

TELECOMMUNICATIONS RELAY & CAPTIONED TELEPHONE SERVICES CONTRACT
CONTRACT - FUNCTIONAL AREAS I & II

THIS CONTRACT (the "Contract") is made as of this 3rd day of April, 2013 by and between HAMILTON TELEPHONE COMPANY and the STATE OF MARYLAND, acting by and through the DEPARTMENT OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY.

In consideration of the promises and the covenants herein contained, and for other good and valuable consideration, the receipt and sufficiency of which is hereby acknowledged, the parties agree as follows:

1. Definitions

In this Contract, the following words have the meanings indicated:

- 1.1 "Contract Manager" means the manager designed by the Department, or any replacement designated in writing by the Department.
- 1.2 "Contractor" means Hamilton Telephone Company and whose principal business address is 1001 12th Street, Aurora, NE 68818 and whose principal office in Maryland is The Corporation Trust Incorporated, 351 West Camden Street, Baltimore, MD 21201.
- 1.3 "Department" means the Maryland Department of Information Technology.
- 1.4 "Financial Proposal" means the Contractor's Financial Proposal (BAFO) dated January 16, 2013.
- 1.5 "Notice To Proceed (NTP)" means a formal notification from the State Contract Manager: (i) verifying notice of contract award to the Contractor; and (ii) the Contractor should immediately, or as of a date contained in the notice, begin performance.
- 1.6 "Procurement Officer" means the officer designated by the Department, or any replacement designated in writing by the Department.
- 1.7 "Project Manager" means the manager designated by the Department, or any replacement designated in writing by the Department.
- 1.8 "RFP" means the Request for Proposals for Telecommunications Relay and Captioned Telephone Services, Project F50B2400063 issued April 30, 2013, and any addenda/amendments thereto issued in writing by the State.
- 1.9 "State" means the State of Maryland.
- 1.10 "Technical Proposal" means the Contractor's Technical Proposal, dated July 12, 2012 and subsequent clarification responses, cure letter responses, vendor discussion handouts and vendor discussion responses, etc. submitted in writing by the Contractor.

2. Scope of Work

2.1 The Contractor shall provide all telecommunications relay or captioned telephone services and deliverables as defined in the RFP Section 3. These services shall be provided in accordance with the terms and conditions of this Contract and the following Exhibits, which are attached and incorporated herein by reference. If there is any conflict between this Contract and the Exhibits, the terms of the Contract shall govern. If there is any conflict among the Exhibits, the following order of precedence shall determine the prevailing provision:

Exhibit A -- The RFP

Exhibit B -- The Technical Proposal

Exhibit C -- The Financial Proposal

Exhibit D - State Contract Affidavit, executed by the Contractor and dated February 27, 2013

2.2 The Procurement Officer may, at any time, by written order, make changes in the work within the general scope of the Contract or the RFP. No other order, statement or conduct of the Procurement Officer or any other person shall be treated as a change or entitle the Contractor to an equitable adjustment under this section. Except as otherwise provided in this Contract, if any change under this section causes an increase or decrease in the Contractor's cost of, or the time required for, the performance of any part of the work, whether or not changed by the order, an equitable adjustment in the Contract price shall be made and the Contract modified in writing accordingly. The Contractor must assert in writing its right to an adjustment under this section within thirty (30) days of receipt of written change order and shall include a written statement setting forth the nature and cost of such claim. No claim by the Contractor shall be allowed if asserted after final payment under this Contract. Failure to agree to an adjustment under this section shall be a dispute under the Disputes clause. Nothing in this section shall excuse the Contractor from proceeding with the Contract as changed.

3. Time for Performance.

The Contract resulting from this RFP shall be for a period of five years and shall commence on June 1, 2013 and end on May 31, 2018, unless earlier terminated as provided in this Contract. The Contractor shall provide services upon receipt of a Notice to Proceed from the Procurement Officer. All prices for rates and terms as offered in Financial Proposal (BAFO) are binding on the Contractor for the term of the Contract.

4. Consideration and Payment

4.1 In consideration of the satisfactory performance of the work set forth in this Contract, the Department shall pay the Contractor in accordance with the terms of this Contract and at the not to exceed rates specified on Attachment F, Contractor's Financial Proposal. Except with the express written consent of the Procurement Officer, payment to the Contractor pursuant to this Contract shall not exceed \$ 30,000,000.00. Any work performed by the Contractor in excess of the ceiling amount of this Contract without the prior written approval of the Procurement Officer is at the Contractor's risk of non-payment. Contractor shall notify the Procurement Officer, in writing, at least sixty (60) days before payments reach the specified amount. After notification by the Contractor, if the State fails to increase the Contract amount, the Contractor shall have no obligation to perform under this Contract after payments reach the stated amount; provided, however, that, prior to the stated amount being reached, the Contractor will: (i) promptly consult with the State and work in good faith to establish a plan of action to assure that every reasonable effort has been undertaken by the Contractor to complete State-defined critical work in progress prior to the date the stated amount will be reached; and (ii) secure data bases, systems, platforms and/or applications which the Contractor is working on so that no damage or vulnerabilities to any of the same will exist due to the existence of any such unfinished work.

4.2 Payments to the Contractor shall be made no later than thirty (30) days after the Department's receipt of a proper invoice for services provided by the Contractor, acceptance by the Department of services provided by the Contractor, and pursuant to the terms of the RFP and the conditions outlined in Section 4 of this Contract. Each invoice for services rendered must include the Contractor's Federal Tax Identification Number which is [REDACTED]. Charges for late payment of invoices other than as prescribed by Title 15, Subtitle 1, of the State Finance and Procurement Article, Annotated Code of Maryland, are prohibited. Invoices shall be submitted to the Project Manager. Electronic funds transfer shall be used by the State to pay Contractor pursuant to this Contract and any other State payments due Contractor unless the State Comptroller's Office grants Contractor an exemption.

4.3 In addition to any other available remedies, if, in the opinion of the Procurement Officer, the Contractor fails to perform in a satisfactory and timely manner, the Procurement Officer may refuse or limit approval of any invoice for payment, and may cause payments to the Contractor to be reduced or withheld until such time as the Contractor meets performance standards as established by the Procurement Officer.

4.4 Contractor's eMarylandMarketplace vendor ID number is 243006.

5. Rights to Records

5.1 The Contractor agrees that all documents and materials including but not limited to, software, reports, drawings, studies, specifications, estimates, tests, maps, photographs, designs, graphics, mechanical, artwork, computations and data prepared by the Contractor, for purposes of this Contract shall be the sole property of the State and shall be available to the State at any time. The State shall have the right to use the same without restriction and without compensation to the Contractor other than that specifically provided by this Contract.

5.2 The Contractor agrees that at all times during the term of this Contract and thereafter, works created as a deliverable under this Contract, and services performed under this Contract shall be "works made for hire" as that term is interpreted under U.S. copyright law. To the extent that any products created as a deliverable under this Contract are not works for hire for the State, the Contractor hereby relinquishes, transfers, and assigns to the State all of its rights, title, and interest (including all intellectual property rights) to all such products created under this Contract, and will cooperate reasonably with the State in effectuating and registering any necessary assignments.

5.3 The Contractor shall report to the Department, promptly and in written detail, each notice or claim of copyright infringement received by the Contractor with respect to all data delivered under this Contract.

5.4 The Contractor shall not affix any restrictive markings upon any data, documentation, or other materials provided to the State hereunder and if such markings are affixed, the State shall have the right at any time to modify, remove, obliterate, or ignore such warnings.

5.5 Upon termination of this Contract, the Contractor, at its own expense, shall deliver any equipment, software or other property provided by the State to the place designated by the Procurement Officer.

6. Exclusive Use

The State shall have the exclusive right to use, duplicate, and disclose any data, information, documents, records, or results, in whole or in part, in any manner for any purpose whatsoever, that may be created or generated by the Contractor in connection with this Contract. If any material, including software, is capable of being copyrighted, the State shall be the copyright owner and Contractor may copyright material connected with this project only with the express written approval of the State.

7. Patents, Copyrights, Intellectual Property

7.1 If the Contractor furnishes any design, device, material, process, or other item, which is covered by a patent or copyright or which is proprietary to or a trade secret of another, the Contractor shall obtain the necessary permission or license to permit the State to use such item or items.

7.2 The Contractor agrees that at all times during the term of this Contract and thereafter, works created as a deliverable under this Contract and services performed under this Contract shall be "works made for hire" as that term is interpreted under U.S. copyright law. To the extent that any products created as a deliverable under this Contract are not works for hire for the State, the Contractor shall state why it believes that it should not thereby relinquish, transfer, and assign to the State all of its rights, title, and interest (including all intellectual property rights) to all such products created under this Contract.

7.3 The Contractor shall hold and save harmless the State of Maryland, including but not limited to the Department and its agents, officers, and employees, from liability of any nature or kind arising out of a claim or suit for or on account of the use of any copyrighted or uncopyrighted composition, trademark, service mark, secure process, patented or unpatented invention, article or appliance furnished or used in the performance of any Contract resulting from this RFP. The Contractor agrees to assume the defense of any and all such suits and pay the costs and expenses incidental hereto, subject to the right of the State to provide additional legal counsel at the State's own expense. If a third party claims that a product infringes that party's patent or copyright, the Contractor will defend the State against that claim at Contractor's expense and will pay all damages, costs and attorney fees that a Court finally

awards, provided the State (i) notifies the Contractor in writing of the claim within a reasonable time after the State's receipt of such claim, with the understanding that the State's failure to give reasonably timely notice shall not relieve Contractor of any obligation hereunder except and to the extent that such failure prejudices Contractors' ability to defend against such claim; and (ii) cooperates with Contractor in, the defense and any related settlement negotiations.

7.4 If any products furnished by the Contractor become, or in the Contractor's opinion are likely to become, the subject of a claim of infringement, the Contractor shall, after consultation with the State and at the Contractor's own expense: (a) procure for the State the right to continue using the applicable item, (b) replace the product with a non-infringing product that, in the State's view, substantially complies with the item's specifications, or (c) modify the item so that it becomes non-infringing and, in the State's view, performs in a substantially similar manner to the original item.

7.5 In connection with services provided under the Contract, the Contractor may create, acquire or otherwise have rights in, and may, employ, provide, create, acquire or otherwise obtain rights in various concepts, ideas, methods, methodologies, procedures, processes, know-how, techniques, models, templates and general purpose consulting and software tools, utilities and routines (collectively, the "Contractor Technology"). To the extent that any Contractor Technology is contained in any of the Contract deliverables including any derivative works, the Contractor grants the State a royalty-free, fully paid, worldwide, perpetual, non-exclusive license to use such Contractor Technology in connection with the Contract deliverables for the State's purposes.

7.6 The Contractor shall not acquire any right, title and interest in and to the copyrights for goods, any and all software, technical information, specifications, drawings, records, documentation, data or derivative works thereof, or other work products provided by the State to the Contractor. The State may, in its sole discretion, elect to grant the Contractor a worldwide, perpetual, non-exclusive license, for which the State may require compensation, perhaps in the form of a royalty, for the Contractor's internal use of non-confidential Contract deliverables first originated and prepared by the Contractor for delivery to the State.

8. Confidentiality

Subject to the Maryland Public Information Act and any other applicable laws, all confidential or proprietary information and documentation relating to either party (including without limitation, any information or data stored within the Contractor's computer systems) shall be held in absolute confidence by the other party. Each party shall, however, be permitted to disclose relevant confidential information to its officers, agents and employees to the extent that such disclosure is necessary for the performance of their duties under this Contract, provided that the data may be collected, used, disclosed, stored and disseminated only as provided by and consistent with the law. The provisions of this section shall not apply to information that (a) is lawfully in the public domain; (b) has been independently developed by the other party without violation of this Contract; (c) was already in the possession of such party, (d) was supplied to such party by a third party lawfully in possession thereof and legally permitted to further disclose the information or (e) which such party is required to disclose by law.

9. Loss of Data

In the event of loss of any State data or records where such loss is due to the intentional act or omission or negligence of the Contractor or any of its subcontractors or agents, the Contractor shall be responsible for recreating such lost data in the manner and on the schedule set by the Project Manager. The Contractor shall ensure that all data is backed up and recoverable by the Contractor. Contractor shall use its best efforts to assure that at no time shall any actions undertaken by the Contractor under this Contract (or any failures to act when Contractor has a duty to act) damage or create any vulnerabilities in data bases, systems, platforms and/or applications with which the Contractor is working hereunder. Contractor shall hold harmless and indemnify the State from and against any and all losses, damages, claims, suits, actions, liabilities and/or expenses, including, without limitation, attorneys' fees and disbursements, that arise from, are in connection with, or are attributable to Contractor's failure to comply with the requirements of this Section 9.

10. Indemnification

10.1 The Contractor shall hold harmless and indemnify the State from and against any and all losses, damages, claims, suits, actions, liabilities and/or expenses, including, without limitation, attorneys' fees and disbursements of any character that arise from, are in connection with or are attributable to the performance of the Contractor or its subcontractors under this Contract.

10.2 The State has no obligation to provide legal counsel or defense to the Contractor or its subcontractors in the event that a suit, claim or action of any character is brought by any person not party to this Contract against the Contractor or its subcontractors as a result of or relating to the Contractor's obligations under this Contract.

10.3 The State has no obligation for the payment of any judgments or the settlement of any claims against the Contractor or its subcontractors as a result of or relating to the Contractor's obligations under this Contract.

10.4 The Contractor shall immediately notify the Procurement Officer of any claim or suit made or filed against the Contractor or its subcontractors regarding any matter resulting from, or relating to, the Contractor's obligations under the Contract. In the event that a claim, suit or action is made or filed against the State as a result of or relating to the Contractor's performance under this Contract, the Contractor agrees to assume the defense of any and all suits and pay costs and expenses incidental hereto, subject to the right of the State to provide additional legal counsel at the State's own expense. This section shall survive expiration of this Contract.

11. Non-Hiring of Employees

No official or employee of the State, as defined under State Government Article, § 15-102, Annotated Code of Maryland, whose duties as such official or employee include matters relating to or affecting the subject matter of this Contract, shall, during the pendency and term of this Contract and while serving as an official or employee of the State, become or be an employee of the Contractor or any entity that is a subcontractor on this Contract.

12. Disputes

This Contract shall be subject to the provisions of Title 15, Subtitle 2, of the State Finance and Procurement Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland, and COMAR 21.10 (Administrative and Civil Remedies). Pending resolution of a claim, the Contractor shall proceed diligently with the performance of the Contract in accordance with the Procurement Officer's decision. Unless a lesser period is provided by applicable statute, regulation, or the Contract, the Contractor must file a written notice of claim with the Procurement Officer within 30 days after the basis for the claim is known or should have been known, whichever is earlier. Contemporaneously with or within 30 days of the filing of a notice of claim, but no later than the date of final payment under the Contract, the Contractor must submit to the Procurement Officer its written claim containing the information specified in COMAR 21.10.04.02.

13. Maryland Law

13.1 This Contract shall be construed, interpreted, and enforced according to the laws of the State of Maryland. 13.2 The Maryland Uniform Computer Information Transactions Act, Maryland Code Annotated, Commercial Law Article, Title 22, does not apply to this Contract, or to any purchase order, or Notice to Proceed, issued under this Contract or any software license acquired hereunder.

13.3 Any and all references to the Annotated Code of Maryland contained in this Contract shall be construed to refer to such Code sections as from time to time amended.

14. Nondiscrimination in Employment

The Contractor agrees: (a) not to discriminate in any manner against an employee or applicant for employment because of race, color, religion, creed, age, sex, marital status, national origin, ancestry, or disability of a qualified individual with a disability; (b) to include a provision similar to that contained in subsection (a), above, in any underlying subcontract except a subcontract for standard commercial supplies or raw materials; and (c) to post and to cause subcontractors to post in conspicuous places available to employees and applicants for employment, notices setting forth the substance of this clause.

15. Contingent Fee Prohibition

The Contractor warrants that it has not employed or retained any person, partnership, corporation, or other entity, other than a bona fide employee, bona fide agent, bona fide salesperson, or commercial selling agency working for the business, to solicit or secure the Contract, and that the business has not paid or agreed to pay any person, partnership, corporation, or other entity, other than a bona fide employee, bona fide agent, bona fide salesperson, or commercial selling agency, any fee or any other consideration contingent on the making of this Contract.

16. Non-availability of Funding

If the General Assembly fails to appropriate funds or if funds are not otherwise made available for continued performance for any fiscal period of this Contract succeeding the first fiscal period, this Contract shall be canceled automatically as of the beginning of the fiscal year for which funds were not appropriated or otherwise made available; provided, however, that this will not affect either the State's rights or the Contractor's rights under any termination clause in this Contract. The effect of termination of the Contract hereunder will be to discharge both the Contractor and the State from future performance of the Contract, but not from their rights and obligations existing at the time of termination. The Contractor shall be reimbursed for the reasonable value of any nonrecurring costs incurred but not amortized in the price of the Contract. The State shall notify the Contractor as soon as it has knowledge that funds may not be available for the continuation of this Contract for each succeeding fiscal period beyond the first.

17. Termination for Cause

If the Contractor fails to fulfill its obligations under this Contract properly and on time, or otherwise violates any provision of the Contract, the State may terminate the Contract by written notice to the Contractor. The notice shall specify the acts or omissions relied upon as cause for termination. All finished or unfinished work provided by the Contractor shall, at the State's option, become the State's property. The State shall pay the Contractor fair and equitable compensation for satisfactory performance prior to receipt of notice of termination, less the amount of damages caused by the Contractor's breach. If the damages are more than the compensation payable to the Contractor, the Contractor will remain liable after termination and the State can affirmatively collect damages. Termination hereunder, including the termination of the rights and obligations of the parties, shall be governed by the provisions of COMAR 21.07.01.11B.

18. Termination for Convenience

The performance of work under this Contract may be terminated by the State in accordance with this clause in whole, or from time to time in part, whenever the State shall determine that such termination is in the best interest of the State. The State will pay all reasonable costs associated with this Contract that the Contractor has incurred up to the date of termination, and all reasonable costs associated with termination of the Contract; provided, however, the Contractor shall not be reimbursed for any anticipatory profits that have not been earned up to the date of termination. Termination hereunder, including the determination of the rights and obligations of the parties, shall be governed by the provisions of COMAR 21.07.01.12 (A)(2).

19. Delays and Extensions of Time

The Contractor agrees to perform this Contract continuously and diligently. No charges or claims for damages shall be made by the Contractor for any delays or hindrances, regardless of cause, in the performance of services under this Contract. Time extensions will be granted only for excusable delays that arise from unforeseeable causes beyond the control and without the fault or negligence of the Contractor, including but not restricted to acts of God, acts of the public enemy, acts of the State in either its sovereign or contractual capacity, acts of another contractor in the performance of a contract with the State, fires, floods, epidemics, quarantine restrictions, strikes, freight embargoes, or delays of subcontractors or suppliers arising from unforeseeable causes beyond the control and without the fault or negligence of either the Contractor or the subcontractors or suppliers.

20. Suspension of Work

The State unilaterally may order the Contractor in writing to suspend, delay, or interrupt all or any part of its performance for such period of time as the Procurement Officer or Contract Manager may determine to be appropriate for the convenience of the State.

21. Pre-Existing Regulations

In accordance with the provisions of Section 11-206 of the State Finance and Procurement Article, Annotated Code of Maryland, the regulations set forth in Title 21 of the Code of Maryland Regulations (COMAR 21) in effect on the date of execution of this Contract are applicable to this Contract.

22. Financial Disclosure

The Contractor shall comply with the provisions of Section 13-221 of the State Finance and Procurement Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland, which requires that every person that enters into contracts, leases, or other agreements with the State or its agencies during a calendar year under which the business is to receive in the aggregate, \$100,000 or more, shall within 30 days of the time when the aggregate value of these contracts, leases or other agreements reaches \$100,000, file with the Secretary of the State certain specified information to include disclosure of beneficial ownership of the business.

23. Political Contribution Disclosure

The Contractor shall comply with Election Law Article, §§14-101 through 14-108, Annotated Code of Maryland, which requires that every person that enters into contracts, leases, or other agreements with the State, a county, or an incorporated municipality, or their agencies, during a calendar year in which the person receives in the aggregate \$100,000 or more, shall, file with the State Board of Elections a statement disclosing contributions in excess of \$500 made during the reporting period to a candidate for elective office in any primary or general election. The statement shall be filed with the State Board of Elections: (1) before a purchase or execution of a lease or contract by the State, a county, an incorporated municipality, or their agencies, and shall cover the preceding two calendar years; and (2) if the contribution is made after the execution of a lease or contract, then twice a year, throughout the contract term, on: (a) February 5, to cover the 6-month period ending January 31; and (b) August 5, to cover the 6-month period ending July 31.

24. Retention of Records

The Contractor shall retain and maintain all records and documents in any way relating to this Contract for three (3) years after Contract closeout and final payment by the State under this Contract or any applicable statute of limitations, whichever is longer, and shall make them available for inspection and audit by authorized representatives of the State, including the Procurement Officer or the Procurement Officer's designee, at all reasonable times. All records related in any way to the Contract shall be retained for the entire time provided under this section. The Contractor shall, upon request by the Department, surrender all and every copy of documents needed by the State, including, but not limited to itemized billing documentation containing the dates, hours spent and work performed by the Contractor and its subcontractors under the Contract. In the event of any audit conducted by or on behalf of the State, Contractor shall cooperate fully and provide assistance to the State, without additional compensation, to identify, investigate and reconcile any audit discrepancies and/or variances. This section shall survive the expiration of this Contract.

25. Representations and Warranties

The Contractor hereby represents and warrants that:

- A. It is qualified to do business in the State and that it will take such action as, from time to time hereafter, may be necessary to remain so qualified;
- B. It is not in arrears with respect to the payment of any monies due and owing the State, or any department or unit thereof, including but not limited to the payment of taxes and employee benefits, and that it shall not become so in arrears during the term of this Contract;

C. It shall comply with all federal, State and local laws, regulations, and ordinances applicable to its activities and obligations under this Contract; and,

D. It shall obtain, at its expense, all licenses, permits, insurance, and governmental approvals, if any, necessary to the performance of its obligations under this Contract.

26. Cost and Price Certification

By submitting cost or price information, the Contractor certifies to the best of its knowledge that the information submitted is accurate, complete, and current as of the date of its Financial Proposal.

The price under this Contract and any change order or modification hereunder, including profit or fee, shall be adjusted to exclude any significant price increases occurring because the Contractor furnished cost or price information which, as of the date of its bid or offer, was inaccurate, incomplete, or not current.

27. Subcontracting; Assignment

The Contractor may not subcontract any portion of the services provided under this Contract without obtaining the prior written approval of the Procurement Officer, nor may the Contractor assign this Contract or any of its rights or obligations hereunder, without the prior written approval of the Procurement Officer, any such approvals to be in the State's sole and absolute subjective discretion. Any such subcontract or assignment shall include the terms of Sections 11 and 13 through 26 of this Contract and any other terms and conditions that the State deems necessary to protect its interests. The State shall not be responsible for the fulfillment of the Contractor's obligations to the subcontractors.

28. Liability

28.1 For breach of this Contract, negligence, misrepresentation or any other contract or tort claim, Contractor shall be liable as follows:

A. For infringement of patents, copyrights, trademarks, service marks and/or trade secrets, as provided in Section 7 of this Contract;

B. Without limitation for damages for bodily injury (including death) and damage to real property and tangible personal property;

C. For all other claims, damages, losses, costs, expenses, suits or actions in any way related to this Contract, regardless of the form, Contractor's liability per claim shall be limited to three (3) times the total dollar amount invoiced under this Contract up to the date of settlement or final award of any such claim. Third party claims arising under Section 10, "Indemnification", of this Contract are included in this limitation of liability only if the State is immune from liability. Contractor's liability for third party claims arising under Section 10 of this Contract shall be unlimited if the State is not immune from liability for claims arising under Section 10.

29. Administrative

29.1 Procurement Officer. The work to be accomplished under this Contract shall be performed under the direction of the Procurement Officer. All matters relating to the interpretation of this Contract shall be referred to the Procurement Officer for determination. The Procurement Officer is the designated Procurement Officer assigned by the Department, or any replacement designated in writing by the Department.

29.2 The Project Manager is the designated Project Manager assigned by the Department, or any replacement designated in writing by the Department.

29.3 Notices. All notices hereunder shall be in writing and either delivered personally or sent by certified or registered mail, postage prepaid as follows:

If to the State:
Maryland Department of Information Technology
Office of Information Technology, TAM
301 West Preston Street, Suite 1008A
Baltimore, MD 21201
Telephone: 410-767-5891
Fax No.: 410-767-4276
Email: Brenda.Kelly-Frey@maryland.gov

Attention: Brenda Kelly-Frey, Contract Manager

If to the Contractor:
Hamilton Telephone Company
Dixie Ziegler
1001 12th Street
Aurora, NE 68818
TTY/Voice: 402-694-3656
Fax: 402-694-5037
Email: dixie.ziegler@hamiltonrelay.com

Attention: Dixie Ziegler, Vice President of Hamilton Relay

30. Liquidated Damages

Time is an essential element of the Contract and it is critical to the success of the State's telecommunications Relay and captioned telephone services programs for Maryland's hearing and speech disabled citizens be maintained in accordance with the terms and conditions provided in the RFP and herein and that the Contractor operates in an extremely reliable manner. In the event the Contractor fails to comply with such terms, the Contractor shall be liable for liquidated damages in the amount(s) and as provided for in the RFP.

31. Nonvisual Accessibility Warranty

The Contractor warrants that the information technology offered under the proposal (1) provides equivalent access for effective use by both visual and non-visual means; (2) will present information, including prompts used for interactive communications, in formats intended for both visual and non-visual use; (3) if intended for use in a network, can be integrated into networks for obtaining, retrieving, and disseminating information used by individuals who are not blind or visually impaired; and (4) is available, whenever possible, without modification for compatibility with software and hardware for non-visual access. The Contractor further warrants that the cost, if any, of modifying the information technology for compatibility with software and hardware used for non-visual access does not increase the cost of the information technology by more than five percent. For purposes of this Contract, the phrase "equivalent access" means the ability to receive, use and manipulate information and operate controls necessary to access and use information technology by non-visual means. Examples of equivalent access include keyboard controls used for input and synthesized speech, Braille, or other audible or tactile means used for output.

32. Orderly Termination

32.1 Contractor agrees that at the commencement of this Contract, it shall have ready and available sufficient levels of inventory and qualified personnel to be able to promptly, diligently, efficiently and completely prosecute the specified services to completion. If the specified work involves the transitioning of work from another entity to Contractor, Contractor shall be required to assume full responsibility for the work and complete any required transitioning as specified in the RFP.

32.2 Upon the expiration or earlier termination of this Contract, Contractor shall:

a) promptly, diligently, efficiently and in good faith work with any successor Contractor and the Department to transition services over to the successor Contractor;

b) during the transition period, continue to be subject to all of the terms and conditions of the Contract, including, by way of example only, those that govern the rates, fees and other charges that Contractor may be permitted to charge the Department under the Contract, and under no circumstances shall the Contractor be entitled to raise any such rates, fees and/or other charges during the transition period; and,

at the end of the transition period, provide the Department with a summary report of the transition that, among other things, contains a certification signed by an officer of the Contractor who is authorized to legally bind Contractor, that states that all actions necessary to successfully transition the services to the successor Contractor have been completed, or if they have not been completed, why they have not been completed. The Department shall be entitled to withhold any final payment(s) otherwise due Contractor until it receives the summary report and certification specified in this subsection.

33. Commercial Nondiscrimination

- A. As a condition of entering into this Contract, Contractor represents and warrants that it will comply with the State's Commercial Nondiscrimination Policy, as described under Title 19 of the State Finance and Procurement Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland. As part of such compliance, Contractor may not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, ancestry or national origin, sex, age, marital status, sexual orientation, or on the basis of disability or other unlawful forms of discrimination in the solicitation, selection, hiring, or commercial treatment of subcontractors, vendors, suppliers, or commercial customers, nor shall Contractor retaliate against any person for reporting instances of such discrimination. Contractor shall provide equal opportunity for subcontractors, vendors, and suppliers to participate in all of its public sector and private sector subcontracting and supply opportunities, provided that this clause does not prohibit or limit lawful efforts to remedy the effects of marketplace discrimination that have occurred or are occurring in the marketplace. Contractor understands that a material violation of this clause shall be considered a material breach of this Contract and may result in termination of this Contract, disqualification of Contractor from participating in State contracts, or other sanctions. This clause is not enforceable by or for the benefit of, and creates no obligation to, any third party.
- B. The Contractor shall include the above Commercial Nondiscrimination clause, or similar clause approved by the State in all subcontracts.
- C. As a condition of entering into this Contract, upon the Maryland Human Relations Commission's request, and only after the filing of a complaint against Contractor under Title 19 of the State Finance and Procurement Article, Contractor agrees to provide within 60 days after the request a complete list of the names of all subcontractors, vendors, and suppliers that Contractor has used in the past 4 years on any of its contracts that were undertaken within the State, including the total dollar amount paid by Contractor on each subcontract or supply contract. Contractor further agrees to cooperate in any investigation conducted by the State pursuant to the State's Commercial Nondiscrimination Policy as set forth under Title 19 of the State Finance and Procurement Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland, and to provide any documents relevant to any investigation that is requested by the State. Contractor understands that violation of this clause is a material breach of this Contract and may result in contract termination, disqualification by the State from participating in State contracts, and other sanctions.

34. Prompt Pay Requirements

34.1 If a Contractor withholds payment of an undisputed amount to its subcontractor, the Agency, at its option and in its sole discretion, may take one or more of the following actions:

- 34.1.1. Not process further payments to the Contractor until payment to the subcontractor is verified
- 34.1.2 Suspend all or some of the contract work without affecting the completion date(s) for the contract work;
- 34.1.3 Pay or cause payment of the undisputed amount to the subcontractor from monies otherwise due or that may become due;
- 34.1.4 Place a payment for an undisputed amount in an interest-bearing escrow account; or
- 34.1.5 Take other or further actions as appropriate to resolve the withheld payment.

34.2 An "undisputed amount" means an amount owed by a contractor to a subcontractor for which there is no good faith dispute. Such "undisputed amounts" include (a) retainage which had been withheld and is, by the terms of the agreement between the contractor and subcontractor, due to be distributed to the subcontractor and (b) an amount withheld because of issues arising out of an agreement or occurrence unrelated to the agreement under which the amount is withheld.

34.3 An act, failure to act, or decision of a Procurement Officer or a representative of the Department concerning a withheld payment between a contractor and subcontractor under this policy directive, may not:

- 34.3.1 Affect the rights of the contracting parties under any other provision of law;
- 34.3.2 Be used as evidence on the merits of a dispute between the Department and the contractor in any other proceeding; or
- 34.3.3 Result in liability against or prejudice the rights of the Department.



34.4 The remedies enumerated above are in addition to those provided under COMAR 21,11.03.13 with respect to subcontractors that have contracted pursuant to the Minority Business Enterprise program.

34.5 To ensure compliance with certified MBE subcontract participation goals, the Department may, consistent with COMAR 21,11.03.13, take the following measures:

- 34.5.1 Verify that the certified MBEs listed in the MBE participation schedule actually are performing work and receiving compensation as set forth in the MBE participation schedule.
- 34.5.2 This verification may include, as appropriate:
 - 34.5.2.1 Inspecting any relevant records of the contractor;
 - 34.5.2.2 Inspecting the jobsite; and
 - 34.5.2.3 Interviewing subcontractors and workers.
 - 34.5.2.4 Verification shall include a review of:
 - 34.5.2.4.1 The contractor's monthly report listing unpaid invoices over 30 days old from certified MBE subcontractors and the reason for nonpayment; and
 - 34.5.2.4.2 The monthly report of each certified MBE subcontractor, which lists payments received from the contractor in the preceding 30 days and invoices for which the subcontractor has not been paid.
- 34.5.3 If the Department determines that a contractor is in noncompliance with certified MBE participation goals, then the Department will notify the contractor in writing of its findings, and will require the contractor to take appropriate corrective action. Corrective action may include, but is not limited to, requiring the contractor to compensate the MBE for work performed as set forth in the MBE participation schedule.
- 34.5.4 If the Department determines that a contractor is in material noncompliance with MBE contract provisions and refuses or fails to take the corrective action that the Department requires, then the Department may:
 - 34.5.4.1 Terminate the contract;
 - 34.5.4.2 Refer the matter to the Office of the Attorney General for appropriate action; or
 - 34.5.4.3 Initiate any other specific remedy identified by the Contract, including the contractual remedies required by this directive regarding the payment of undisputed amounts.
- 34.5.5 Upon completion of the Contract, but before final payment or release of retainage or both, the contractor shall submit a final report, in affidavit form under the penalty of perjury, of all payments made to, or withheld from MBE subcontractors.


IN WITNESS THEREOF, the parties have executed this Contract as of the date hereinabove set forth.

CONTRACTOR

By:  (SEAL) Date: 2-27-13
John Nelson, VICE PRESIDENT
Print Name and Title
202 
Witness/Attest

STATE OF MARYLAND

By: **DEPARTMENT OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY**

By:  Date: April 3, 2013
ELLIOT SCHWANGER, SECY, DEPT OF I.T.
Print Name and Title

EDWARD G. BANDETT
Wife 

Approved for form and legal
sufficiency this 3rd day
of April, 2013.


Assistant Attorney General

APPROVED BY BPW: April 3, 2013 1-IT
(Date) (BPW Item #)