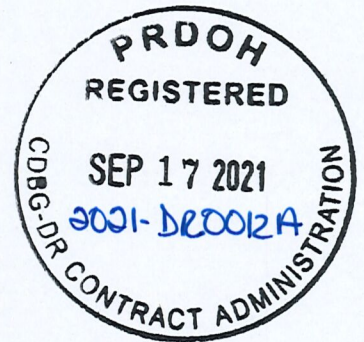


COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT – DISASTER RECOVERY (CDBG-DR)

**AMENDMENT A TO AGREEMENT FOR
LEGAL CONSULTING SERVICES
BETWEEN THE
PUERTO RICO DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING
AND
ERAS LEGAL SERVICES, PSC
Contract No. 2021-DR0012**



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THIS AMENDMENT A TO AGREEMENT FOR LEGAL CONSULTING SERVICES, (hereinafter referred to as the "Amendment") is entered into in San Juan, Puerto Rico, this 15 day of September, 2021, by and between the **PUERTO RICO DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING** (hereinafter, "PRDOH"), a public agency created under Law No. 97 of June 10, 1972, as amended, 3 L.P.R.A. § 441 *et seq.*, known as the Department of Housing Governing Act with principal offices at 606 Barbosa Avenue, San Juan, Puerto Rico, herein represented by William O. Rodríguez Rodríguez, attorney, of legal age, single, and resident of San Juan, Puerto Rico, in his capacity as Secretary; and **ERAS LEGAL SERVICES, PSC** (hereinafter, the "CONTRACTOR"), with principal offices in 434 Hostos Ave., San Juan, Puerto Rico 00918, herein represented by Enrique Rafael Adames Soto, in his capacity as President, of legal age, married, and resident of San Juan, Puerto Rico, duly authorized by Resolution by the CONTRACTOR (collectively, the Parties).

I. RECITALS AND GENERAL AWARD INFORMATION

WHEREAS, on September 16, 2020, the PRDOH and the Contractor entered into an Agreement, which was registered under Contract No. 2021-DR0012, for the performance of legal consulting services in connection with the CDBG-DR Program (the "Agreement").

WHEREAS, the PRDOH and the Contractor, agreed that, for allowable Legal Consulting Services performed during the term of the Agreement, PRDOH would pay a maximum amount not to exceed of **ONE HUNDRED SIX THOUSAND EIGHT HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$106,800.00)** ending on September 16, 2021.

WHEREAS, the Parties wish to amend the Agreement to extend the term until June 30, 2022.

WHEREAS, this Amendment also conforms the Agreement to federal, state, and local regulations and statutes.

WHEREAS, this Amendment A is not intended to affect nor does it constitute an extinctive novation of the obligations of the parties under the Agreement but is rather a modification and amendment of certain terms and conditions under the Agreement;

WHEREAS, the Parties wish to amend the Agreement, as amended, and become subject to the terms of the Agreement, as amended, and this Amendment A.

NOW THEREFORE, in consideration of the mutual promises and the terms and conditions set forth herein, the PRDOH and the CONTRACTOR agree as follows:

[Remainder of page left blank intentionally]

II. **AMENDMENT:**

- A. The Parties agree to amend **Article II. TERM OF AGREEMENT, paragraph A** as follows:

A. This Agreement shall be in effect and enforceable between the parties from the date of its execution. The Term of this Agreement shall remain in effect until June 30, 2022.

- B. The Parties agree to amend **Article XII. TERMINATION, paragraph G** as follows:

G. Period of Transition: Upon termination of this Agreement, and for **ninety (90) consecutive calendar days** thereafter (the Transition Period), CONTRACTOR agrees to make himself available to assist the PRDOH with the transition of services assigned to CONTRACTOR by the PRDOH. CONTRACTOR shall provide to the PRDOH the assistance reasonably requested to facilitate the orderly transfer of responsibility for performance of the Services to the PRDOH or a third party designated by the PRDOH. PRDOH reserves the right to provide for the execution of a Transition Services Agreement for the Transition Period. In such instance, the CONTRACTOR will be paid at a reasonable, agreed upon, hourly rate for any work performed for the PRDOH during the Transition Period. Moreover, during that Transition Period, all finished or unfinished records (files, data, work product) connected with this Agreement will be turned over to PRDOH.

- C. The Parties wish to update PRDOH's information on **Article XX. NOTICES** of the Agreement as follows:

To: PRDOH

William O. Rodríguez Rodríguez, Esq.
Secretary
Puerto Rico Department of Housing
606 Barbosa Ave.
Juan C. Cordero Dávila Bldg.
San Juan, PR 00918

- D. The Parties agree to replace **Article XXIII. CERTIFICATION OF COMPLIANCE WITH LEGAL REQUIREMENTS, paragraph k**, as follows:

K. Ethics. CONTRACTOR also acknowledges receipt and agrees to obey with the Anticorruption Code for the New Puerto Rico known in Spanish as "Código Anticorrupción para el Nuevo Puerto Rico".

- E. The Parties agree to replace **Article XXVIII. SECTION 3 CLAUSE**, as follows:

A. The work to be performed under this contract is subject to the requirements of Section 3 of the Housing and Urban Development Act of 1968, as amended, 12 U.S.C. 1701u (Section 3). The purpose of Section 3 is

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to ensure that employment and other economic opportunities generated by HUD assistance or HUD-assisted projects covered by Section 3, shall, to the greatest extent feasible, be directed to low- and very low-income persons, particularly persons who are recipients of HUD assistance for housing.

B. The parties to this contract agree to comply with HUD's regulations in 24 C.F.R. part 75, which implement Section 3. As evidenced by their execution of this contract, the parties to this contract certify that they are under no contractual or other impediment that would prevent them from complying with the part 75 regulations.

C. The contractor agrees to send to each labor organization or representative of workers with which the contractor has a collective bargaining agreement or other understanding, if any, a notice advising the labor organization or workers' representative of the contractor's commitments under this Section 3 clause, and will post copies of the notice in conspicuous places at the work site where both employees and applicants for training and employment positions can see the notice. The notice shall describe the Section 3 preference, shall set forth minimum number and job titles subject to hire, availability of apprenticeship and training positions, the qualifications for each; the name and location of the person(s) taking applications for each of the positions; and the anticipated date the work shall begin.

D. The contractor agrees to include this Section 3 clause in every subcontract subject to compliance with regulations in 24 C.F.R. part 75 and agrees to take appropriate action, as provided in an applicable provision of the subcontract or in this Section 3 clause, upon a finding that the subcontractor is in violation of the regulations in 24 C.F.R. part 75. The contractor will not subcontract with any subcontractor where the contractor has notice or knowledge that the subcontractor has been found in violation of the regulations in 24 C.F.R. part 75.

E. The contractor acknowledges that subrecipients, contractors, and subcontractors are required to meet the employment, training, and contraction requirements of 24 CFR 75.19, regardless of whether Section 3 language is included in recipient or subrecipient agreements, program regulatory agreements, or contracts.

F. The contractor will certify that any vacant employment positions, including training positions, that are filled (1) after the contractor is selected but before the contract is executed, and (2) with persons other than those to whom the regulations of 24 C.F.R. part 75 require employment opportunities to be directed, were not filled to circumvent the contractor's obligations under 24 C.F.R. part 75.

G. Noncompliance with HUD's regulations in 24 C.F.R. part 75 may result in sanctions, termination of this contract for default, and debarment or suspension from future HUD assisted contracts.

H. With respect to work performed in connection with Section 3 covered Indian housing assistance, section 7(b) of the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act (46 U.S.C. § 5307) also applies to the work to be performed under this contract. Section 7(b) requires that to the greatest extent feasible (i) preference and opportunities for training and

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employment shall be given to Indians, and (ii) preference in the award of contracts and sub contracts shall be given to Indian organizations and Indian-owned Economic Enterprises. Parties to this contract that are subject to the provisions of Section 3 and section7(b) agree to comply with Section 3 to the maximum extent feasible, but not in derogation of compliance with section7(b).

- I. The Contractor agrees to submit, and shall require its subcontractors to submit to them, quarterly reports to the PRDOH detailing the total number of labor hours worked on the Section 3 Project, the total number of labor hours worked by Section 3 Workers, and the total number of hours worked by Targeted Section 3 Workers, and any affirmative efforts made during the quarter to direct hiring efforts to low- and very low-income persons, particularly persons who are Section 3 Workers and Targeted Section 3 Workers.

- F. The Parties agree to replace **Article XLVI. CONSOLIDATIONS, MERGERS, OR DISSOLUTIONS**, as follows:

**XLVI. CONSOLIDATIONS, MERGERS, CHANGE OF NAME
OR DISSOLUTIONS**

A. Consolidation or Merger

In the event that the signing party (e.g. Subrecipient, Contractor, or Subcontractor) of the Agreement with the PRDOH moves for a consolidation or merger with another entity (private or public), by its discretion or otherwise, written notice of such decision or event shall be delivered to the PRDOH **at least fifteen (15) business days prior to the effective date** of the consolidation or merger. The notice shall include, but not limited to, a description of: the expected effective date of the consolidation or merger; name of each of the constituent entities moving to consolidate or merge into the single resulting or surviving entity; the proposed name of the resulting entity (in case of a consolidation) or the name of the surviving entity (in case of a merger) if necessary; reference to the projected capacity of the resulting or surviving entity to comply with the terms, conditions, obligations, tasks, services, and performance goals or requirements included in the Agreement as well as its Exhibits or Attachments; and a brief summary of the proposed plan to achieve the transition of duties (Scope of Work or Scope of Services), tasks, and performance goals or requirements to the resulting or surviving entity.

Upon the consolidation or the merger becoming effective, and supporting evidence of such event is notified to PRDOH, execution of an Amendment to the Agreement may follow. The Amendment would include, but not limited to, modifications to the clauses that refer to the identity, personal circumstances, address, and any other information related to the signing party deemed relevant by PRDOH for the execution of the Amendment. **No amendment to the Agreement will be necessary if the Subrecipient, Contractor, or Subcontractor becomes the surviving entity following a merger.**

Failure to comply with any of the before mentioned conditions, may result in the activation of the termination clauses provided in the Agreement.

B. Change of Name

In the event that the signing party (e.g. Subrecipient, Contractor, or Subcontractor) of the Agreement with the PRDOH initiates a change of name process, written notice of such decision or event shall be

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delivered to the PRDOH **at least fifteen (15) business days** prior to the effective date of such event. The notice shall include, but not limited to, a description of: the expected effective date of the change of name; the proposed name; inform of any change of address; and reference of any change in the capacity of the entity to comply with the terms, conditions, obligations, tasks, services, and performance goals or requirements included in the Agreement, as well as its Exhibits or Attachments.

Upon the change of name becoming effective, and supporting evidence of such event is notified to PRDOH, execution of an Amendment to the Agreement may follow. The Amendment would include, but not limited to, modifications to the clauses that refer to the identity, personal circumstances, address, and any other information related to the signing party deemed relevant by PRDOH for the execution of the Amendment.

Failure to comply with any of the before mentioned conditions, may result in the activation of the termination clauses provided in the Agreement.

C. Dissolution

In the event that the signing party (e.g. Subrecipient, Contractor, or Subcontractor) of the Agreement with the PRDOH moves for dissolution of the entity, written notice of such decision or event shall be delivered to the PRDOH **at least fifteen (15) business days** prior to the effective date of such event. The notice shall include, but not limited to, a description of the expected effective date of the dissolution; and contact information of one or more of its directors, officials or agents. Upon dissolution becoming effective, and supporting evidence of such event is notified to PRDOH, termination of the Agreement will follow. Consequently, the signing party acknowledges and agrees to provide to the PRDOH, after termination of the Agreement, the assistance reasonably requested to facilitate the orderly transfer of responsibility for performance of the tasks or services to the PRDOH or a third party designated by the PRDOH. Moreover, all finished or unfinished records (files, data, work product) connected with this Agreement will be turned over to PRDOH following the Agreement termination.

G. All other terms and conditions of the Agreement remain unchanged.

H. Each party represents that the person executing this Amendment A has the necessary legal authority to do so on behalf of the respective party.

III. **HEADINGS**

The titles to the paragraphs of this Amendment are solely for reference purposes and the convenience of the parties and shall not be used to explain, modify, simplify, or aid in the interpretation of the provisions of this Amendment.

IV. **COMPLIANCE WITH LAW**

It is the intention and understanding of the Parties hereto that each and every provision of law required to be inserted in the Agreement, as amended, should be and is inserted herein. Furthermore, it is hereby stipulated that every such provision is deemed to be inserted and if, through mistake or otherwise, any such provision is not inserted herein or is not inserted in correct form, then the Agreement, as amended, shall forthwith, upon the application of any Party, be amended by such insertion so as to comply strictly with the law and without prejudice to the rights of any Party.

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V. SUBROGATION

The Contractor acknowledges that funds provided through the Agreement, as amended, are Federal funds administered by HUD under the CDBG-DR Program and that all funds provided by the Agreement, as amended, are subject to audit, disallowance, and repayment. Any disagreement with adverse findings may be challenged and subject to Federal regulation, however, the Contractor shall promptly return any and all funds to the PRDOH, which are found to be ineligible, unallowable, unreasonable, a duplication of benefits, or non-compensable, no matter the cause. This clause shall survive indefinitely the termination of the Agreement, as amended.

VI. COMPTROLLER REGISTRY

The PRDOH shall remit a copy of this Amendment to the Office of the Comptroller for registration within **fifteen (15)** days following the date of execution of this Amendment and any subsequent amendment hereto. The services object of this Amendment may not be invoiced or paid until this Amendment has been registered by the PRDOH at the Comptroller's Office, pursuant to Act No. 18 of October 30, 1975, as amended by Act No. 127 of May 31, 2004.

VII. ENTIRE AGREEMENT

The Agreement and this Amendment constitute the entire agreement among the Parties for the use of funds received under the Agreement and this Amended Agreement and it supersedes all prior or contemporaneous communications and proposals, whether electronic, oral, or written among the Parties with respect to the agreement.

VIII. SEVERABILITY

If any provision of this Amendment shall operate or would prospectively operate to invalidate the Amendment in whole or in part, then such provision only shall be deemed severed and the remainder of the Amendment shall remain operative and in full effect.

IX. COUNTERPARTS

This Amendment may be executed in any number of counterparts, each of whom shall be deemed to be an original, however, all of which together shall constitute one and the same instrument. If the Amendment is not executed by the PRDOH within **thirty (30) days** of execution by the other party, this Amendment shall be null and void.

IN WITNESS THEREOF, the parties hereto execute this Amendment in the place and on the date first above written.

PUERTO RICO DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING

ERAS LEGAL SERVICES, PSC

William O. Rodríguez Rodríguez
William O. Rodríguez Rodríguez (Sep 15, 2021 16:43 EDT)

William O. Rodríguez Rodríguez, Esq.,
Secretary

Enrique R Adames Soto
Enrique R Adames Soto (Sep 14, 2021 17:06 EDT)

Enrique Rafael Adames Soto
President
DUNS No. 009636182









Amendment A to Legal Consulting Services

Final Audit Report

2021-09-15

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