

BETWEEN

## FRESNO COUNTY DEPUTY PROBATION OFFICERS ASSOCIATION

# UNIT 11

### (DEPUTY PROBATION OFFICERS)

AND

THE COUNTY OF FRESNO

JUNE 10, 2013 – JUNE 7, 2015

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#### **INTRODUCTION/PURPOSE**

We, the Undersigned, duly appointed representative of the County of Fresno, hereinafter referred to as "County" and Fresno County Deputy Probation Officers Association, Unit 11, hereinafter referred to as "Association", having met and conferred in good faith, do hereby jointly prepare and execute the following written Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for Representation Unit 11. It is the purpose of the MOU to promote and provide for harmonious relations, cooperation, and understanding between management and the employees covered herein and to provide an orderly and equitable means of resolving any misunderstandings or differences which may arise under this MOU.

#### **SALARIES**

Current Bi-Weekly Salary

<u>Classification</u>	Step 1 <u>Range</u>	Step <u>2</u>	Step <u>3</u>	Step <u>4</u>	Step <u>5</u>	Step <u>6</u>
Deputy Probation Officer I	1329	1395	1465	1538	1615	1696
Deputy Probation Officer II	1574	1653	1736	1823	1914	2010
Deputy Probation Officer III	1773	1862	1955	2053	2156	2264
Deputy Probation Officer IV	1960	2058	2161	2269	2382	2501

Effective June 30, 2008, one (1) additional salary range step (Step 6) was added to the Deputy Probation Officer Classification series.

Bi-Weekly Salary Effective December 9, 2013

<b>Classification</b>	Step 1 <u>Range</u>	Step <u>2</u>	Step <u>3</u>	Step <u>4</u>	Step <u>5</u>	Step <u>6</u>	Step <u>7</u>	Step <u>8</u>	Step <u>9</u>
Deputy Probation Officer I	1329	1371	1414	1458	1504	1551	1599	1649	1701
Deputy Probation Officer II	1574	1623	1674	1726	1780	1836	1893	1952	2013
Deputy Probation Officer III	1773	1828	1885	1944	2005	2068	2133	2200	2269
Deputy Probation Officer IV	1960	2021	2084	2149	2216	2285	2356	2430	2506

Effective December 8, 2013, the current six (6) step system (5% intervals) will convert to a nine (9) step system (3.125% intervals) and incumbents will be placed at the appropriate corresponding step:

- Step 1 will remain Step 1
- Step 2 will convert to Step 3
- Step 3 will convert to Step 5
- Step 4 will convert to Step 6

- Step 5 will convert to Step 8
- Step 6 will convert to Step 9

Note: The corresponding step of the nine (9) step system shall be equal to or greater than the step of the six (6) step system.

#### **RECOGNITION**

Pursuant to the provisions of the Fresno County Employee Relations Ordinance, the certification of the Fresno County Civil Service Commission, and appropriate State law, the County hereby recognizes the Association as the exclusive representative for the classifications of Deputy Probation Officer I, Deputy Probation Officer II, Deputy Probation Officer IV.

Should any classification be certified for inclusion by the Fresno County Civil Service Commission during the term of this MOU, the Employee Relations Ordinance, section 3.12.240 governs.

#### **REPRESENTATIVE ACCESS**

Authorized Association representatives will be granted access to work locations with the approval of the appropriate management representative for the purpose of conducting grievance investigations and observing working conditions.

#### **REPRESENTATION RIGHTS**

The Association shall have the right to meet and confer in good faith with the County regarding wages, hours, and other terms and conditions of employment for representation Unit 11, within the scope of representation.

The scope of representation shall include all matters relating to employment conditions and employer-employee relations, including but not limited to wages, hours and other terms and conditions of employment.

#### RELEASE TIME

The Association may request that a reasonable number of employees, who serve as official representatives of the Association, be released from work, with prior department head approval, without loss of compensation when meeting and conferring with the County where matters within the scope of representation are being considered.

The Association shall submit a written request for release time to the department head, or designee, at least seventy-two (72) hours in advance of the meeting. The use of County time for this purpose shall not be excessive, nor shall it interfere with the performance of County services as determined by the department head.

#### **BULLETIN BOARDS**

The County shall provide space for and permit the installation of Association bulletin boards (or provide reasonable space on County bulletin boards) for official Association notices at each central work location. Such bulletin boards shall be maintained in accordance with provisions of the County Employee Relations Ordinance.

No such bulletin boards shall be located in areas frequented by the public doing business with the County as determined by the County.

#### **MEETING PLACE**

The County, at the Association's request, shall reasonably make available conference rooms and other meeting areas for the purpose of holding Association meetings during offduty time periods provided space can be made available without interfering with County needs. The Association shall provide timely advance notice (72 hours) of such meetings. The Association also agrees to pay any additional cost of security, supervision, damage, and cleanup, and shall comply with County regulations for assignment and use of such facilities.

#### WORK SCHEDULES

The regular day shift will consist of eight (8) working hours between 5:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m. as scheduled by the department head or his/her designee. No shift differential shall be paid when the entire eight (8) hour shift falls between these hours.

Program and/or caseload needs may necessitate that management assign a Deputy Probation Officer (DPO) to a shift other than one which falls within the defined day shift. This could also affect scheduled days off. Except in cases of emergency which would necessitate a lesser notice, as determined by the Chief Probation Officer, management will give a minimum of three (3) weeks notice to the affected employee(s) when their shift and/or days off are to be changed.

Shift assignment to a shift (other than defined day shift) shall first be solicited by management from qualified volunteers.

In the event management cannot make a selection, DPO's will be assigned based on management's determination of the most qualified person for the assignment.

Employees will be scheduled under the provisions of this article up to a maximum of two (2) years. After eighteen (18) months, the employee can request reassignment. Upon receipt of such notification, management will begin the reassignment process. Reassignment will occur no later than the end of the two (2) year period. The employee may opt to stay in his/her assignment beyond the two (2) year period of time. An employee will not be involuntarily reassigned under the provisions of this article for a twenty-four (24) month period after the completion of a involuntary assignment. This shall not apply to the current reassignment process which occurs within the defined regular day shift.

#### SHIFT PREMIUM

The regular day shift will consist of eight (8) working hours between 5:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m. as scheduled by the department head. There shall be no shift premium payment applied to any regular day shift hours as defined herein. Any employee whose regular work hours begin and conclude between 5:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m. shall not receive shift premium pay for overtime worked which extends the workday past 7:00 p.m. Employees working a flexible work schedule shall not be eligible for shift differential.

Whenever an employee who by assignment or by rotation works a regular shift, any portion of which occurs between the hours of 7:00 p.m. and 5:00 a.m., the employee shall be paid, in addition to the basic compensation, a four percent (4%) premium for all work hours which occur after 7:00 p.m. and before 5:00 a.m. There shall be no shift premium paid during periods of Annual Leave, sick leave use and during holiday time off.

Whenever an employee who is eligible for shift premium is required to perform overtime work between the hours of 7:00 p.m. and 5:00 a.m., such employee's basic compensation plus the shift differential will be used in determining any cash payment for overtime hours worked.

#### OVERTIME

#### **Compensation**

All employees covered by this MOU shall be paid at the rate of time and one-half (1½) for overtime worked. In determining whether or not overtime hours have been worked, only productive work hours (actual hours worked) shall apply. Overtime is authorized work performed by employees in excess of eight (8) hours a day or over forty (40) hours in a work week. Overtime shall be paid at time and one-half (1½) of the employee's base rate of pay ("County Overtime") unless the overtime meets the definition of overtime under the provisions of FLSA. In the latter instance, overtime shall be calculated at a rate of one and one-half (1½) times the employee's regular rate of pay as defined by the provision of FLSA ("FLSA" Overtime). Should the calculated "FLSA" overtime be greater than the calculated "County" overtime, an adjusting entry (earn code 90-FLSA OT) shall be made.

Overtime shall also include all authorized consecutive hours worked over eight (8) hours in a day and which extend into a new day. This provision shall include hours worked before or at the end of a normal work schedule. However, overtime paid in this setting shall not be included in any overtime/double-time overtime computation for regularly assigned work hours on the new day.

#### Compensatory Time Off

If, in lieu of cash compensation, compensatory time off is chosen by the employee, the employee may accumulate up to sixty (60) hours. Employees may request to be paid in cash at anytime for accrued hours. Use of compensatory time off shall be at a time mutually agreed upon by the employee and department head or his/her representative. Compensatory time off balances may be paid off annually in cash at a time selected by the department head at his/her discretion.

#### Eighth Consecutive Day

Should employees of this Unit be scheduled by management to work more than seven (7) consecutive work days, commencing on the eighth (8<sup>th</sup>) day, the employee will be compensated at two (2) times his/her regular hourly rate for each hour worked until such time as two (2) consecutive days off are received.

This payment shall only apply when the employee has been scheduled by management and ordered to work more than seven (7) consecutive work days and does not apply when the work is as a result of the employee volunteering.

To clarify which employees are volunteers, each current employee shall be provided a form upon which to waive eighth (8<sup>th</sup>) day overtime eligibility. Employees may either complete the form (thereby indicating wavier or discard it. Employees who return the form shall not be entitled to double-time pay for the eighth (8<sup>th</sup>) consecutive day worked nor days thereafter.

The above pay may not be applicable as determined by management in cases of a local or state of emergency as specified in Chapter 2.44 of the Fresno County Ordinance Code.

#### **Assignment**

In the event management determines the need to order overtime, employees shall be selected based on management's determination of who would best meet the department's need for the specified overtime assignment. Management will make every effort to consider volunteer requests first, providing the volunteers are qualified (as determined by management) to perform the assignment.

#### AGENCY SHOP

Employees covered by this Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) shall, as a condition of continuing employment, become and remain members of Fresno County Deputy Probation Officers Association - Unit 11 or shall pay to the Association a service fee in lieu of membership dues. Such dues or service fees are set in accordance with the bylaws of the Association.

Association members may only withdraw their membership during the last month prior to the expiration of the MOU. Any employee withdrawing their Association membership shall be subject to the Agency Shop service fee.

Effective April 24, 2008, any employee hired by the County in a position subject to this MOU shall be provided, by the County, with an Agency Shop Provision Form during their first pay period of employment (e.g. New Employee Orientation) advising the employee of the Agency Shop agreement with the Association and requirement that all employees subject to the MOU must either join the Association or pay a service fee in lieu of membership dues, unless the employee claims a religious exemption. The County shall automatically deduct the service fee established by the Association the first pay period following the date of hire, unless the employee has provided a dues deduction form electing membership in the Association, or the employee has provided verification of the

religious exemption. If the employee has not properly completed the authorization form of his/her choice and returned said form to the County within 30 days of the date of hire, the County shall continue to automatically deduct the service fee and, thereafter, until such time as the Agency Shop Provision Form is properly completed and returned to the County.

Any employee of the County subject to this MOU who wishes to request religious exemption, consistent with State and Federal law, must file such request with the Association. In addition, the employee will continue to have the deduction of an amount, equal to the monthly fair share service fee, to be paid to a non-religious, non-labor charitable fund selected as described in the paragraph below. The Religious Exemption Form is available from the Association only.

For purposes of this section, charitable deduction means a contribution to any other non-religious, non-labor charitable organization exempt from taxation under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of the employee's choice.

Fresno County Deputy Probation Officers Association – Unit 11 shall submit copies of the financial report required pursuant to the Labor-Management Disclosure Act of 1959 to the Department of Personnel Services, Labor Relations Division once annually. Copies of such reports shall be available to employees subject to the Agency Shop provision of this MOU from the Association.

The County shall deduct from the pay of each employee in a position subject to this MOU, Association dues or an amount equal to the service fee established by the Association or religious exemption fee, and shall mail all said deductions to the Association no later than the end of the month after which said amounts were deducted.

The County shall, upon request, provide the Association with printouts containing information of a non-confidential nature on Unit employees such as: name, date of hire, salary, and classification. The Association shall pay an at-cost fee to be determined by the Department of Personnel Services for all printouts.

Fresno County Deputy Probation Officers Association – Unit 11 shall indemnify, defend and hold the County, its officers, agents and employees harmless from and against any and all claims, demands, losses, defense costs, or liability of any kind or nature which may be imposed upon them relating to the County's compliance with the agency fee obligation, including claims relating to the Association's use of the monies collected under these provisions.

The addition of classifications and/or employees to the bargaining unit in this MOU shall not require an election herein for the application of this agency shop provision to such classification and/or employees. However, employees whose classifications have been certified for inclusion in this Unit shall not be subject to the terms and conditions of the MOU until such time as a successor MOU is negotiated, this includes but is not limited to Agency Shop.

#### ANNUAL LEAVE

All employees covered by this MOU hired on or before October 9, 1983 shall remain on the New Annual Leave Plan as governed by the Fresno County Salary Resolution, Section 600.

Effective May 5, 2008, employees covered by this MOU currently in the Annual Leave II Plan (established October 10, 1983) shall have any existing balances converted to the Modified Annual Leave II (PeopleSoft Benefit Plan, ANLV04) Plan.

Effective May 5, 2008, employees covered by this MOU currently in the Vacation and Sick Leave Plan (established December 14, 1998) shall have any existing balances converted to the Modified Annual Leave II (PeopleSoft Benefit Plan, ANLV04) Plan.

All employees converted to the Modified Annual Leave II Plan (PeopleSoft Plan ANLV04) shall be subject to the provisions of the Fresno County Salary Resolution, Section 600 Annual Leave II with the following exceptions:

- 1. Employees will be allowed to accrue Modified Annual Leave II to a maximum of 550 hours through October 19, 2008. Effective October 20, 2008, employees will be allowed to accrue Modified Annual Leave II to a maximum of 600 hours. There shall be no accrual of Modified Annual Leave II beyond 600 hours.
- 2. At the point of conversion, employees with Annual Leave II or combined Vacation and Sick Leave hours in excess of 120.00 hours will have the option to designate those hours in excess of 120.00 to be transferred to the Time Off Bank (TOB) upon implementation of this article. This designation will be a one-time only election and will be irrevocable upon execution. TOB hours will have no cash value, but may be used at any time for either vacation or sick leave purposes.
- 3. Upon termination of County employment, any remaining TOB will be converted to retirement service credit.
- 4. Modified Annual Leave II hours will be paid at 100% of the current hourly rate upon separation.
- 5. Fresno County Salary Resolution, Section 610.7 is no longer available for employees covered by this MOU (including employees currently in the New Annual Leave Plan).
- 6. All employees hired after the conversion date shall be enrolled in the Modified Annual Leave II Plan.

#### **BEREAVEMENT LEAVE**

Each employee occupying a permanent position shall be eligible for paid Bereavement Leave up to a maximum of twenty-four (24) hours (to begin no later than 15 working days after notification and, if non consecutive, to conclude no later than 30 calendar days from notification) per bereavement for the death of a qualifying relative. A qualifying relative shall be defined as the employee's: legally recognized spouse, mother, father, brother, sister, child (including California Health and Safety Code, Section 102950), grandmother, grandfather, or grandchild. Also qualifying shall be an employee's corresponding relative through their legally recognized spouse: spouse's mother, spouse's father, spouse's brother, spouse's sister, spouse's child (including California Health and Safety Code, Section 102950), spouse's grandmother, spouse's grandfather, or spouse's grandchild. Employees granted Bereavement Leave shall only be paid for any work hours regularly scheduled, but not worked.

Employees may request use of annual leave when the employee desires time off in excess of twenty-four (24) hours for bereavement-related purposes.

In determining the number of hours to be permitted for a bereavement, the department head will, in addition to other factors, consider potential interruption of service.

Employees taking Bereavement Leave shall submit a statement under penalty of perjury on a form provided by the County stating the name of the deceased, place of death, relationship to the employee, and circumstance showing that the time taken as Bereavement Leave was reasonably necessary in order for the employee to attend to any necessary family obligations.

#### **COMPUTER PROGRAMMING MODIFICATIONS**

Notwithstanding any language in this MOU to the contrary, the respective articles of this MOU, which will involve modifications to existing computer programs of the County, shall not become effective until the beginning of the payroll period following the completion of such modifications. Furthermore, the provisions of this article shall not be used to extend the effective date of salary changes.

#### SAVINGS CLAUSE

The provisions of this MOU are declared to be severable and if any section, subsection, sentence, clause, or phrase of this MOU shall for any reason be held to be invalid or unconstitutional, such decision shall not affect the validity of the remaining sections, sentences, clauses, and phrases of this MOU, but they shall remain in effect, it being the intent of the parties that this MOU shall stand notwithstanding the invalidity of any part. Should any portion of this MOU be found invalid or unconstitutional, the parties will meet and confer to arrive at a mutually satisfactory replacement for the portion found to be invalid or unconstitutional.

#### PART-TIME EMPLOYEE BENEFITS

Incumbents of part-time permanently allocated positions shall continue to receive all currently prorated benefits provided by the County. In addition, the County shall pay one-half ( $\frac{1}{2}$ ) of the County health insurance benefit contribution for each such part-time employee who regularly works fifty percent (50%) or more of the hours required of full-time employees. The County shall continue to pay the full County health insurance contribution for employees who regularly work eighty percent (80%) or more of the hours required of full-time employees.

Health insurance coverage shall be optional for part-time employees who regularly work fifty percent (50%) or more of the hours required of full-time employees. When such employee options for health insurance coverage, the County shall pay one-half ( $\frac{1}{2}$ ) of the County health insurance premium contribution and the employee shall be required to pay one-half ( $\frac{1}{2}$ ) the current employee any remaining premium rate. Eligible part-time employees may also enroll dependents on the same basis as full-time employees. Part-time employees who regularly work less than fifty percent (50%) of the hours required of full-time employees shall not be eligible for health insurance coverage.

Employees occupying permanently allocated positions who work eighty percent (80%) or more of a full-time position shall be credited with eight (8) hours of holiday pay; the above employees who work less than eighty percent (80%) of a full-time position shall be credited with four (4) hours of holiday pay.

#### PARKING

Employees who are permanently assigned at a work location outside of the downtown area and who are required as a part of their job to appear in court can park in any County reserved stall in any County lot (except the courthouse). It will be the responsibility of the employee to call the Parking Coordinator to be placed on a no-cite list.

#### **REPRESENTATION IN COURT**

Subject to all appropriate provisions of California Government Code Sections, the County will, upon request of an employee or former employee, defend against any claim or action for an injury arising out of an act or omission occurring within the scope of employment as an employee of the County and will pay any judgment based thereon or any compromise or settlement of the claim or action to which the County has agreed.

#### **HOLIDAYS**

The dates listed below which fall within the normal workweek of Monday through Friday shall be considered paid holidays and shall be observed subject to provisions contained in the Salary Resolution:

January 1 (New Year's Day) Third Monday in January (Martin Luther King Jr.'s Birthday) Third Monday in February (Washington - Lincoln Day) March 31 (Cesar Chavez Day) Last Monday in May (Memorial Day) July 4 (Independence Day) First Monday in September (Labor Day) November 11 (Veteran's Day) Fourth Thursday in November (Thanksgiving Day) Day following Thanksgiving December 25 (Christmas) Every Monday following a Sunday which falls on January 1, March 31, July 4, November 11, or December 25 Every Friday when such Friday immediately precedes January 1, March 31, July 4, November 11, or December 25

#### Holiday Pay Eligibility:

Employees are eligible for holiday pay only if they are at work or on an approved annual or sick leave on their last assigned shift immediately before and after the holiday. Employees claiming annual leave for illness purposes or sick leave on their last assigned shift immediately before or after a County holiday as set forth in Section 900 of the Fresno County Salary Resolution may be required by the department head to provide a statement from a California licensed physician setting forth the specifics which necessitated the employee's absence for illness or injury purposes in order to be eligible for holiday pay.

#### <u>Holiday Pay</u>:

When employees represented by this Unit are required to work overtime on a holiday as defined herein, the time so worked shall be compensated at the rate of two and one-half times the employee's base hourly rate of pay for the first 8 hours worked and at time and one-half the employee's regular hourly rate of pay for all subsequent hours worked on the holiday. Holiday overtime is not included as FLSA overtime in the FLSA work period. Therefore, Holiday overtime can be received in cash or compensatory time off consistent with the compensatory time off provision of this MOU.

In lieu of the two and one-half time holiday compensation mentioned herein, an employee can choose to receive holiday credit equal to the number of hours worked on a holiday up to eight hours and overtime compensation of time and one-half for all overtime hours worked on a holiday.

#### Holidays - Seven Days a Week Work Units:

Notwithstanding the above, only the actual days upon which January 1, March 31, July 4, November 11, and December 25 fall shall be considered paid holidays for Deputy Probation Officers who are employed in a work unit which routinely remains open seven (7) days a week.

#### **CANINE HANDLERS**

Any Deputy Probation Officer assigned to handle a canine used for probation/law enforcement duties is required to and is responsible for the general care, grooming and home kenneling of the canine, and that such activities are compensated as described below:

#### **Definitions**

"Home kenneling" is understood to be the maintenance of the canine at the home or residence of a Deputy Probation Officer, and shall include grooming time. "Grooming time" is understood to mean all the activities specifically related to the care and maintenance of the canine at the residence, including feeding, exercising, cleaning of the home kennel and

any County vehicle involved in transportation, and bonding with the canine. Grooming time shall not include time spent in formal training and time spent in routine and/or emergency veterinary care.

#### **Compensation**

The parties agree that Deputy Probation Officers assigned canines for home kenneling shall be compensated for grooming time conducted outside of the hours of the Deputy Probation Officer's normal shift. All such grooming time shall be compensated as overtime, consistent with the Overtime Article in this MOU. CTO may be elected subject to the 40 hour maximum. 30 minutes (.5) per day times 7 days per week will be allowed for grooming.

"Grooming time" shall not be considered scheduled work for purposes of invoking the double time provision.

#### Home Garaging

Each handler shall be assigned a vehicle specifically equipped for canine duty, which shall be kept at the handler's place of residence and be utilized to transport the canine to and from duty.

#### County's Responsibility

The County shall install kennels at the homes of canine handlers at no expense to the handler.

The County shall continue to pay for all food and veterinary care for the canines, as well as all other equipment related to training, grooming and safety as required by the Fresno County Probation Office Canine Manual and any additional equipment deemed necessary by the Probation Office.

#### Continuation of Canine Program

The County may reduce the number of canines or eliminate the canine program at any time.

#### **CONTINUITY OF OPERATIONS**

Continuous and uninterrupted service to the citizens of the County, and orderly employee/employer relations between the County and its employees are essential considerations of this MOU. Therefore, the Association agrees on behalf of itself and those County employees which it represents, both individually and collectively, that there shall not be any strikes, picketing, boycotting, work stoppages, sitdowns, sickouts, speedups, slow-downs, or secondary action such as refusal to cross picket lines or any other concerted refusal to render services or to obstruct the efficient operations of the County or refusal to work, including refusal to work overtime, or any other curtailment or restriction of work at any time.

The County shall not utilize a lock-out technique in its employee/employer relationships.

#### MANAGEMENT RIGHTS

- A. All County rights, powers, functions, and authorities except as expressly abridged by this Agreement shall remain vested in the County whether or not they have been exercised in the past.
- B. The County shall not be obligated to exercise any management rights stated below in "G."
- C. All decisions made in accordance with County Management Rights which are established in this Section or are inherently existent shall not be subject to any aspect of the grievance procedure or unfair employee relations practice charges.
- D. This article is not intended to nor may it be construed to modify the provisions of the Charter relating to Civil Service or personnel administration. The Civil Service Commission shall continue to exercise authority delegated to it.
- E. In the exercise of its rights, the County shall not require an employee to perform an act or acts contrary to licensing law.
- F. This article is not intended to restrict consultation with the Association at the request of the latter regarding matters within the right of the County to determine.
- G. The rights, powers, and authorities of the County include, but are not limited to, the sole and exclusive right to:
  - 1. Determine the mission of its constituent departments, commissions, boards, and committees;
  - 2. Set standards of services and evaluate the County's effectiveness in delivery of these services;
  - 3. Determine the procedures and standards for employee selection, promotion, demotion, transfer reassignment and/or layoff;
  - 4. Select, train, direct, assign, demote, layoff, dismiss its employees;
  - 5. Communicate fully and openly with its employees on any subject at any time orally, in writing, both at work or through the U.S. mail;
  - 6. Take disciplinary actions;
  - 7. Relieve its employees from duty or reassign employees because of lack of work or for other reasons the County considers legitimate;
  - 8. Evaluate and maintain the efficiency of County operations;
  - 9. Determine and change the method, means, personnel, and standards by which County operations are to be conducted;

- 10. Determine the content of job classifications;
- 11. Take all necessary actions to carry out its mission in emergencies, including the suspension of portions or all of this Agreement for the period of emergency as determined by the County;
- 12. Exercise complete control and discretion over its organization and the technology to perform its work;
- 13. Make rules and regulations pertaining to employees consistent with this Agreement;
- 14. Make all financial and budgetary decisions;
- 15. Establish, allocate, schedule, assign, modify, change and discontinue work shifts and working hours and workweeks;
- 16. Contract, subcontract, establish, merge, continue or discontinue any function or operation of the County;
- 17. Engage consultants for any future or existing function or operation of the County;
- 18. Order overtime.

#### **BILINGUAL SKILL PAY**

Any employee occupying a position that is authorized by the County Administrative Officer, or his/her designee, to receive Bilingual Skill Pay shall be eligible to receive such pay in the amount of \$23.08 per pay period. Such employee shall receive Bilingual Skill Pay after certification by the Department of Personnel Services.

Bilingual Skill Pay shall not be paid during periods of paid time off (e.g., annual leave, vacation or sick leave); instead, departments may assign these responsibilities to other employees who are certified to receive this pay.

#### EMPLOYEE GRIEVANCE PROCEDURE

The Employee Grievance Procedure and Forms agreed to shall be available on the Personnel Services website. No changes shall be made to the procedure and/or forms without mutual agreement of the Association and County.

#### FULL UNDERSTANDING

It is intended that this MOU sets forth the full and entire understanding of the parties regarding the matters set forth herein, and any other previous understanding or agreements by the parties (with the exception of addendums and sideletter agreements), whether formal or informal, regarding any such matters are hereby superseded and terminated in their entirety. With respect to addendums and sideletter agreements, all previously existing addendums and sideletter agreements that have not expired and

addendums and sideletter agreements entered into during the term of this MOU shall continue in force subject to the terms and conditions set forth within each. Further, neither party shall be bound by any promise or assurance that is not explicitly covered in this MOU, addendum or sideletter agreement signed by both parties.

This MOU shall govern in case of conflict with provisions of existing County ordinances, rules and regulations pertaining to wages, hours, and other terms and conditions of employment, but otherwise such ordinances, rules and regulations shall be effective and the Board of Supervisors and other County boards and commissions retain the power to legislate pertaining to such matters subject to compliance with the Meyers-Milias-Brown Act and other applicable provisions of law provided such actions are not in conflict with the provisions of this MOU.

#### RETIREMENT - TIER II MANDATORY [One (1) year average]

Effective June 30, 2008, any employee newly hired into a permanent General/Miscellaneous position represented by the Fresno County Deputy Probation Officers Association shall be enrolled pursuant to the following sections of the County Employees Retirement Law of 1937 (Tier II):

- GC Section 31676.16
- GC Section 31621.4
- GC Section 31462.1

The vested "health benefit" (currently \$3.00 per year of service) resulting from the Settlement Agreement (Fresno County Superior Court Cases 605588-3, 608028-7 and 634171-3) [see Section 9] entered into judgment on December 15, 2000 shall be extended to employees enrolled in Tier II.

Any employee occupying a permanent position that is represented or unrepresented, who promotes, demotes or transfers into a permanent position represented by the Fresno County Deputy Probation Officers Association, shall continue under the retirement tier which they were enrolled in immediately prior to their promotion, demotion or transfer.

Any employee represented by the Fresno County Deputy Probation Officers Association, who promotes, demotes or transfers into a permanent position that is represented or unrepresented, shall continue under the retirement tier which they were enrolled in immediately prior to their promotion, demotion or transfer.

Any employee who promotes, demotes or transfers from a Safety classification to a General/Miscellaneous classification, or vice versa, shall be enrolled in the corresponding retirement tier (e.g., Tier I Safety membership shall end and Tier I General/Miscellaneous membership shall begin, Tier II Safety membership shall end and Tier II General/Miscellaneous membership shall begin).

Any employee who deferred retirement prior to the December 15, 2000 Ventura II settlement agreement who subsequently rejoins the retirement association shall be enrolled in Tier I. Any other employee who defers retirement and subsequently rejoins the

retirement association shall continue under the retirement tier he or she was enrolled in prior to deferral provided that tier is available. If that tier is no longer available, the employee shall be enrolled in the retirement tier offered to newly hired employees.

#### <u> RETIREMENT – TIER IV MANDATORY – [THREE (3) YEAR AVERAGE]</u>

Any employee newly hired into a permanent position between June 11, 2012, and December 23, 2012, in a General/Miscellaneous classification represented by the Deputy Probation Officers Association – Unit 11 (Deputy Probation Officers), shall be enrolled pursuant to the following sections of the County Employees Retirement Law of 1937 (Tier IV):

- GC 31676.1 1.67% @ 57½; 2% @ 61; 2.43% @ 65
- GC 31621 Default Member Contribution Code
- GC 31462 3 year average for final compensation
- 0 (zero) Cost of Living

The "Settlement Health Benefit" (currently \$3.00 per year of service) resulting from the Settlement Agreement (Fresno County Superior Court Cases 605588-3, 608028-7 and 634171-3) [see Section 9] entered into judgment on December 15, 2000 shall not be extended to employees enrolled in General/Miscellaneous Tier IV.

Any employee occupying a permanent position who promotes, demotes or transfers from a Safety classification to a General/Miscellaneous classification, or vice versa, shall be enrolled in the corresponding retirement tier (e.g., Tier I Safety membership shall end and Tier I General/Miscellaneous membership shall begin; Tier II Safety membership shall end and Tier II General/Miscellaneous membership shall begin).

#### **CORRESPONDING TIERS**

GENERAL	_/MISC.	SAFETY
Tier I	← →	Tier I
Tier II	+	Tier II
Tier III		
Tier IV	← →	Tier IV

NOTE: Employees initially enrolled in Tier III General/Miscellaneous who become enrolled in Tier II Safety and subsequently return to a permanent position in a General/Miscellaneous classification shall be re-enrolled into Tier III General/Miscellaneous.

Any employee who deferred retirement prior to the December 15, 2000, Ventura II settlement agreement who subsequently rejoins the retirement association shall be enrolled in Tier I General/Miscellaneous or Tier I Safety. Any other employee who defers retirement and subsequently rejoins the retirement association shall continue under the retirement tier he or she was enrolled in prior to deferral.

The foregoing summary of Tier IV General/Miscellaneous Retirement Plan – Mandatory is for the parties' general reference and does not modify the County Board Resolution or County Ordinances which established this tier.

#### TIER V GENERAL RETIREMENT PLAN (PEPRA) – MANDATORY

Pursuant to the California Public Employees' Pension Reform Act of 2013 ("PEPRA;" AB 340, GC §§7522 et seq), any employee newly hired into a permanent position on or after December 24, 2012, who will become a new member of FCERA on or after January 1, 2013, shall be enrolled in the State mandated defined benefit retirement formula specified in Government Code § 7522.20 and will be subject to all other retirement plan provisions as mandated by PEPRA. This state mandated retirement tier shall be known as the Tier V General Retirement Plan.

Consistent with PEPRA, the exception to being enrolled into General Tier V for any employee newly hired on or after December 24, 2012, who will become a new member of FCERA on or after January 1, 2013, is an individual who was previously employed by another public employer and was able to establish reciprocity with FCERA as specified in § 7522.02(c). In the case of reciprocity being established, the new employee would be enrolled into General Tier IV.

The foregoing information is only for the parties' general reference.

#### EXTENSION OF PAID MILITARY LEAVE

Eligible Bargaining Unit Members shall be subject to paid military leave in accordance with Resolution #12-445 as approved by the Board of Supervisors on December 4, 2012.

#### TERM OF MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING AND RENEGOTIATION

This MOU shall be in effect from June 10, 2013, through June 7, 2015. Negotiations for the successor MOU shall begin no later than January 1, 2015.

	COUNTY OF FRESNO	FRESNO COUNTY DEPUTY PROBATION OFFICERS ASSOCIATION – UNIT 11
Ву _	Gilbert De La Torre	By Debra White, President - FCDPOA
Ву _		Ву
Date	5.17.13	Date5-17-63

#### ADDENDUM TO MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING Unit 11 – Fresno County Deputy Probation Officers Association January 23, 2012 through June 9, 2013

#### STANDBY

In recognition of AB 109 – Post Release Community Supervision (PRCS) Offender Violation Booking Process – effective October 1, 2011, the parties have met and conferred and agree to the terms and conditions regarding Standby compensation as set forth below:

- 1. Standby is defined as any time outside of an employee's normally scheduled work hours where the employee is prescheduled for Standby assignment;
- When on Standby assignment, employee(s) shall remain available by telephone (e.g. mobile) and/or as designated by management and have the necessary equipment (i.e. computer) and ability to respond to call(s);
- Compensation for each Standby assignment shall be \$20 per eight (8) hour shift/assignment; additionally, compensation for calls addressed shall be at one and one half (1 ½) times the normal rate of pay for work performed in fifteen (15) minute intervals. The maximum number of fifteen (15) minute intervals in an hour shall be four (4). Two (2) or more calls addressed within fifteen (15) minutes shall be considered one (1) fifteen (15) minute interval;
- 4. When an employee is required to be on Standby on a County holiday, as defined within this MOU, the employee receives holiday pay of eight (8) hours for that day and Standby compensation;
- 5. Employees on Standby assignment are not considered to be prescheduled by management to work more than seven (7) consecutive work days. Therefore, the period of time spent by an employee on Standby and the actual time worked by an employee as a result of a Standby assignment, shall not be included in the seven (7) consecutive work day period described in the Overtime provisions within this MOU;
- 6. The parties agree to meet and review relevant details/statistics regarding the effectiveness of this Addendum within six (6) months of its effective date;
- 7. The terms and conditions of this Addendum shall be effective January 23, 2012.

County of Fresho

Jait 11 Deputy Probation Officers Association

Date

#### ADDENDUM TO MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING Unit 11 – Fresno County Deputy Probation Officers Association May 28, 2012, through June 9, 2013

#### ALTERNATIVE WORK SCHEDULE FOR THE ADULT COMPLIANCE TEAM

In recognition of the Public Safety Realignment Act as outlined in AB 109 effective October 1, 2011, and the requisite participation of two (2) Deputy Probation Officers in the Adult Compliance Team (ACT), the parties have met and conferred and agree to the terms and conditions regarding an Alternative Work Schedule (AWS) as required by the ACT and as set forth below:

- The parties acknowledge and understand that the AWS shall consist of four (4) 10-hour workdays per 7-day workweek (i.e. 80 hours per 14-day pay period); however, due to the distinctive work requirements of the ACT for which the AWS is necessary, the AWS may be subject to variation in the specific workdays and starting/ending times within a given 7-day workweek to meet the needs of the ACT but must remain within the four (4) 10-hour days per workweek parameter;
- The Probation Department shall submit a memo to Personnel Services Labor Relations identifying the name of the employee(s) assigned to the ACT and subject to the AWS. Upon review and approval, Labor Relations shall execute an AWS agreement with the Deputy Probation Officers Association;
- 3. The AWS shall be governed by the Salary Resolution Sections 813.2 (Exemptions Overtime) and 914 (Holiday Accrual Flexible Workweek), as well as the Shift Premium Article of the respective MOU. It is acknowledged and understood that County overtime shall only be paid for authorized work performed in excess of ten (10) hours in a day or forty (40) hours in a 7-day workweek. Furthermore, the employee(s) shall be credited with eight (8) hours Holiday time for holidays worked or taken (including holidays falling on a regular day off). Lastly, the employee(s) shall not be eligible for shift premium;
- Management reserves the right and authority to discontinue this AWS at any time. A 2-week
  notice, if practicable, shall be given to the impacted employee(s). Such discontinuance shall not
  be appealable nor grievable;
- 5. The terms and conditions of this Addendum shall be effective May 28, 2012;
- 6. The AWS shall be effective through the term of the MOU pending continuance of necessary funding.

Gilbert De La Torre County of Fresno

Michael Farmer Unit 1 Deputy Probation Officers Association

5.1.12

#### ADDENDUM TO MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING DEPUTY PROBATION OFFICERS ASSOCIATION – UNIT 11 HEALTH BENEFIT AGREEMENT – PLAN YEAR 2013

- 1. The term of this agreement shall be December 10, 2012, through December 8, 2013. The parties will reopen negotiations regarding the County's contribution to Health Benefits no later than August 31, 2013, for Plan Year 2014.
- 2. A minimum of one (1) health benefit plan, one (1) dental benefit plan, one (1) vision benefit plan, one (1) mental health plan and one (1) pharmacy benefit plan will be available to employees and their dependents during Plan Year 2013. If, during the term of this agreement, any of the health benefit plan(s), dental benefit plan(s), vision benefit plan, mental health plan, or the pharmacy benefit plan is unable to fulfill its contractual obligation, the County, upon consultation with the Health Benefits Advisory Council (HBAC), if necessary, will secure a suitable replacement.
- 3. During Plan Year 2013, the County will contribute, on behalf of each employee the following amount per pay period based on the employee's plan selection:

Plan Selection	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Add'l Amount</u>	Total Contribution
Employee Only	\$208.06	N/A	\$208.06
Employee plus Child(ren)	\$208.06	\$95.00	\$303.06
Employee plus Spouse	\$208.06	\$95.00	\$303.06
Employee plus Family	\$208.06	\$100.00	\$308.06

- 4. Any employee participating in the County's Health Benefit program must enroll in one of the Health Insurance Plan(s), unless an employee chooses to opt out of the County's Health Benefit Program.
- 5. Unless otherwise court ordered, eligible employees may choose to opt out of the County's Health Benefit Program (including any related life insurance program) for the 2013 Health Plan Year by completing the "Opt Out" form and by providing written proof that they have medical coverage from another group health insurance plan. In addition, the employee must verify that a discontinuance of the County's Health benefit program does not constitute a violation of any court order or legal obligation that the employee may be subject to. Eligible employees may opt out between October 22, 2012, and December 7, 2012, (to become effective December 10, 2012) or in Plan Year 2013 an eligible employee may opt out via a qualifying event (within 30 days of the effective date of group health insurance). Group health insurance plan is defined as employer-sponsored medical coverage.

In the event an employee, who has opted out of the County's Health Benefit Program, subsequently loses his/her alternate medical coverage due to a qualifying event as defined by the Consolidated Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act (COBRA), the employee may re-enroll in the County's Health Benefit Program. It shall be the responsibility of the employee to notify Employee Benefits within 30 days of the qualifying event.

Any employee who opted out of the County's Health Benefit Program for the 2012 Plan Year and desires to maintain their opt out status for the 2013 Health Plan Year, shall re-apply during the open enrollment period (October 22, 2012 through November 9, 2012). If an opt out form for the 2013 Health Plan Year is not received in the Employee Benefits Division by the stated deadline, said employee shall be enrolled in the HMO Plan and DHMO Dental Plan. Additionally, any employee who has opted out of the County's Health Benefit Program, may re-enroll in the County's Health Benefit Program during the Annual Open Enrollment period.

- 6. Any newly hired employee eligible to participate in the County's Health Benefit Program must enroll in one of the Health Insurance Plan(s), unless the newly hired employee chooses to opt out (as delineated in No. 5 paragraph 1, dates excepted) of the County's Health Benefit Program no later than the first Monday of the second pay period of employment. Any newly hired employee who does not select one of the Health Insurance Plan(s) and does not opt out of the County's Health Benefit Program by the stated deadline, shall be enrolled in the HMO Plan and DHMO Dental Plan.
- 7. If during the term of this agreement the State, Federal government, or any other taxing authority imposes a tax or other charges (excluding a tax on or measured by net income) upon any group provider or health/dental plan or upon any activity of any of them, or if any such tax or charges are increased causing agreement between the County and health/dental plans to be opened for renegotiations, either the County or the employee organization may request the other party to meet and confer regarding the terms and conditions set forth herein.
- 8. If during the term of this agreement the State or Federal government legislates mandatory benefit levels in excess of those covered by agreement between the County and health/dental plan(s) which results in increased premiums, either the County or the employee organization may request the other party to meet and confer regarding the terms and conditions set forth herein.
- 9. The parties agree to continue to meet and discuss via the HBAC the County's health benefit program for Plan Year 2014.
- 10. Should the Association request to withdraw from the County Health Insurance Plan for Plan Year 2014, the Association must provide the request for withdrawal no later than January 11, 2013. The County upon receiving notice, agrees to meet and confer with the Association regarding the terms and conditions related to the Associations request for withdrawal from the County Health Insurance Plan. Otherwise, the Association may continue to meet and discuss via the HBAC the County's health benefit program for Plan Year 2014.

Deputy Probation Officers

Association – Unit 11

#### ADDENDUM TO MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING DEPUTY PROBATION OFFICERS ASSOCIATION – UNIT 11 HEALTH BENEFIT AGREEMENT – PLAN YEAR 2014

- 1. The term of this agreement shall be December 9, 2013, through December 7, 2014. The parties will reopen negotiations regarding the County's contribution to Health Benefits on or about August 31, 2014, for Plan Year 2015.
- 2. A minimum of one (1) health benefit plan, one (1) dental benefit plan, one (1) vision benefit plan, one (1) mental health plan and one (1) pharmacy benefit plan will be available to employees and their dependents during Plan Year 2014. If, during the term of this agreement, any of the health benefit plan(s), dental benefit plan(s), vision benefit plan, mental health plan, or the pharmacy benefit plan is unable to fulfill its contractual obligation, the County, upon consultation with the Health Benefits Advisory Committee (HBAC), if necessary, will secure a suitable replacement.
- 3. During Plan Year 2014, the County will contribute, on behalf of each employee the following amount per pay period based on the employee's plan selection:

Plan Selection	<u>Amount</u>	Add'l Amount	Total Contribution
Employee Only	\$223	N/A	\$223
Employee plus Child(ren)	\$223	\$95	\$318
Employee plus Spouse	\$223	\$95	\$318
Employee plus Family	\$223	\$100	\$323

- 4. Any employee participating in the County's Health Benefit program must enroll in one of the Health Insurance Plan(s), unless an employee chooses to opt out of the County's Health Benefit Program.
- 5. Unless otherwise court ordered, eligible employees may choose to opt out of the County's Health Benefit Program (including any related life insurance program) for the 2014 Health Plan Year by completing the "Opt Out" form and by providing written proof that they have medical coverage from another group health insurance plan. In addition, the employee must verify that a discontinuance of the County's Health benefit program does not constitute a violation of any court order or legal obligation that the employee may be subject to. Eligible employees may opt out between October 21, 2013, and December 6, 2013, (to become effective December 9, 2013) or in Plan Year 2014 an eligible employee may opt out via a qualifying event (within 30 days of the effective date of group health insurance). Group health insurance plan is defined as employer-sponsored medical coverage.

In the event an employee, who has opted out of the County's Health Benefit Program, subsequently loses his/her alternate medical coverage due to a qualifying event as defined by the Consolidated Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act (COBRA), the employee may re-enroll in the County's Health Benefit Program. It shall be the responsibility of the employee to notify Employee Benefits within 30 days of the qualifying event.

Any employee who opted out of the County's Health Benefit Program for the 2013 Plan Year and desires to maintain their opt out status for the 2014 Health Plan Year, shall re-apply during the open enrollment period (October 21, 2013 through November 8, 2013). If an opt out form for the 2014 Health Plan Year is not received in the Employee Benefits Division by the stated deadline, said employee shall be enrolled in the HMO Plan and DHMO Dental Plan. Additionally, any employee who has opted out of the County's Health Benefit Program, may re-enroll in the County's Health Benefit Program during the Annual Open Enrollment period.

- 6. Any newly hired employee eligible to participate in the County's Health Benefit Program must enroll in one of the Health Insurance Plan(s), unless the newly hired employee chooses to opt out (as delineated in No. 5 paragraph 1, dates excepted) of the County's Health Benefit Program no later than the first Monday of the second pay period of employment. Any newly hired employee who does not select one of the Health Insurance Plan(s) and does not opt out of the County's Health Benefit Program by the stated deadline, shall be enrolled in the HMO Plan and DHMO Dental Plan.
- 7. If during the term of this agreement the State, Federal government, or any other taxing authority imposes a tax or other charges (excluding a tax on or measured by net income) upon any group provider or health/dental plan or upon any activity of any of them, or if any such tax or charges are increased causing agreement between the County and health/dental plans to be opened for renegotiations, either the County or the employee organization may request the other party to meet and confer regarding the terms and conditions set forth herein.
- 8. If during the term of this agreement the State or Federal government legislates mandatory benefit levels in excess of those covered by agreement between the County and health/dental plan(s) which results in increased premiums, either the County or the employee organization may request the other party to meet and confer regarding the terms and conditions set forth herein.
- 9. Pursuant to the HBAC agreement, the parties agree to continue to meet and discuss the County's health benefit program for Plan Year 2015.
- 10. Should the Association request to withdraw from the County Health Insurance Plan for Plan Year 2015, the Association must provide the request for withdrawal no later than January 10, 2014. The County upon receiving notice, agrees to meet and confer with the Association regarding the terms and conditions related to the Associations request for withdrawal from the County Health Insurance Plan. Otherwise, the Association may continue to meet and discuss via the HBAC the County's health benefit program for Plan Year 2015.

County of Fresho

Deputy Probation Officers Association – Unit 11

10 21-13

Date

#### Addendum to Memorandum of Understanding **Unit 11 – Deputy Probation Officers Association**

#### <u>Salaries</u>

3% increase effective June 9, 2014

<u>Classification</u>	Current Bi-Weekly <u>Salary Range</u>	New Bi-Weekly <u>Salary Range</u>
Deputy Probation Officer I	1329	1369
Deputy Probation Officer II	1574	1621
Deputy Probation Officer III	1773	1826
Deputy Probation Officer IV	1960	2019

County of Fresho

3 Date

4

Deputy Probation Officers Association – Unit 11

3 28-14. Date

#### ADDENDUM TO HEALTH BENEFIT AGREEMENT - PLAN YEAR 2014 **DEPUTY PROBATION OFFICERS ASSOCIATION – UNIT 11**

County employees who experience a catastrophic illness or injury, and meet the criteria defined below, will continue to receive the County's health contribution towards the County's Health Insurance Plan for Plan Year 2014. In order to continue to receive the County's health contribution towards County health insurance, an employee must have experienced a catastrophic illness or injury. A catastrophic illness or injury is defined as an illness or injury that poses an immediate and direct threat to life, or to the vital function of major bodily systems or organs, and would cause the employee to take leave without pay or terminate employment to care for themselves or their child. This does not include sporadic, short-term recurrences of chronic, non-life threatening conditions, or short-term conditions due to contagious diseases, or short-term recurring medical or therapeutic treatments.

In order to continue to receive the County's health contribution towards County health insurance, an employee must:

- Have experienced a catastrophic illness or injury as defined above;
- Be currently enrolled in the County's Health Insurance Plan;
- Exhaust their accrued paid time off (e.g. Annual Leave);
- Be on an approved medical leave and exhaust any available protected leave options whereby the County contribution towards health insurance was maintained (e.g. FMLA);
- Complete and submit the required paperwork, including certification by the employee or eligible dependent's (child only) medical provider; and
- Continue to timely pay their portion of the health insurance premium. 0

This Addendum will take effect on June 9, 2014, is a limited term benefit and will sunset on December 7, 2014.

ounty of Fresno

Deputy Probation Officers Association - Unit 11

- 11 - 14

Date

#### ADDENDUM TO MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING DEPUTY PROBATION OFFICERS ASSOCIATION – UNIT 11 HEALTH BENEFIT AGREEMENT – PLAN YEAR 2015

- 1. The term of this agreement shall be December 8, 2014, through December 6, 2015. The parties will reopen negotiations regarding the County's contribution to Health Benefits on or about September 30, 2015, for Plan Year 2016.
- 2. A minimum of one (1) health benefit plan, one (1) dental benefit plan, one (1) vision benefit plan, one (1) mental health plan and one (1) pharmacy benefit plan will be available to employees and their dependents during Plan Year 2015. If, during the term of this agreement, any of the health benefit plan(s), dental benefit plan(s), vision benefit plan, mental health plan, or the pharmacy benefit plan is unable to fulfill its contractual obligation, the County, upon consultation with the Health Benefits Advisory Committee (HBAC), if necessary, will secure a suitable replacement.
- 3. During Plan Year 2015, the County will contribute, on behalf of each employee the following amount per pay period based on the employee's plan selection:

Plan Selection	<u>Amount</u>	Add'l Amount	Total Contribution
Employee Only	\$223	N/A	\$223
Employee plus Child(ren)	\$223	\$95	\$318
Employee plus Spouse	\$223	\$95	\$318
Employee plus Family	\$223	\$100	\$323

- 4. Any employee participating in the County's Health Benefit program must enroll in one of the Health Insurance Plan(s), unless an employee chooses to opt out of the County's Health Benefit Program.
- 5. Unless otherwise court ordered, eligible employees may choose to opt out of the County's Health Benefit Program (including any related life insurance program) for the 2015 Health Plan Year by completing the "Opt Out" form and by providing written proof that they have medical coverage from another group health insurance plan. In addition, the employee must verify that a discontinuance of the County's Health benefit program does not constitute a violation of any court order or legal obligation that the employee may be subject to. Eligible employees may opt out between October 20, 2014, and December 5, 2014, (to become effective December 8, 2014) or in Plan Year 2015 an eligible employee may opt out via a qualifying event (within 30 days of the effective date of group health insurance). Group health insurance plan is defined as employer-sponsored medical coverage.

In the event an employee, who has opted out of the County's Health Benefit Program, subsequently loses his/her alternate medical coverage due to a qualifying event as defined by the Consolidated Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act (COBRA), the employee may re-enroll in the County's Health Benefit Program. It shall be the responsibility of the employee to notify Employee Benefits within 30 days of the qualifying event.

Any employee who opted out of the County's Health Benefit Program for the 2014 Plan Year and desires to maintain their opt out status for the 2015 Health Plan Year, shall re-apply during the open enrollment period (October 20, 2014 through November 7, 2014). If an opt out form for the 2015 Health Plan Year is not received in the Employee Benefits Division by the stated deadline, said employee shall be enrolled in the HMO Plan and DHMO Dental Plan. Additionally, any employee who has opted out of the County's Health Benefit Program, may re-enroll in the County's Health Benefit Program during the Annual Open Enrollment period.

- 6. Any newly hired employee eligible to participate in the County's Health Benefit Program must enroll in one of the Health Insurance Plan(s), unless the newly hired employee chooses to opt out (as delineated in No. 5 paragraph 1, dates excepted) of the County's Health Benefit Program no later than the first Monday of the second pay period of employment. Any newly hired employee who does not select one of the Health Insurance Plan(s) and does not opt out of the County's Health Benefit Program by the stated deadline, shall be enrolled in the HMO Plan and DHMO Dental Plan.
- 7. If during the term of this agreement the State, Federal government, or any other taxing authority imposes a tax or other charges (excluding a tax on or measured by net income) upon any group provider or health/dental plan or upon any activity of any of them, or if any such tax or charges are increased causing agreement between the County and health/dental plans to be opened for renegotiations, either the County or the employee organization may request the other party to meet and confer regarding the terms and conditions set forth herein.
- 8. If during the term of this agreement the State or Federal government legislates mandatory benefit levels in excess of those covered by agreement between the County and health/dental plan(s) which results in increased premiums, either the County or the employee organization may request the other party to meet and confer regarding the terms and conditions set forth herein.
- 9. Pursuant to the HBAC agreement, the parties agree to continue to meet and discuss the County's health benefit program for Plan Year 2016.