereunder.
- 5. Materials contained in the proposal and all correspondence and written questions submitted during the RFP process are subject to disclosure pursuant to the California Public Records Act.
- 6. Respondent is not currently under investigation by any state of federal regulatory agency for any reason.
- 7. Except as specifically noted in the proposal, respondent agrees to all the terms and conditions included in OCERS Services Agreement.
- 8. The signatory below is authorized to bind the respondent contractually.

#### Exhibit E

#### **SERVICES AGREEMENT TEMPLATE**

# ORANGE COUNTY EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT SYSTEM AGREEMENT FOR SERVICES

This Agreement for Services ("Agreement") is entered into this day of,
20_ (the "Effective Date") by and between the Orange County Employees Retirement
System, ("OCERS") and ("Contractor"). OCERS and Contractor are sometimes
individually referred to as "Party" and collectively as "Parties." The Parties hereby agree as
follows:

#### 1. PURPOSE.

#### 1.1 **Project.**

Contractor desires to perform and assume responsibility for the provision of, and OCERS desires to engage Contractor to render, services for **Death Audit and Obituary Services** on the terms and conditions set forth in this Agreement and its attached exhibits.

#### 2. TERMS.

- 2.1 <u>Scope of Services</u>. Contractor promises and agrees to furnish to OCERS all labor, materials, tools, equipment, services, and incidental and customary work necessary to fully and adequately perform all services contemplated by this Agreement ("Services"), as more particularly described in the attached **Exhibit "A"** ("Scope of Services"). All Services shall be subject to, and performed in accordance with, this Agreement, the exhibits attached hereto and incorporated herein by reference, and all applicable local, state, and federal laws, rules, and regulations. Contractor represents and warrants to OCERS that Contractor will perform the Services in a professional and workmanlike manner, in accordance with best industry standards and practices used in well-managed operations performing services like the Services.
- **2.2** Term. The term of this Agreement will commence upon the Effective Date and will continue for **thirty-six** months from the Effective Date ("Term"), unless earlier terminated as provided herein. The Parties may, by mutual written agreement, extend the Term for up to three (3) additional twelve (12) month periods. In no event shall the total term of the Agreement exceed seventy-two (72) months.

#### 2.3 Consideration.

- 2.3.1 <u>Compensation</u>. Contractor shall receive compensation, including authorized reimbursements, for all Services rendered under this Agreement as set forth in **Exhibit "B"** ("Fee Schedule").
- 2.3.2 <u>Invoices and Payment</u>. Contractor shall submit to OCERS monthly itemized invoices as required by the Fee Schedule. OCERS shall pay all approved charges within net thirty (30) days of receiving such invoice.
- 2.3.3 Extra Work. At any time during the term of this Agreement, OCERS may request that Contractor perform Extra Work. As used herein, "Extra Work" means any work which is determined by OCERS to be necessary for the proper completion of the Services, but which the Parties did not reasonably anticipate would be necessary as of the Effective Date. Contractor shall not perform, nor be compensated for, Extra Work without written authorization by OCERS. Extra Work, if authorized, will be compensated at the rates and manner set forth in this Agreement.

#### 2.4 Responsibilities of Contractor.

- 2.4.1 <u>Independent Contractor</u>. The Services shall be performed by Contractor or by Contractor's employees under Contractor's supervision. Contractor will determine the means, methods, and details of performing the Services subject to the requirements of this Agreement. Contractor is an independent contractor and not an employee of OCERS. Except as OCERS may agree in writing, Contractor shall have no authority, expressed or implied, to act on behalf of OCERS in any capacity whatsoever as an agent of OCERS. Any additional personnel performing the Services under this Agreement on behalf of Contractor will also not be employees of OCERS and will at all times be under Contractor's exclusive direction and control.
- 2.4.2 <u>Payment of Subordinates</u>. Contractor will pay all wages, salaries, and other amounts due its personnel in connection with their performance of Services under this Agreement and as required by law. Contractor shall be responsible for all reports and obligations respecting such additional personnel, including, but not limited to: social security taxes, income tax withholding, unemployment insurance, disability insurance, and workers' compensation insurance. Contractor will bear the sole responsibility and liability for furnishing Workers' Compensation benefits to all such personnel for injuries arising from or connected with the Services.
- 2.4.3 <u>Licensing</u>. Contractor represents that it, its employees, and subcontractors have all licenses, permits, qualifications, and approvals of whatever nature that are legally required to perform the Services, and that such licenses and approvals shall be maintained throughout the term of this Agreement.
- 2.4.4 <u>Conformance to Applicable Requirements</u>. All Services performed by Contractor shall be subject to the approval of OCERS.

- 2.4.5 <u>Substitution of Key Personnel</u>. Contractor has represented to OCERS that certain key personnel will perform and coordinate the Services under this Agreement ("Key Personnel"). The Key Personnel assigned to this Agreement are identified in the attached **Exhibit "C"** ("Key Personnel"). Key Personnel will be available to perform Services under the terms and conditions of this Agreement immediately upon commencement of the term of this Agreement. If one or more of such Key Personnel becomes unavailable, Contractor may substitute other personnel of at least equal competence upon written approval of OCERS. Contractor shall provide OCERS written notification detailing the circumstances of the unavailability of the Key Personnel and designating replacement personnel prior to the effective date of the unavailability of such Key Personnel, to the maximum extent feasible, but no later than five (5) business days after the date of the Key Personnel's unavailability. OCERS will have the right to approve or disapprove the reassignment or substitution of Key Personnel for any reason at OCERS' sole discretion. In the event that OCERS and Contractor cannot agree as to the substitution of Key Personnel, OCERS will be entitled to terminate this Agreement for cause.\_
- 2.4.6 <u>Removal of Key Personnel</u>. Contractor agrees to remove any Key Personnel from performing Services under this Agreement within twenty-four (24) hours or as soon thereafter as is practicable if reasonably requested to do so by the OCERS.
- 2.4.7 <u>Laws and Regulations</u>. Contractor shall keep itself fully informed of and in compliance with all local, state, and federal laws, rules, and regulations in any manner affecting the performance of the Services, including all Cal/OSHA requirements, and shall give all notices required by law. Contractor shall be liable for all violations of such laws and regulations in connection with Services. If the Contractor performs any work knowing it to be contrary to such laws, rules, and regulations, Contractor shall be solely responsible for all costs arising therefrom.

#### 2.4.8 Labor Code Provisions.

Prevailing Wages. Contractor is aware of the requirements of California Labor Code Section 1720, et seq., and 1770, et seq., as well as California Code of Regulations, Title 8, Section 16000, et seq. ("Prevailing Wage Laws"), which require the payment of prevailing wage rates and the performance of other requirements on "public works" and "maintenance" projects. If the Services are being performed as part of an applicable "public works" or "maintenance" project, as defined by the Prevailing Wage Laws, and if the total compensation is \$1,000 or more, Contractor agrees to fully comply with such Prevailing Wage Laws. Contractor shall comply with all prevailing wage requirements under the California Labor Code and Contractor shall forfeit as penalty to OCERS a sum of not more than \$200 for each calendar day, or portion thereof, for each worker paid less than the prevailing rates. This penalty shall be in addition to any shortfall in wages paid. OCERS has obtained the general prevailing rate of wages, as determined by the Director of the Department of Industrial Relations ("DIR"), a copy of which is on file in OCERS's office and shall be made available for viewing to any interested party upon request. Contractor shall make copies of the prevailing rates of per diem wages for each craft, classification, or type of worker needed to execute the Services available to interested parties upon request and shall post copies at the Contractor's principal place of business and at the site where Services are performed.

- (b) Registration and Labor Compliance. If the Services are being performed as part of an applicable "public works" or "maintenance" project, then, in addition to the foregoing, pursuant to Labor Code sections 1725.5 and 1771.1, Contractor and all subcontractors must be registered with the DIR. Contractor shall maintain registration for the duration of this Agreement and require the same of any subcontractors. The Services may also be subject to compliance monitoring and enforcement by the DIR. It shall be Contractor's sole responsibility to comply with all applicable registration and labor compliance requirements, including the submission of payroll records directly to the DIR.
- (c) <u>Labor Certification</u>. By its signature hereunder, Contractor certifies that it is aware of the provisions of Section 3700 of the California Labor Code which require every employer to be insured against liability for Workers' Compensation or to undertake self-insurance in accordance with the provisions of that Code and agrees to comply with such provisions before commencing the performance of the Services.
- 2.4.9 <u>Accounting Records</u>. Contractor shall maintain complete and accurate records with respect to all costs and expenses incurred under this Agreement. All such records shall be clearly identifiable. Contractor shall allow a representative of OCERS during normal business hours to examine, audit, and make transcripts or copies of such records and any other documents created pursuant to this Agreement. Contractor shall allow inspection of all work, data, documents, proceedings, and activities related to the Agreement for a period of four (4) years from the date of final payment under this Agreement.

#### 2.5 Representatives of the Parties.

- 2.5.1 <u>OCERS' Representative</u>. OCERS hereby designates Jeff Lamberson, to act as its representative for the performance of this Agreement ("OCERS' Representative"). Contractor shall not accept direction or orders from any person other than the OCERS' Representative.
- 2.5.2 <u>Contractor's Representative</u>. Contractor hereby designates **[name or title]**, or their designee, to act as its representative for the performance of this Agreement ("Contractor's Representative"). Contractor's Representative shall have full authority to represent and act on behalf of the Contractor for all purposes under this Agreement. The Contractor's Representative shall supervise and direct performance of the Services, using their best skill and attention, and shall be responsible for all means, methods, techniques, sequences, and procedures and for the satisfactory coordination of all portions of the Services under this Agreement.

#### 2.6 **Indemnification**.

To the fullest extent permitted by law, Contractor shall indemnify, immediately defend, and hold OCERS, the members of the OCERS Board of Retirement (each a "Board

member"), and OCERS' officials, officers, employees, volunteers, and agents free and harmless from any and all third party claims, demands, causes of action, suits, expenses, liabilities, losses, damages, or injury of any kind, in law or equity, to property or persons, including wrongful death (collectively, "Indemnity Claims"), in any manner arising out of, pertaining to, or incident to any negligent act, error or omission, intentional misconduct, or breach of this Agreement by Contractor, its officials, officers, employees, subcontractors, contractors, or agents in connection with the performance of the Services, or this Agreement, including attorneys' fees and costs, including expert witness fees. Contractor's duty to indemnify does not extend to the Indemnity Claims caused by OCERS' sole negligence or willful misconduct.

Contractor shall immediately defend, with legal counsel reasonably agreed to by OCERS and at Contractor's own cost, expense, and risk, any Indemnity Claims, excluding, however, such claims arising from OCERS' sole negligence or willful misconduct. Contractor shall control the defense or settlement of any such action, except that Contractor will not have the right to settle or compromise the claim without the consent of OCERS. Contractor shall pay and satisfy any judgment, award, or decree that may be rendered against OCERS or its Board members, officials, officers, employees, volunteers, and agents as part of any Indemnity Claim(s). Contractor shall also reimburse OCERS for the cost of any settlement paid by OCERS or its Board members, officials, officers, employees, agents, or volunteers as part of any Indemnity Claim. Such reimbursement shall include payment for OCERS' attorneys' fees and costs, including expert witness fees. Contractor's obligation to defend and indemnify shall survive expiration or termination of this Agreement, and shall not be restricted to insurance proceeds, if any, received by OCERS, its Board, officials, officers, employees, agents, or volunteers.

Notwithstanding the foregoing, to the extent the Services are subject to Civil Code Section 2782.8, the above indemnity and duty to defend shall be limited, to the extent required by Civil Code Section 2782.8, to claims that arise out of, pertain to, or relate to the negligence, recklessness, or willful misconduct of the Contractor.

#### 2.7 <u>Insurance</u>

- 2.7.1 <u>Time for Compliance</u>. Contractor shall not commence work under this Agreement until it has provided evidence satisfactory to OCERS that it has secured all insurance required under this <u>Section 2.7</u>. In addition, Contractor shall not allow any subcontractor to commence work on any subcontract until Contractor has provided evidence satisfactory to OCERS that the subcontractor has secured all insurance required under this section. Failure to provide and maintain all required insurance shall be grounds for the OCERS to terminate this Agreement for cause.
- 2.7.2 <u>Minimum Requirements</u>. Contractor shall, at its expense, procure and maintain for the duration of the Agreement insurance against claims for injuries to persons or damages to property which may arise from or in connection with the performance of the Agreement by the Contractor, its agents, representatives, employees, or subcontractors. Contractor shall also require all of its subcontractors to procure and

maintain the same insurance for the duration of the Agreement. Such insurance shall meet at least the following minimum levels of coverage:

- (a) <u>Commercial General Liability</u>. These policies shall include OCERS, and its board members, officers, agents, and employees, as an additional insured on a blanket basis and be primary and not contributory to any policy maintained by OCERS. Contractor shall maintain limits no less than two million dollars (\$2,000,000) per occurrence, or the full per occurrence limits of the policies available, whichever is greater, for bodily injury, personal injury, and property damage.
- (b) <u>Automobile Liability</u>. Business automobile liability insurance insuring all owned, non-owned, and hired automobiles, in the amount of one million dollars (\$1,000,000) combined single limit per accident for bodily injury and property damage.
- (c) <u>Workers' Compensation and Employer's Liability Insurance</u>. Contractor shall maintain Workers' Compensation insurance as required by the State of California and Employer's Liability Insurance in an amount no less than one million dollars (\$1,000,000) per accident for bodily injury or disease. The insurer shall agree to waive all rights of subrogation against OCERS, its Board of Trustees, officials, officers, employees, agents, and volunteers for losses paid under the terms of the insurance policy which arise from work performed by the Contractor.
- (d) Excess Liability. The limits of insurance required in this Agreement may be satisfied by a combination of primary and umbrella or excess insurance. Any umbrella or excess coverage shall contain or be endorsed to contain a provision that such coverage shall also apply on a primary and non-contributory basis for the benefit of OCERS (if agreed to in a written contract or agreement) before OCERS's own primary or self-Insurance shall be called upon to protect it as a named insured. The policy shall be endorsed to state that OCERS, its Board, officials, officers, employees, agents, and volunteers shall be covered as additional insured. The coverage shall contain no special limitations on the scope of protection afforded to OCERS, its Board, officials, officers, employees, agents, and volunteers.
- 2.7.3 <u>All Coverages</u>. The general liability and automobile liability policy shall include or be endorsed to state that: (1) OCERS, its Board, officials, officers, employees, agents, and volunteers shall be covered as additional insured with respect to work by or on behalf of the Contractor, including materials, parts, or equipment furnished in connection with such work; and (2) the insurance coverage shall be primary insurance as respects the OCERS, its directors, officials, officers, employees, agents, and volunteer, or if excess, shall stand in an unbroken chain of coverage excess of the Contractor's scheduled underlying coverage. Any insurance or self-insurance maintained by OCERS, its Board members, officials, officers, employees, agents, and volunteers shall be excess of the Contractor's insurance and shall not be called upon to contribute with it in any way.
- (a) The insurance policies required above shall contain or be endorsed to contain the following specific provisions:

- (i) The policies shall contain a waiver of transfer rights of recovery ("waiver of subrogation") against OCERS, its Board members, officers, employees, agents, and volunteers, for any claims arising out of the work of Contractor.
- (ii) Policies may provide coverage which contains deductible or self-insured retentions. Such deductible and/or self-insured retentions shall not be applicable with respect to the coverage provided to OCERS under such policies. Contractor shall be solely responsible for deductible and/or self-insured retention and OCERS, at its option, may require Contractor to secure the payment of such deductible or self-insured retentions by a surety bond or an irrevocable and unconditional letter of credit. The insurance policies that contain deductibles or self-insured retentions in excess of \$25,000 per occurrence shall not be acceptable without the prior approval of OCERS.
- (iii) Prior to start of work under this Agreement, Contractor shall file with OCERS evidence of insurance as required above from an insurer or insurers certifying to the required coverage. The coverage shall be evidenced on a certificate of insurance signed by an authorized representative of the insurer(s).
- (iv) Each policy required in this section shall contain a policy cancellation clause that provides the policy shall not be cancelled or otherwise terminated by the insurer or the Contractor or reduced in coverage or in limits except after thirty (30) days' prior written notice by certified mail, return receipt requested, has been given to OCERS, Attention: **Jim Doezie**
- (v) Insurance required by this Agreement shall be placed with insurers licensed by the State of California to transact insurance business of the types required herein. Each insurer shall have a current Best Insurance Guide rating of not less than A: VII unless prior approval is secured from OCERS as to the use of such insurer.
- (vi) Contractor shall include all subcontractors as insureds under its policies or shall furnish separate certificates and endorsements for each subcontractor. All coverages for subcontractors shall be subject to all of the requirements stated herein.
- 2.7.4 <u>Reporting of Claims</u>. Contractor shall report to OCERS, in addition to Contractor's insurer, any and all insurance claims submitted by Contractor in connection with the Services under this Agreement.
- **2.8** Termination of Agreement. OCERS may, by written notice to Contractor, terminate the whole or any part of this Agreement without liability to OCERS if Contractor fails to perform or breaches any of the terms contained herein. In addition, either Party may terminate this Agreement for any reason or for no reason on thirty (30) days' written notice to the other Party. Upon termination, Contractor shall be compensated only for those

Services that have been performed and delivered to OCERS' satisfaction, and Contractor shall be entitled to no further compensation.

#### 2.9 Ownership of Materials and Confidentiality.

- 2.9.1 <u>Documents & Data; Licensing of Intellectual Property.</u> This Agreement creates a non-exclusive and perpetual license for OCERS to copy, use, modify, reuse, or sublicense any and all copyrights, designs, and other intellectual property embodied in plans, specifications, studies, drawings, estimates, and other documents or works of authorship fixed in any tangible medium of expression, including but not limited to, physical drawings or data magnetically or otherwise recorded on computer diskettes, which are prepared or caused to be prepared by Contractor under this Agreement ("Documents & Data"). Contractor shall deliver to OCERS on demand or upon the termination or expiration of this Agreement, all such Documents & Data which shall be and remain the property of the OCERS. If OCERS uses any of the data, reports, and documents furnished or prepared by Contractor for use in Services other than as shown on Exhibit A, Contractor shall be released from responsibility to third parties concerning the use of the data, reports, and documents. Contractor may retain copies of the materials. OCERS may use or reuse the materials prepared by Contractor without additional compensation to Contractor.
- 2.9.2 <u>Confidential Information</u>. Any financial, statistical, personal, technical, and other data and information relating to a Party's operations which are made available to the other Party in order to carry out this Agreement shall be reasonably protected by such other Party from unauthorized use, except to the extent that disclosure thereof is required to comply with applicable law, including the California Public Records Act. The disclosing Party shall identify all confidential data and information at the time it is provided. Confidentiality does not apply to information which is known to a receiving Party from other sources, which is otherwise publicly available, or which is required to be disclosed pursuant to an order or requirements of a regulatory body or a court.
- 2.9.3 <u>Customer Data</u>. Contractor acknowledges that it may receive confidential information from OCERS or otherwise in connection with this Agreement or the performance of the Services, including personally identifiable information of OCERS' customers ("Customer Data"). Except for information in the public domain, unless such information falls into the public domain by disclosure or other acts of OCERS or through the fault of OCERS, Contractor agrees:
  - (a) To maintain Customer Data in confidence;
  - (b) Not to use Customer Data other than in the course of this Agreement;
  - (c) Not to disclose or release Customer Data except on a need-to-know only basis;
  - (d) Not to disclose or release Customer Data to any third person without the prior written consent of OCERS, except for authorized employees or agents of Contractor;

- (e) To promptly notify OCERS in writing of any unauthorized release of confidential information, including Customer Data;
- (f) To take all appropriate action, whether by instruction, agreement or otherwise, to ensure that third persons with access to the information under the direction or control or in any contractual privity with Contractor, do not disclose or use, directly or indirectly, for any purpose other than for performing the Services during or after the term of this Agreement, any confidential information, including Customer Data, without first obtaining the written consent of OCERS;
- (g) Upon request by OCERS and upon the termination or expiration of this Agreement for any reason, Contractor shall promptly return to OCERS all copies, whether in written, electronic, or other form or media, of Customer Data in its possession or in the possession of its employees or agents, or securely dispose of all such copies, and certify in writing to OCERS that such Customer Data has been returned to OCERS or disposed of securely; and
- (h) That the requirements in this <u>Section 2.9.3</u> shall survive the expiration or termination of this Agreement.
- 2.9.4 <u>Disclosure</u>. Except as may be required by applicable law, neither Party shall make any disclosure of any designated confidential information related to this Agreement without the specific prior written approval from the other of the content to be disclosed and the form in which it is disclosed, except for such disclosures to the Parties' financing sources, other secured parties, creditors, beneficiaries, partners, members, officers, employees, agents, consultants, attorneys, accountants, and exchange facilitators as may be necessary to permit each Party to perform its obligations hereunder and as required to comply with applicable laws or rules of any exchange upon which a Party's shares may be traded. Notwithstanding the foregoing, nothing contained herein shall be deemed to restrict or prohibit OCERS from complying with applicable law regarding disclosure of information, including the California Public Records Act.
- 2.9.5 <u>Publicity</u>. Contractor shall not use OCERS' name or insignia, photographs of OCERS property, or any publicity pertaining to the Services in any advertisement, magazine, trade paper, newspaper, television, or radio production, or other similar medium without the prior written consent of OCERS.

#### 2.10 Subcontracting/Sub consulting.

2.10.1 Prior Approval Required. Contractor shall not subcontract any portion of the work required by this Agreement, except as expressly stated herein, without prior written approval of OCERS. Subcontracts, if any, shall contain a provision making them subject to all provisions stipulated in this Agreement. Contractor will be solely responsible for the payment of all subcontractors and other third parties engaged by or through Contractor to provide, perform, or assist in the provision and delivery of the Services.

#### 3. General Provisions.

3.1.1 <u>Notices</u>. All notices permitted or required under this Agreement shall be given to the respective Parties at the following address, or at such other address as the respective Parties may provide in writing for this purpose:

OCERS: Contractor:

Orange County Employees Retirement System

2223 E. Wellington Avenue

Santa Ana, CA 92701

Attention: Jim Doezie

e-mail: jdoezie@ocers.org

Such notice shall be deemed made when personally delivered or when mailed, upon deposit in the U.S. Mail, first class postage prepaid and registered or certified addressed to the Party at its applicable address. Actual notice shall be deemed adequate notice on the date actual notice occurred, regardless of the method of service.

- 3.1.2 Equal Opportunity Employment. Contractor represents that it is an equal opportunity employer and it shall not discriminate against any subcontractor, employee, or applicant for employment because of race, religion, color, national origin, ethnic group identification, mental disability, physical disability, medical condition, genetic information, marital status, ancestry, sex, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, age, or military and veteran status. Such non-discrimination shall include, but not be limited to, all activities related to initial employment, upgrading, demotion, transfer, recruitment or recruitment advertising, layoff, or termination.
- 3.1.3 <u>Time of Essence</u>. Time is of the essence for each and every provision of this Agreement. The acceptance of late performance shall not waive the right to claim damages for such breach nor constitute a waiver of the requirement of timely performance of any obligations remaining to be performed.
- 3.1.4 <u>OCERS' Right to Employ Other Contractors</u>. OCERS reserves the right to employ other contractors in connection with the Services.
- 3.1.5 <u>Successors and Assigns</u>. This Agreement shall be binding on the successors and assigns of the Parties.
- 3.1.6 <u>Assignment or Transfer</u>. Contractor shall not assign, hypothecate, or transfer, either directly or by operation of law, this Agreement, or any interest herein without the prior written consent of OCERS.

- 3.1.7 <u>Amendment</u>. This Agreement may not be altered or amended except in a writing signed by both Parties.
- 3.1.8 <u>Waiver</u>. All waivers under this Agreement must be in writing to be effective. No waiver of any default shall constitute a waiver of any other default or breach, whether of the same or other covenant or condition.
- 3.1.9 <u>No Third-Party Beneficiaries</u>. There are no intended third-party beneficiaries of any right or obligation assumed by the Parties.
- 3.1.10 <u>Invalidity</u>: Severability. If any portion of this Agreement is declared invalid, illegal, or otherwise unenforceable by a court of competent jurisdiction, the remaining provisions shall continue in full force and effect.
- 3.1.11 <u>Governing Law; Venue</u>. This Agreement shall be governed by the laws of the State of California. The exclusive venue for any dispute arising out of or relating to this Agreement shall be in Orange County, California.
- 3.1.12 <u>Attorneys' Fees</u>. If either Party commences an action against the other Party, either legal, administrative, or otherwise, arising out of or in connection with this Agreement, the prevailing party in such litigation shall be entitled to have and recover from the losing party reasonable attorneys' fees and all other costs of such action.
- 3.1.13 <u>Authority to Enter Agreement.</u> Contractor has all requisite power and authority to conduct its business and to execute, deliver, and perform the Agreement. Each Party warrants that the individuals who have signed this Agreement have the legal power, right, and authority to make this Agreement and bind each respective Party.
- 3.1.14 <u>Counterparts</u>. This Agreement may be signed in counterparts, each of which shall constitute an original.
- 3.1.15 Integration. This Agreement represents the entire understanding of OCERS and Contractor as to those matters contained herein. No prior oral or written understanding shall be of any force or effect with respect to those matters covered hereunder. Neither Party shall be deemed to be the drafter of this Agreement and no presumption for or against the drafter shall be applicable in interpreting or enforcing this Agreement.
- 3.1.16 <u>Interpretation</u>. This Agreement has been negotiated at arm's length and between parties sophisticated and knowledgeable in the matters dealt with in this Agreement. Each Party has been represented by experienced and knowledgeable legal counsel. Accordingly, any rule of law (including, without limitation, California's Civil Code Section 1654) or legal decisions that would require interpretation of any ambiguities in this Agreement against the party that has drafted it shall not be applicable and are hereby waived. The provisions of the Agreement shall be interpreted in a reasonable manner to effectuate the purpose of the Parties and this Agreement.

- 3.1.17 <u>Precedence</u>. In the event of any conflict, inconsistency, or ambiguity between the terms and conditions in the main body of this Agreement and the terms and conditions in any exhibit, the main body of this Agreement shall control. This Agreement and all attached exhibits will be construed to be consistent, insofar as reasonably possible. When interpreting this Agreement, precedence shall be given to its respective parts and amendments in the following descending order:
  - (a) Amendments to this Agreement entered into pursuant to <u>Section 3.1.7</u> herein.
  - (b) This Agreement.
  - (c) Exhibit A: Scope of Services, Exhibit B: Fee Schedule, and Exhibit C: Key Personnel.
  - (d) OCERS Request for Proposal dated June 2023 attached as Exhibit "D".
  - (e) Contractor's Response to OCERS Request for Proposal, attached as Exhibit "E".

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Parties hereby have caused this Agreement to be executed on the Effective Date:

APPROVED:	APPROVED:
OCERS	[CONTRACTOR]
Ву:	Ву:
Name:	Name:
Title:	Title:
Ву:	
Name:	
Title:	

# EXHIBIT A SCOPE OF SERVICES

Starting on the Effective Date, and continuing during the Term, Contractor will perform the Services in accordance with the terms of the Agreement. The Services consist of:

See the Scope of Services from the RFP above.

# EXHIBIT B FEE SCHEDULE

**Fees and Expenses.** Contractor agrees to accept the compensation set forth in this Exhibit B as full payment for performing all Services, including all staffing and materials required, for any reasonably unforeseen difficulties which may arise or be encountered in the execution of the Services, for risks connected with the Services, and for performance by Contractor of all its duties and obligations under the Agreement. OCERS will pay the following fees in accordance with the provisions of this Agreement:

The total compensation shall not exceed **XXX** Dollars (\$XXX.00) without written approval by OCERS.

#### [provision for expense reimbursement]

**Payment Terms – Payment in Arrears:** Invoices are to be submitted in arrears to OCERS unless otherwise directed in this Agreement. Payment by OCERS will be net thirty (30) days after receipt and approval of an invoice in a format acceptable to OCERS.

**Payment – Invoicing Instructions:** Contractor will provide an invoice on the Contractor's letterhead for services rendered under this Agreement. Each invoice will have a number and will include the following information:

Contractor's name and address
Contractor's remittance address, if different from item #1 above
Contractor's Taxpayer ID Number
Name of OCERS Agency/Department
Delivery/service address
Agreement number
Agency/Department's Account Number
Date of invoice
Description and price of services provided
Sales tax, if applicable
Freight/delivery charges, if applicable
Total

Invoice and support documentation are to be forwarded to:

Email: Accountspayable@ocers.org

The physical address for OCERS is at:

Orange County Employees Retirement System 2223 E. Wellington Avenue Santa Ana, CA 92701

Attention: Accounts Payable

# EXHIBIT C KEY PERSONNEL

# Exhibit D Request for Proposal

### Exhibit E Response to Request for Proposal

#### **Exhibit F**

#### **Data Security & Business Continuity Questions**

Because OCERS will be sending and receiving private / sensitive data, please review and address the security questions noted below. The response can be as specific as desired to answer these typical data security concerns.

#### **Security Questions: Security Basics**

- Do you have in-house IT staff or outsourced? Who is responsible for on-going maintenance of your IT infrastructure?
- Do you have dedicated IT Security personnel? Do you contract third party IT Security services?
- Do you conduct background checks on employees, contractors, and consultants?
- Do you conduct annual mandatory security awareness training for all users of your network?
- How to you access your employee's understanding of your security policies?
- Do you engage a vendor or service to routinely scan your networks internally and externally for known security vulnerabilities? Do you fix these vulnerabilities in a timely manner?
- Do you hire reputable security firms to conduct security penetration tests of your network at least annually? Do you fix identified security issues in a timely manner? Do you notify clients of known security vulnerabilities?
- What is your annual budget for IT Security and Compliance over the past five years? What percentage of your annual budgets does this represent?
- What is your companies' password security policy?

#### **Security Questions: Data Security**

- What data encryptions and security protocols do you use to enable clients to provide their data? Please describe the process, noting your security protocols, for how data is uploaded and transferred from your clients to you, and how it is eventually stored on your system(s).
- Is client data backed up? And if so, where are the backups located in relation to the original data? How is the backup data transferred? Who has access to the data?
- How is client data segregated from other client data?
- How long is client data stored? What is your retention policy for client data?
- What type of physical and logical controls on access to data do you employ?
- If a client's contract with you expires or if a client terminates their contract with you, is their data destroyed or returned to the client?
- If data is purged or destroyed, how is this done, what technologies are used, and what certifications do you provide to "prove" that a client's data has been removed and no longer resides with you and/or can be accessed by anyone?
- What Data Security Regulation(s) do you follow and adhere to? What Security Policies do you have in place?
- What Notification procedures do you have in place? If a suspected data breach has occurred, how soon to do notify clients?

- How often do you clients and vendors assess your data security?
- How do you conduct and assess physical security?
- Do you have cyber-security insurance? If so, how much?

#### **Security Questions: Portal Security**

- Is your web portal application in house developed or a third party developed (of the shelf) application?
- Is your web portal hosted in-house, hosted by third party vendor?
- Is there redundant connectivity to allow multiple client connections without limiting bandwidth?
- Who is responsible for maintenance and on-going support of the web-portals?
- How often are updated performed to the web-portals, both in terms of software and hardware?
- How often is the system down on average for system failures and scheduled repairs or updates?
- How do you notify clients of schedule or unscheduled system maintenance?
- Do you have a service level agreement for clients that include the level of uptime/availability with penalties for non-compliance?
- What is your technical/customer support model if clients need assistance accessing the site or encounter errors with portal functional? Do you provide after-hours support?

#### **Business Continuity and Disaster Recovery**

- Do you have a Business Continuity Disaster Recovery plan for the products and services we would receive from you? How often is it reviewed? How often is it updated? How often is it tested?
- Does your Business Continuity Disaster Recovery plan address loss of technology, loss of resources, loss of facilities, and loss of one of your vendors.
- What strategies have you put in place to respond to the loss of critical resources for the products and/or services your clients receive from you? How do you communicate to your clients if there is a disruption of service?
- What is your recovery time objective for the resources for the products and/or services your clients receive from you?
- Do you evaluate your vendors' preparedness as part of your business continuity or risk management functions?
- In the past 12 months, have you conducted an employee Business Continuity / Disaster Recovery training exercise of the systems needed to provide your product and/or services? If so, can you share the results?
- Is your organization able to operate effectively when key locations are closed?
- If your service is limited due to a disruption, how will clients be prioritized?

## Appendix A: OCERS Export file format

- File format that OCERS will export to the selected Firm on a monthly batch process.
- Format: Fixed Width, Text File
- Data elements (May Include Address Data as well)

Record Seq #	Field Name	Field Format	Length	Start Pos.	End Pos.	Field Description
1	Record ID	Text	20	1	20	OCERS ID
2	Group	Text	20	21	40	Member Status
3	Record Notes	Text	22	41	62	Free text for user to add after export has been generated (not used)
4	SSN	Text	9	63	71	SSN of the member
5	Last Name	Text	15	72	86	Last name of member or survivor
6	First Name	Text	12	87	98	First name of member or survivor
7	Birth Date	Text YYYY/MM/DD	10	99	108	Birth Date of the member or survivor

#### • Sample:

Sample_DeathVerification ×						
Ŏ.,,,,,,,,,,,,1,0,,,	2.0	. 5,0, 6,0,		100		
1 219991	Active	607999994SMIT	JOHN	1992/07/23		
2 229992	Deferred	611999991SMITTEK	JOHNICK	1982/12/24		
3 419991	Survivorship	556999994SMITIL	JOHNADA	1938/05/23		
4 429992	DRO Payee	53499991SMITH	JOHNICIA	1956/07/10		
5 80999	Retired	011999990SMITEN	JOHNPH	1929/12/16		
6 81999	Disabled	02199999SMIT	JOHNTANCE	1933/09/09		
7 82999	Retired	031999997SMITLD	JOHNONELLA	1926/03/06		
8 83999	Deferred Reciprocal	041999992SMITTON	JOHNARD	1968/01/12		
9 84999	Active	55599991SMITDEN	JOHNERT	1972/07/18		
10 85999	Retired	02599999SMIT	JOHNARD	1930/06/11		
11						

## **Appendix B: OCERS Import File Format**

- File format that OCERS will import from the selected Firm on a monthly batch process.
- Export file format: Excel (xls, xlsx), or Comma separated value (.csv)
- Data Elements: (May Include Address Data as well)

Record Seq #	Field Name	Field Format	Length	Field Description
1	SSN	Text or Number	9	SSN of the member
2	Last Name	Text	15	Last name of member or survivor
3	First Name	Text	12	First name of member or survivor
4	Birth Date	Text or date format	10	Birth Date of the member or survivor
5	Death Date	Text or date format	10	Death Date of the member or survivor