

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

AMENDMENT A TO AGREEMENT FOR LEGAL SERVICES FOR FAIR HOUSING AND CIVIL RIGHTS COMPLIANCE BETWEEN THE PUERTO RICO DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING

AND Q.R. & ASOCIADOS, LLC REGISTERED
LIANCE
MAY 25 2022

OD 2021-DC036





THIS <u>AMENDMENT A</u> to AGREEMENT FOR LEGAL SERVICES FOR FAIR HOUSING AND CIVIL RIGHTS COMPLIANCE, (hereinafter referred to as the "Agreement") is entered into in San Juan, Puerto Rico, this 24 of May , 2022, 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 **Q.R. & ASOCIADOS**, **LLC** (hereinafter, the "CONTRACTOR"), with principal offices in 252 Ponce de León Avenue, Suite 901, San Juan, Puerto Rico, 00918, herein represented by Hilda Quiñones Rivera, in her capacity as Sole Member, attorney, of legal age, single, and resident of San Juan, Puerto Rico duly authorized by Resolution by the CONTRACTOR.

I. RECITALS AND GENERAL AWARD INFORMATION

WHEREAS, on May 24, 2021 the PRDOH and the Contractor entered into an Agreement, which was registered under Contract No. 2021-DR-0236, for the performance of Legal Services for Fair Housing and Civil Rights Compliance, for a maximum amount no to exceed of ONE HUNDRED TEN THOUSAND FOUR HUNDRED DOLLARS AND ZERO CENTS (\$110,400.00) ending on May 23, 2022.

WHEREAS, as per Article XL of the Agreement, the agreement may be amended in writing and signed by a duly authorized representative of each party. Nonetheless, the amendment shall not invalidate the Agreement, nor release the Parties from their obligations under the Agreement.

Whereas, The Parties wish to amend the Agreement to extend the term of the contract 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 this 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:

SCOPE OF THE AMENDMENT II.

The contract's one (1) year performance period is currently set to end on May 23, 2022, unless otherwise extended. The PRDOH may, at its sole discretion, extend the Agreement's term for an additional term upon mutual agreement of the parties. PRDOH wants to extend the performance period of the Agreement for an additional period, ending on June 30, 2022.

III. **AMENDMENT**



- The Parties agree to replace Section II (A) of the Agreement as A. follows:
 - A. This Agreement shall be in effect and enforceable between the parties from the date of its execution, ending on June 30, 2022.



- 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 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 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.
- C. All other terms and conditions of the Agreement remain unchanged.





D. 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. TERM OF THE AGREEMENT EXTENSION; ACT 237 OF AUGUST 31, 2004, AS AMENDED AND CIRCULAR LETTER 1300-16-16:

In compliance with the aforementioned Act, the Contractor will have fifteen (15) business days from the day of the signature of this Agreement to submit all the actualized documentation requested by the PRDOH in order to comply with Government contracting. The documentation includes, but is not limited, to the following:

- a. Two (2) certifications from the Department of the Treasury, (i) one on the absence of debt contributory, or existence of payment plan, and another (ii) certifying that it filed the taxes for the past five years
- b. A certification from the Municipal Revenue Collection Center on the absence of contributory debt or existence of a payment plan
- c. A certification from the Department of Labor and Human Resources on the payment of unemployment, temporary disability or social security insurance, as applicable.
- d. A negative debt certification from the Child Support Administration, as applicable.

If the contractor delivers all the requested documentation to the PRDOH, it will receive a notice to proceed from the PRDOH to start working. If the contractor fails to comply with this Section, the contract will be terminated.

IV. HEADINGS

The titles to the paragraphs of this Amendment A 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.

V. 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.

VI. 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.





VII. 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 C 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.

VIII. 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.

IX. 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.

X. 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)** calendar 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

Q.R. & ASOCIADOS, LLC

WILLIAM O. RODRIGUEZ (May 24, 2022 18:24 EDT)

Nilliam O. Rodriguez Rodriguez (May 24, 2022 18:24 EDT)

William O. Rodríguez Rodríguez, Esq. Secretary Hilda Quiñones Rivera (May 19, 2022 12:18 EDT)

Hilda Quiñones

Sole Member

AMENDMENT A Q.R. ASOCIADOS LLC

Final Audit Report

2022-05-24

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By:

Radames Comas Segarra (rcomas@vivienda.pr.gov)

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Signed

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