

CONSULTANT AGREEMENT FOR TIM PICKETT TO SERVE IN THE CAPACITY OF MENTAL HEALTH LIAISON FOR MADISON COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

WHEREAS, on November 4, 2024, by unanimous vote of the Madison County Board of Supervisors, Mr. Tim Pickett was selected to serve in the capacity of Mental Health Liaison for the Madison County Board of Supervisors; and

WHEREAS, as Tim Pickett is widely respected throughout the state and county for his knowledge, integrity, professionalism and expertise in the field of mental health systems management, and

WHEREAS, Tim Pickett is appreciated in Madison County for his abilities in the field of mental health treatment and processing, and for his cooperative working relationship with the Madison County Sheriff's Office (MCSO) in advising and assisting the MCSO and the MC Chancery Clerk during the commitment process for county citizens suffering from mental illness; and

WHEREAS, as the Madison County Board of Supervisors directed its counsel to draft a contractual agreement, in the nature of a consultancy, with Tim Pickett as Liaison for Mental Health in service to the Madison County Board of Supervisors and the citizens of Madison County, Mississippi, and as Tim Pickett has agreed to offer his services regarding the same, the terms and conditions of service shall hereinafter follow:

AGREEMENT FOR MENTAL HEALTH LIAISON

1. **PARTIES:** The Madison County Board of Supervisors agrees to retain and Tim Pickett, a citizen of Madison County, agrees to be retained to serve the citizens of Madison County, Mississippi, in the capacity of Liaison for Mental Health on behalf of the Madison County Board of Supervisors.
2. **INDEPENDENT CONSULTANT AND NOT AN EMPLOYEE:** Madison County and Tim Pickett both understand and agree that he will serve in the capacity of an "Independent Consultant" and not as a regular "employee" of Madison County Board of Supervisors, and will not be entitled to, or receive any benefits, as would normally be due to an employee of the Madison County Board of Supervisors.
3. **DURATION:** This Agreement will run for a period beginning December 1, 2024, and will terminate on December 31, 2027, at the end of the current term of the board of supervisors. This agreement may be extended beyond December 1, 2027, for successive one-year terms subject to the approval of the the existing board of supervisors.
4. **RETAINER FEE:** For services as Mental Health Liaison, Consultant will be entitled to a retainer fee of Sixty Thousand Dollars (\$60,000) annually, payable in equal installments on a monthly basis, over the life of the agreement, subject to the claims docket and approval process, as prescribed by the board of supervisors. On the anniversary of the first year, being December 1, 2025, Consultant will receive a 10% fee increase, being the annual sum of Sixty-Six Thousand Dollars (\$66,000.) and this sum will remain to be paid to him throughout the remainder of his initial term, unless changed by approval of the board of supervisors.

5. SCOPE OF WORK: As Mental Health Liaison, Consultant will perform, enact, assist, recommend, concentrate on, and generally be relied upon to work on all mental health treatment and commitment matters, including in the areas of “placement” of mental health patients, the securing of beds, working with the Madison County Sheriff’s Office in all said matters, as well as with the Madison County Chancery Clerk in the commitment process. Consultant will be available on a “24-7 basis” for all emergency matters related to suicide attempts, as example, and will be subject to the call of county law enforcement authorities, when and as needed. Consultant agrees to also be available to the supervisors for any advice or consultation related to the mental health practices within the county, and to attend board meetings when requested.
6. TERMINATION: This Agreement can be terminated by either party upon thirty-days written notice to the other party. Consultant should notify the County Administrator by email or letter of his intent to resign this Agreement.
7. DISPUTE RESOLUTION: If necessary, any resolution of conflicts shall be determined by the appropriate courts in Madison County, Mississippi.
8. ENTIRE AGREEMENT: This agreement constitutes the entire agreement between the parties. This agreement may only be modified in writing duly executed by the parties herein.

WITNESS OUR SIGNATURES, this the _____ day of November, 2024

For Madison County:

For Consultant:

 Gerald Steen President
 Madison County Board of Supervisors

 Tim Pickett

ATTEST:

 Ronny Lott
 Chancery Clerk