

**INTER-JURISDICTIONAL
MUTUAL AID AGREEMENT
FOR COLLIN COUNTY, TEXAS**

State of Texas	§
	§
County of <u>Collin</u>	§

This Mutual Aid Agreement (“Agreement”) is entered into by and between the county listed above (hereinafter, the “County”) and University Emergency Medical Response (UEMR) (“Parties”):

RECITALS

Whereas, the Parties recognize the vulnerability of the people and communities located within the County to damage, injury, and loss of life and property resulting from disasters and/or civil emergencies and recognize that disasters and/or civil emergencies may present equipment and manpower requirements beyond the capacity of each individual Party;

Whereas, the Parties recognize that, in the past, mutual aid has been provided between or among the Parties in the form of personnel, supplies and equipment during disasters and/or civil emergencies as well as during cleanup periods;

Whereas, the governing officials of the Parties desire to secure for each Party the benefits of mutual aid and protection of life and property in the event of a disaster and/or civil emergency;

Whereas, the Parties wish to make suitable arrangements for furnishing mutual aid in coping with disasters, civil emergencies and/or containment and removal of hazardous materials associated with a disaster or civil emergency and are so authorized and make this Agreement pursuant to Chapter 791, Texas Government Code (Inter-local Cooperation Act), Chapter 418, Texas Government Code (Texas Disaster Act of 1975), and Executive Order No. RP-32 by the Governor of the State of Texas (January 28, 2004.); and

Whereas, the Parties recognize that a formal agreement for mutual aid would allow for better coordination of effort, would provide that adequate equipment and manpower is available, and would help ensure that mutual aid is accomplished in the minimum time possible, and thus desire to enter into an agreement to provide mutual aid.

Whereas, it is expressly understood that any Mutual Aid extended under this Agreement and the operational plans adopted pursuant thereto, is furnished in accordance with the “Texas Disaster Act” and other applicable provisions of law, and except as otherwise provided by law that the responsible local official in whose jurisdiction an incident requiring Mutual Aid has occurred shall remain in charge at such incident including the direction of such personnel and equipment provided him/her through the operation of such Mutual Aid plans. This agreement to render aid is expressly not

contingent upon a declaration of a major disaster or emergency by the federal government or upon receiving federal funds.

NOW, THEREFORE, the Parties agree as follows:

1. Recitals. The recitals set forth above are true and correct.
2. DEFINITIONS. For purposes of this Agreement, the terms listed below will have the following meanings:
 - (a) “Civil emergency” means an unforeseen combination of circumstances or the resulting consequences thereof within the geographic limits of a given jurisdiction that calls for immediate action or for which there is an urgent need for assistance or relief to protect the general citizenry.
 - (b) “Disaster” means the occurrence or imminent threat of widespread or severe damage, injury, or loss of life or property resulting from any natural or man-made cause, including fire, flood, earthquake, wind, storm, wave action, oil spill or other water contamination, volcanic activity, epidemic, air contamination, blight, drought, infestation, explosion, riot, hostile military or paramilitary action, energy emergency (as that term is defined in Chapter 418 of the Texas Government Code), acts of terrorism, and other public calamity requiring emergency action.
 - (c) “Local government” means a county, municipality, special district, or any corporate/political entity organized under state law, of Texas or a state that borders Texas.
 - (d) “Mutual aid” includes, but is not limited to, such resources as equipment, supplies, and personnel.
 - (e) “Political subdivision” means county or incorporated city.
3. Party’s Emergency Management Plan. Each Party shall prepare and keep current an emergency management plan for its jurisdiction to provide for emergency/disaster mitigation, preparedness, response and recovery, in accordance with Chapter 418 of the Texas Government Code. The emergency management plan shall incorporate the use of available resources, including personnel, equipment and supplies, necessary to provide mutual aid. The emergency management plan shall be submitted to the Governor’s Division of Emergency Management.
4. Emergency Management Director. The Judge of the County and the Mayor of each city participating in this Agreement shall each serve as the Emergency Management Director for his/her respective jurisdiction and shall take all steps necessary for the implementation of this Agreement. Each Emergency Management Director may designate an Emergency Management Coordinator who shall serve as an assistant to the presiding officer of the political subdivision for emergency management purposes.

5. Activation of Agreement. This Agreement shall be activated in the event of either: (a) a declaration of a local state of disaster by a Party pursuant to Chapter 418 of the Texas Government Code; or (b) the finding of a state of civil emergency by the presiding officer of the governing body of a Party; or (c) a declaration of a local state of emergency by a party pursuant to Chapter 433 of the Texas Government Code. The activation of the Agreement shall continue whether or not the local disaster declaration or state of civil emergency is still active, until the services of the Party rendering aid are no longer required or when the officer in charge of the forces of the Party rendering determines, in his sole discretion, that further assistance should not be provided.

6. PROCEDURES FOR REQUESTS AND PROVISION OF MUTUAL AID.

The Emergency Management Director or his or her designee may request Mutual Aid assistance by: (1) submitting a written Request for Assistance to an Assisting Party, or (2) orally communicating a request for Mutual Aid assistance to an Assisting Party, which shall be followed by a written request within 24 hours. Mutual Aid shall not be requested by a Party unless it is directly related to the Disaster or Emergency and resources available from the normal responding agencies to the stricken area are deemed to be inadequate, or are predicted to be expended prior to resolution of the situation. All requests for Mutual Aid must be transmitted by the Emergency Management Director of the Requesting Party or by his or her designee.

A. **REQUESTS DIRECTLY TO ASSISTING PARTY:** The Requesting Party may directly contact the Emergency Management Director of the Assisting Party or his or her designee and provide the necessary information as prescribed in Section 6.B. hereto.

B. **REQUIRED INFORMATION BY REQUESTING PARTY.** Each request for assistance shall be accompanied by the following information, to the extent known:

- 1) A general description of the damage or injury sustained or threatened;
- 2) Identification of the emergency service function or functions for which assistance is needed (e.g. fire, law enforcement, emergency medical, search and rescue, transportation, communications, public works and engineering, building, inspection, planning and information assistance, mass care, resource support, health and other medical services, etc.), and the particular type of assistance needed;
- 3) The amount and type of personnel, equipment, materials, supplies, and/or facilities needed and a reasonable estimate of the length of time that each will be needed; and
- 4) The location or locations to which the resources are to be dispatched and the specific time by which the resources are needed; and
- 5) The name and contact information of a representative of the Requesting Party to meet the personnel and equipment of any Assisting Party at each location to which resources are dispatched.

This information may be provided on a form designed for this purpose or by any other available means.

C. ASSESSMENT OF AVAILABILITY OF RESOURCES AND ABILITY TO RENDER ASSISTANCE. When contacted by a Requesting Party, the Emergency Management Director of the Party from which aid is requested or his or her designee agrees to assess local resources to determine availability of personnel, equipment and other assistance based on current or anticipated needs. All Parties shall render assistance to the extent personnel, equipment and resources are deemed available. No Party shall be required to provide Mutual Aid unless it determines that it has sufficient resources to do so based on current or anticipated events within its own jurisdiction.

D. INFORMATION REQUIRED OF THE ASSISTING PARTY. An Emergency Management Director or his or her designee who determines that the Assisting Party has available personnel, equipment, or other resources, shall so notify the Requesting Party and provide the following information, to the extent known:

- 1) A complete description of the personnel and their expertise and capabilities, equipment, and other resources to be furnished to the Requesting Party;
- 2) The estimated length of time that the personnel, equipment, and other resources will be available;
- 3) The name of the person or persons to be designated as supervisory personnel; and
- 4) The estimated time of arrival for the assistance to be provided to arrive at the designated location.

This information may be provided on a form designed for this purpose or by any other available means.

E. SUPERVISION AND CONTROL: When providing assistance under the terms of this agreement, the personnel, equipment, and resources of any Assisting Party will be under the operational control of the Requesting Party, the response effort to which **SHALL be organized and functioning within an Incident Command System (ICS) or Unified Command System (UCS) format.** Direct supervision and control of personnel, equipment and resources and personnel accountability shall remain with the designated supervisory personnel of the Assisting Party. The designated supervisory personnel of the Assisting Party shall: maintain daily personnel time records, material records, and a log of equipment hours; be responsible for the operation and maintenance of the equipment and other resources furnished by the Assisting Party; and shall report work progress to the Requesting Party. The Assisting Party's personnel and other resources shall remain subject to recall by the Assisting Party at any time, subject to reasonable notice to the Requesting Party.

F. FOOD, HOUSING, and SELF-SUFFICIENCY: Unless specifically instructed otherwise, the Requesting Party shall have the responsibility of providing food

and housing for the personnel of the Assisting Party from the time of their arrival at the designated location to the time of their departure. However, Assisting Party personnel and equipment should be, to the greatest extent possible, self-sufficient while working in the Emergency or Disaster area. The Requesting Party may specify only self-sufficient personnel and resources in its request for assistance.

G. COMMUNICATIONS: Unless specifically instructed otherwise, the Requesting Party shall have the responsibility for coordinating communications between the personnel of the Assisting Party and the Requesting Party. Assisting Party personnel should be prepared to furnish their own communications equipment sufficient only to maintain communications among their respective operating units, if such is practicable.

H. RIGHTS AND PRIVILEGES: Personnel who are assigned, designated or ordered by their governing body to perform duties pursuant to this Agreement shall continue to receive the same wages, salary, pension, and other compensation and benefits for the performance of such duties, including injury or death benefits, disability payments, and workers' compensation benefits, as though the service had been rendered within the limits of the jurisdiction where the personnel are regularly employed.

I. TERM OF DEPLOYMENT: The initial duration of a request for assistance will be specified by the Requesting Party, to the extent possible by the situation.

J. SUMMARY REPORT: Within ten working days of the return of all personnel deployed under this Agreement, the Requesting Party will prepare a Summary Report of the event, and provide copies to each Assisting Party. The report shall, at a minimum, include a chronology of events and description of personnel, equipment and materials provided by one Party to the other.

7. Conditions. Any furnishing of resources under this Agreement is subject to the following conditions:

- (a) A request for aid shall specify the amount and type of resources being requested, the location to which the resources are to be dispatched, and the specific time by which such resources are needed;
- (b) The Party rendering aid shall take such action as is necessary to provide and make available the resources requested, provided however, that the Party rendering aid, in its sole discretion, shall determine what resources are available to furnish the requested aid; and
- (c) The Party rendering aid shall report to the officer in charge of the requesting Party's forces at the location to which the resources are dispatched.

8. Coordinating Agency for Mutual Aid. The County shall act as the coordinating agency for mutual aid responses to disasters and to civil emergencies that affect more than

one Party hereto. As part of its duties as coordinating agency, the County shall maintain a current listing of all Parties to this Agreement. Such listing shall include personnel to be contacted in each city, appropriate telephone and facsimile numbers, and other information that would be needed in order to contact each Party in the event of a disaster or civil emergency.

9. Waiver of Claims Against Parties; Immunity Retained. Each Party hereto waives all claims against the other Parties hereto for compensation for any loss, damage, personal injury, or death occurring as a consequence of the performance of this Agreement, except those caused in whole or in part by the negligence of an officer, employee, or agent of another Party. No Party waives or relinquishes any immunity or defense on behalf of itself, its officers, employees and agents as a result of the foregoing sentence or its execution of this Agreement and the performance of the covenants contained herein.

10. Costs. All costs associated with the provision of Mutual Aid, including but not limited to compensation for personnel; operation and maintenance of equipment; damage to equipment; medical expenses; clean-up, removal or disposal of hazardous materials or fuel/oil contamination and food, lodging and transportation expenses shall be borne by the Assisting Party for the first forty-eight (48) hours that assistance is provided. Thereafter, all costs associated with the provision of Mutual Aid, including but not limited to compensation for personnel; operation and maintenance of equipment; damage to equipment; medical expenses, clean-up, removal or disposal of hazardous materials or fuel/oil contamination; and food, lodging and transportation expenses shall be paid for by the Assisting Party and reimbursed by the Requesting Party at actual cost. Requests for reimbursement must be submitted within ten (10) working days of the return of all personnel deployed under this Agreement. Such request shall identify with specificity each service, labor, or equipment provided and the unit and total costs associated with each. The Assisting Party shall be responsible for creating and maintaining for a period of three years a record of all costs incurred, both reimbursed and un-reimbursed costs, in providing aid under this Agreement. Such costs and reimbursements shall be paid from current funds of the respective Party. All Parties acknowledge that un-reimbursable costs incurred during the initial 48-hour period will not be subject to reimbursement with any available federal funds. Documentation that services were requested and received including costs will be made available to FEMA.

11. INSURANCE.

A. WORKERS' COMPENSATION COVERAGE: Each Party shall be responsible for its own actions and those of its employees and is responsible for complying with the Texas Workers' Compensation Act.

B. AUTOMOBILE LIABILITY COVERAGE: Each Party shall be responsible for its own actions and is responsible for complying with the Texas motor vehicle financial responsibility laws.

C. GENERAL LIABILITY, PUBLIC OFFICIALS LIABILITY, AND LAW ENFORCEMENT LIABILITY: To the extent permitted by law and without

waiving sovereign immunity, each Party shall be responsible for any and all claims, demands, suits, actions, damages, and causes for action related to or arising out of or in any way connected with its own actions, and the actions of its personnel in providing Mutual Aid assistance rendered or performed pursuant to the terms and conditions of this Agreement. Each Party agrees to obtain general liability, public official's liability and law enforcement liability, if applicable, or maintain a comparable self-insurance program.

D. OTHER COVERAGE: The Assisting Party shall provide and maintain their standard packages of medical and death benefit insurance coverage while their personnel are assisting the Requesting Party.

12. Equipment and Personnel. During the time mutual aid is being furnished, all equipment used by the Party rendering aid shall continue to be owned, leased, or rented by the Party rendering aid. At all times while equipment and personnel of a Party rendering aid are traveling to, from, or within the geographical limits of the requesting Party in accordance with the terms of this Agreement, such personnel and equipment shall be deemed to be employed or used, as the case may be, in the full line and cause of duty of the Party rendering aid. In addition, such personnel shall be deemed to be engaged in a governmental function of their entity.

13. Expending Funds. Each Party which performs services or furnishes aid pursuant to this Agreement shall do so with funds available from current revenues of the Party. No Party shall have any liability for the failure to expend funds to provide aid hereunder.

14. Termination. It is agreed that any Party hereto shall have the right to terminate its participation in this Agreement upon ninety (90) days written notice to the other Parties hereto.

15. Term. This Agreement shall become effective as to each Party when approved and executed by that Party. This Agreement shall continue in force and remain binding on each and every Party until such time as the governing body of a Party terminates its participation in this Agreement pursuant to Section 13 of this Agreement. Termination of participation in this Agreement by a Party(ies) shall not affect the continued operation of this Agreement between and among the remaining Parties and this Agreement shall continue in force and remain binding on the remaining Parties.

16. Entirety. This Agreement contains all commitments and agreements of the Parties with respect to the mutual aid to be rendered hereunder during or in connection with a disaster and/or civil emergency. No other oral or written commitments of the Parties with respect to mutual aid under this Agreement shall have any force or effect if not contained herein, except as provided in Section 17 below.

17. Ratification. Each Party hereby ratifies the actions of its personnel taken prior to the date of this Agreement.

18. Other Mutual Aid Agreements. Notwithstanding Section 15, it is understood and agreed that certain signatory Parties may have heretofore contracted or may hereafter contract with each other for mutual aid in civil emergency and/or disaster situations, and it is agreed that this Agreement shall be subordinate to any such individual contract. To assist each other in the process of mutual aid response planning, each Party agrees to inform the other Parties of all mutual aid agreements that each Party has with other municipalities, entities, counties, and state or federal agencies.

Specifically, the existence of this Agreement shall not prevent a municipality, county, rural fire prevention district, emergency services district, fire protection agency, organized volunteer group, or other emergency services entity from providing mutual aid assistance on request from another municipality, county, rural fire prevention district, emergency services district, fire protection agency, organized volunteer group, or other emergency services entity, in accordance with the provisions in Section 418.109 (d) of the Texas Government Code. Additionally, the existence of this Agreement shall not prevent any Local Government which is a Party hereto from providing emergency assistance to another Local Government which is not a party hereto, in accordance with the provisions in Section 791.027 of the Texas Government Code.

19. Inter-local Cooperation Act. The Parties agree that mutual aid in the context contemplated herein is a “governmental function and service” and that the Parties are “local governments” as that term is defined herein and in the Inter-local Cooperation Act.

20. Severability. If a provision contained in this Agreement is held invalid for any reason, the invalidity does not affect other provisions of the Agreement that can be given effect without the invalid provision, and to this end the provisions of this Agreement are severable.

21. Validity and Enforceability. If any current or future legal limitations affect the validity or enforceability of a provision of this Agreement, then the legal limitations are made a part of this Agreement and shall operate to amend this Agreement to the minimum extent necessary to bring this Agreement into conformity with the requirements of the limitations, and so modified, this Agreement shall continue in full force and effect.

22. Amendment. This Agreement may be amended only by the mutual written consent of the Parties.

23. Third Parties. This Agreement is intended to inure only to the benefit of the Parties hereto. This Agreement is not intended to create, nor shall be deemed or construed to create, any rights in third parties.

24. Warranty. The Agreement has been officially authorized by the governing body of each Party hereto and each signatory to this Agreement guarantees and warrants that the signatory has full authority to execute this Agreement and to legally bind the respective Party to this Agreement.

25. Governing Law and Venue. This Agreement shall be governed by the laws of the State of Texas. Venue for an action arising under this Agreement shall lie exclusively in the County to which this Agreement pertains.

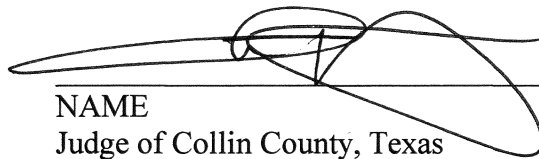
26. Headings. The headings at the beginning of the various provisions of this Agreement have been included only in order to make it easier to locate the subject covered by each provision and are not to be used in construing this Agreement.

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EXECUTED by the Parties hereto, each respective entity acting by and through its duly authorized official as required by law, on multiple counterparts each of which shall be deemed to be an original, on the date specified on the multiple counterpart executed by such entity:

Collin County, Texas:

Date: 23 FEB 2021



NAME
Judge of Collin County, Texas

ATTEST:

Name

University Emergency Medical Response (UEMR):

Date: 1/26/2021

Sheila Elliott

NAME
Director of UEMR

ATTEST:

Sheila Elliott

Name