

**MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN
COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA AND
SERVICE EMPLOYEES INTERNATIONAL UNION, LOCAL 620
BARGAINING UNIT 20: DEPUTY PUBLIC DEFENDERS**

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**MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN
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BARGAINING UNIT 20: DEPUTY PUBLIC DEFENDERS**

Pursuant to the provisions of Government Code Sections 3500-3510 and Santa Barbara County Resolution 75-743, agreement has been reached between the County of Santa Barbara (hereinafter referred to as "County") and Service Employees International Union, Local 620 (hereinafter referred to as "Union") recognized as the majority bargaining representative for the following representation unit:

20. Deputy Public Defenders

It is the general purpose of this Memorandum of Understanding to promote the mutual interest of the County and its employees and to establish rates of pay, and certain other terms and conditions of employment.

SECTION 1. Recognition

Pursuant to the provisions of the County Employee Relations Resolution 75-743 and applicable State law, the County of Santa Barbara hereby recognizes the Service Employees International Union, Local 620 as the certified majority representative of the employees in the above representation unit. The term "employee" or "employees" as used herein shall refer only to employees employed by the County (excluding temporary or extra help) as well as such classes of employees as may be added hereafter through the provisions of the County's Employer-Employee Relations Resolution or applicable State law.

The Union agrees to provide the County's Human Resources Director with a list of Union officers and representatives who are authorized to meet and confer in good faith. The Union shall also provide the above officials with a list of all authorized staff representatives. In addition, the Union shall provide a list of stewards who can post materials on behalf of the Union. These lists shall be kept current by the Union.

SECTION 2. Non-Discrimination

The provisions of this Memorandum shall be applied equally to all employees covered hereby without discrimination because of race, color, sex, age and marital status (except as provided by law), disability, national origin, religious affiliation, sexual orientation, or Union membership or non-membership.

SECTION 3. Rights of the Parties

A. County Rights

The County retains, among other management rights, the exclusive right to determine the methods, means, and personnel by which County government operations are to be conducted, as well as to exercise complete control and discretion over its organization, operations, and technology of performing its work; to determine the mission, function and necessity of all or part of each of its constituent departments, boards and commissions and take all necessary actions to carry out their mission, functions and necessity, or any part thereof, as well as set standards of service to the public.

It also retains the sole right to administer the Civil Service system, to classify or reclassify positions, add or delete positions or classes to or from the Salary Ordinance; to establish standards for employment, promotion, and transfer of employees; to direct its employees, establish rules and regulations, take disciplinary action for proper cause, to establish work schedules and work assignments, contract out work, transfer work out of the unit, and to relieve its employees from duty for lack of work or other legitimate reasons. The County retains the right to be the sole judge, subject to its Civil Service Rules and Procedures, of the qualification and competence of its officers and employees.

Before implementing any decisions to contract out work or to transfer work out of the unit, the County shall notify the Union and upon request, negotiate the decision and the impact of such decision on employees' terms and conditions of employment, to the extent such terms and conditions are within the scope of representation.

For purposes of this agreement, "contracting out work" and "transferring work out of the unit" refer to situations in which the County decides to contract out or transfer work out of the unit pursuant to State law which was provided by County employees in June 1989 and which results in the layoff, reduction in hours or otherwise directly impacts the wages, hours or other terms and conditions of employment (within scope of representation) of County employees. Furthermore, "contracting out work" and "transferring work out of the unit", shall also refer to situations in which vacant bargaining unit positions are contracted out or transferred out of the unit.

If the Union requests to negotiate a decision to contract out work or transfer work out of the unit, the subjects of bargaining shall include: the reasons, the expected financial impact and the anticipated impact on the quality of services provided.

The County shall have the right to initiate the foregoing contracting out procedure three times during each year: specifically, the County will give notice of a desire to contract out work performed by Local 620 represented employees only in the months of July, October and February. If the decision to contract out services would result in an employee being subject to layoff, the contract shall not be implemented any earlier than 30 days after notice to the Union, unless the parties mutually agree.

The County reserves the right to take whatever action may be necessary in an emergency situation; however, a Recognized Employee Organization affected by the

action shall be notified promptly of any such emergency action which affects matters within the scope of the representation.

This section is not intended to restrict consultation with employees or employee representatives about the practical consequences that decisions on these matters may have on wages, hours and other terms and conditions of employment.

B. Employee Rights

Employees of the County shall have the right to form, join, and participate in the activities of employee organizations of their own choosing for the purpose of representation of all matters of employee relations. Employees shall also have the right to represent themselves individually in their employment relations with the County. No employee shall be interfered with, intimidated, restrained, coerced, unduly influenced or discriminated against because of his/her exercise of these rights.

Members of the Santa Barbara County Chapter Board shall be allowed up to forty (40) hours of time off without loss of pay each calendar year to attend SEIU Local 620 Chapter Board meetings dealing with MMBA issues between the parties.

Management employees shall not represent non-management employees on matters within the scope of representation. Confidential employees shall not represent non-confidential employees on matters within the scope of representation. This provision does not otherwise limit the right of confidential employees to be members of and to hold office in employee organizations of their choice.

Employees' rights and obligations regarding use of the County's computers and computing resources are governed by the County's Acceptable Use Policy. The parties agree that occasional and incidental use of County computing resources for union business is allowable within the parameters of the Acceptable Use Policy, so long as such use does not interfere with the performance of work duties, the effective delivery of services, result in any cost to the County, or unduly compromise the security of County systems.

SECTION 4. Union Security

- A. The County will deduct the dues and insurance premiums from employees in the above-mentioned representation unit who have authorized said dues deductions and insurance premiums in writing on forms prescribed by the Auditor-Controller and will transmit such deductions to the Union.

The County shall provide deduction reports including: deduction code, employee name, employee ID number, budget unit, bargaining unit, salary range number, pay step, amount deducted, year to date deductions and LOA status.

- B. Payroll/Dues deductions from employees represented by the Union shall be changed

quarterly by the County upon written authorization from the Union, when authorized in advance by the employee. Payroll deductions for Union insurance and benefit programs shall be changed by the County upon written authorization from the Union when authorized in advance by the employee.

- C. Maintenance of Membership - All regular unit employees who on the effective date of this MOU are members of the Union in good standing and all such employees who thereafter voluntarily become members of the Union shall maintain their membership in the Union in good standing during the term of this MOU, subject however, to the right to resign from membership during Pay Period 17 annually.

The County will not honor cancellations of dues deductions for employees covered by this Agreement during the term of the MOU except during the window period specified above. Any Union member may exercise his/her right to resign by submitting a notice in writing to the Union and to the County during the resignation period.

When the Auditor-Controller receives a written request to cancel membership in the Union, the Auditor will promptly fax a copy of the notice to the Union. If the Auditor-Controller does not receive notice from the employee that he/she has rescinded the cancellation request within four (4) work days of faxing the request to the Union, the Department will proceed to implement the dues cancellation. The Auditor-Controller will accept oral requests from the employee to rescind the notice provided the employee subsequently confirms the rescission in writing.

Cancellation forms received by the County from employees covered by this Agreement outside of the resignation period described above shall be transmitted to the Union in the usual manner and time frames. The Union shall then promptly provide any and all members for whom it has received a cancellation form a letter explaining the Maintenance of Membership provision, a copy of the MOU and a reference to this Section of the agreement describing the window period. The County shall refrain from any notice regarding the window period, but may respond to questions from employees.

Union members who cancel their membership during the term of this MOU shall be required to pay an agency fee if an agency shop provision is in effect in the unit member's bargaining unit, unless the employee qualifies for a religious exemption set forth under subsection D(3) below.

- D. Agency Shop

Agency shop as used in this section means an organizational security agreement as defined in Government Code Section 3502.5 and applicable law.

- 1. Implementation Elections - These agency shop provisions shall only go into effect in one or more units if a majority of those unit members actually voting in an agency shop election so vote.

The parties shall, upon request by the Union, jointly participate in scheduling secret ballot agency shop elections. The elections shall be tallied separately by bargaining unit. These elections shall be by secret mail ballot conducted by the State Mediation and Conciliation Service. The Union shall bear all costs of conducting implementation elections. The Union shall have the right to one implementation election per eligible bargaining unit per year_during the term of this agreement.

2. Agency Fees - Following the State Mediation and Conciliation Service's certification of approval of agency shop election results, each employee in such a bargaining unit shall be required within thirty 30 days of notice by the union describing their rights and obligations or, within thirty (30) days of his/her first day of employment in the unit, whichever comes first, to: a) become a member in good standing of the Union; or, b) satisfy the agency fee financial obligations set forth below, unless he/she qualifies for the religious exemption set forth in subsection 3 below.

These obligations apply to all employees assigned to such bargaining units, whether the assignment is a result of hire, transfer, or reassignment.

Unless the employee has: a) voluntarily submitted to the County an effective dues deduction request; b) individually made direct financial arrangements satisfactory to the Union as evidenced by notice of the same by the Union to the County; or, c) qualified for exemption upon religious grounds as provided below, upon notice from the Union the County shall process a mandatory agency fee payroll deduction in the appropriate amount and forward that amount to the Union.

The amount of the fee to be charged shall be determined by the Union subject to applicable law; and shall therefore be an amount not to exceed the normal periodic membership dues, initiation fee, and general assessments applicable to Union members.

As to non-members objecting to the Union spending their agency fee on matters unrelated to collective bargaining and contract administration, the amount of the agency fee charged shall not reflect expenditures which the Courts have determined to be non-chargeable, including political contributions to candidates and parties, members only benefits, charitable contributions and ideological expenditures and, to the extent prohibited by law, shall not reflect expenditures for certain aspects of lobbying, ballot measures, publications, organizing and litigation.

The Union shall comply with applicable law regarding disclosure and allocation of its expenses, notice to employees of their right to object, provision for agency fee payers to challenge the Union's determinations of

amounts chargeable to the objecting non-members, and appropriate escrow provisions to hold contested amounts while the challenges are underway.

The Union shall make available, at its expense, an expeditious administrative appeals procedure to unit employees who object to the payment of any portion of the representation service fee. Such procedure shall provide for a prompt decision to be made by an impartial decision-maker jointly selected by the Union and the objecting employee(s). A copy of such procedure shall be made available upon request by the Union to unit employees and the County.

The foregoing description of permissible agency fee charges and related procedures is included herein for informational purposes and is not intended to change applicable law. The County will promptly remit to the Union all monies deducted, accompanied by a list of employees for whom such deductions have been made.

The County will make every effort to distribute to each new employee in a unit in which an agency shop provision is in effect, a letter supplied by the Union which describes the agency fee obligation.

3. Religious Exemption from Agency Fee Obligations

a. Any employee who is a member of a religious body whose traditional tenets or teachings include objections to joining or financially supporting employee organizations shall not be required to meet the above agency fee obligations, but shall pay by means of mandatory payroll deduction an amount equal to the agency fee (proportionate share of the Union's cost of legally authorized representational services), to a non-religious, non-labor charitable organization exempt from taxation under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, as designated by the employee from a list provided by the County Auditor-Controller.

b. To qualify for the religious exemption the employee must provide to the Union, with a copy to the County, a written statement of objection, along with verifiable evidence of membership in a religious body as described above. The County will implement the change in status within thirty days unless notified by the Union that the requested exemption is not valid.

c. Any of the above-described payment obligations shall be processed by the County in the usual and customary manner and time-frames.

4. Leave Without Pay/Temporary Assignment Out of Unit - Employees on an unpaid leave of absence or temporarily assigned out of a unit covered by an agency shop agreement for an entire pay period or more shall have agency

shop fees suspended for the period of the leave or temporary assignment only and such an employee shall have agency fees reinstated upon return. Fee deductions shall have the same priority as dues deductions in the current hierarchy for partially compensated pay periods.

5. Rescission of Agency Shop - An agency shop provision may be rescinded pursuant to the provisions contained in Government Code Section 3502.5(b). Rescission elections shall be conducted by the State Mediation and Conciliation Service using procedures utilized for implementation elections, e.g., secret mail ballot, limitation on voting period, posting of notices, limits on employer communications, etc. The County shall bear all costs of conducting rescission elections.
 6. Indemnification/Hold Harmless Clause - The Union agrees to fully indemnify and defend the County and its officers, employees and agents against any and all claims, proceedings and liability arising, directly or indirectly out of any action taken or not taken by or on behalf of the County under this Section.
 7. The parties agree that Bargaining Unit 20 shall participate in agency shop provisions.
- E. The Union agrees to indemnify, defend, and hold the County harmless against any claims made of any nature and against any suit instituted against the County arising from its check off for the dues, insurance or benefit programs of the Union, or its failure to do so.
 - F. The County will provide a copy of the new hire list, termination list, and bargaining unit change list each pay period to the Union. The lists will include employee name, date of hire/termination/or bargaining unit change, work city code, classification code, department code, and representation unit code. For this service the Union agrees to reimburse the incurred costs of \$52 per fiscal year to the County.
 - G. The County agrees to provide the Union with mailing labels containing the names, department name, job class title and number and worksite location code for all employees within Union represented units once each fiscal year during the term of this agreement. The Union agrees to pay the incurred cost of \$50.00 each year for these mailing labels. The County agrees to provide the Union with County e-mail addresses for represented employees and to update the list quarterly upon request from the Union.
 - H. The County agrees to provide the Union, upon request and once per year, a listing of non-objecting unit members' names and home addresses. Objecting employees shall utilize the procedure outlined in the sideletter between the parties on this subject.
 - I. The Union shall have the right to make a twenty (20) minute presentation to new hires at scheduled Countywide orientations. The presentation shall not include any

statements or materials of a defamatory nature. The Union presentation shall be scheduled as the first order of business after the lunch break.

SECTION 5. Bulletin Boards

- A. The County shall provide designated bulletin board space on existing bulletin boards for the Union, the size and location to be determined jointly by departmental management and the Union. All materials to be posted must be non-defamatory in nature, must be approved and signed by a Union official and shall be used for the following subjects:
 - 1. Union recreational, social and related news bulletins;
 - 2. Scheduled meetings;
 - 3. Information concerning Union elections or the results thereof;
 - 4. Reports of official business of the Union, including reports of committee or the Board of Directors.
- B. In cases where the Union, in whole or part, represents more than one bargaining unit at a work location, the space described above will become the bulletin board space for all employees represented by the Union at the work location.
- C. The Union may continue to maintain and use the two (2) bulletin boards previously placed in the Administration Building and the North County Cook Street Office. The use of these bulletin boards shall be governed by A above.

SECTION 6. Maintenance of Benefits

Except as set forth in this Memorandum of Understanding, and unless the Union agrees to reopen negotiations on a particular bargaining subject, the County and the Union agree that there shall be no changes during the life of this Memorandum of Understanding in the wage rates, benefits, or other terms and conditions of employment subject to the meet and confer process established by this Memorandum of Understanding or by any County Regulation, Ordinance or Resolution, except by mutual agreement of the parties, or as required by Federal or State law or regulations. The County agrees to meet and confer with the Union on discretionary matters where mandatory changes in Federal or State law would significantly affect terms and conditions of employment within the scope of representation for employees covered by this Memorandum of Understanding.

The County or the Department shall notify the Union of any proposed change in County Rules, Regulations, Ordinances or Resolutions on subjects which are beyond the scope of the meet and confer process, but the practical application of which directly affects employees represented by the Union. The County agrees to meet and consult with the Union on any such proposals, upon request of the Union.

SECTION 7. Voluntary Furlough

Employees may participate in a voluntary furlough program. The program is contained in a letter of understanding between the parties and is set forth in the attached appendix.

SECTION 8. Medical and Dental Coverage

- A. For new employees, medical and dental coverage benefits under this Section shall be effective at the beginning of the month that immediately follows the employee's first pay period of employment in a regular position. Part-time employees must be employed a minimum of fifty percent (50%) of full-time in order to be eligible for insurance benefits.
- B. Preferred Provider Organization (PPO), Health Maintenance Organization (HMO) and Exclusive Provider Organization (EPO) medical plans and County Self-funded and HMO dental plans shall be available to employees.
- C. The County shall contribute up to \$226.92 twice monthly toward the cost of the twice monthly premium for employee-only medical coverage. The County shall contribute up to \$13.03 twice monthly toward the cost of the twice monthly premium for employee-only dental plan coverage. These contributions are based on full-time employment; part-time employees shall receive a prorated contribution based on their percentage of full-time employment. Insurance plan premiums that exceed the County's twice monthly contribution shall be paid by the employee through payroll deductions. During the term of this agreement, the County shall pay 100% (pro rated for part-time employees) of the least expensive EPO employee-only premiums.

Employees may select coverage from the following options:

Medical*

- EPO Medical Plan (s)
- PPO Medical Plan (s)
- HMO Medical Plan(s)
-

* All medical plans include employee assistance program coverage.

Dental

- County Self-funded Dental Plan
- HMO Dental Plan

- D. Employees may ensure their eligible dependents (including registered domestic partners as defined below) under the medical and dental plans listed in C above, in accordance with the rules and regulations applicable to obtaining said dependent coverage.
- E. The County's existing Labor/Management Health Oversight Committee shall include one voting Union representative or his/her alternate. Up to two employee representatives shall receive reasonable release time to attend committee meetings.

- F. Except as indicated above, the administration of the committee shall be governed by the committee members themselves. The Human Resources Director shall act as the coordinator for committee. Decisions reached and recommendations made by the committee shall be subject to the meet and confer process.
- G. The Union acknowledges that health insurance is a valuable benefit to employees and a major cost to the County and that the increase in health insurance costs is included in the cost of living index or CPI. The Union pledges its full cooperation to the County in the implementation of measures to control the costs of employee health insurance.
- H. The parties agree that, during the term of this agreement, upon notification by the Union that it has a proposal to present, the County and the Union will meet and confer regarding the subject of a Union-sponsored health plan.
- I. If two regular County employees are either a) married to each other or b) registered as domestic partners as specified below, and are both eligible for a contribution from the County toward employee-only medical and dental coverage, they may consolidate the County contributions toward the premium cost for “employee plus dependents” coverage held by one of the employees. In this situation, one employee (referred to below as the “spouse” or “partner”) becomes a dependent on the other employee’s (referred to below as the “primary employee”) medical and dental coverage.

In order to be eligible under this provision, all of the following conditions must be met:

- Both employees are covered by the same medical and dental plan;
- The spouse or partner is insured as a dependent on the primary employee’s medical and dental plan insurance;
- The spouse or partner has waived employee-only coverage;
- Both employees have authorized the consolidation of contributions on a form prescribed by the Human Resources Director;
- In the case of domestic partnerships, the employees must be so registered with a domestic partner registry maintained by a California city, county, the State of California, or a public jurisdiction in another state provided the affected employee(s) sign the County’s Declaration of Domestic Partnership form. Employees registering as domestic partners shall be responsible for all tax consequences of this benefit.

The amount of the consolidated contributions shall be that amount which would otherwise be contributed by the County toward the employee’s and the spouse’s or partner’s employee-only premiums for the respective medical and dental plans less the cost for participation by the spouse or partner in the Employee Assistance Program and the County’s healthcare advocacy program. The appropriate contributions shall be made by the respective departments employing each employee.

SECTION 9. Health Insurance Benefits During Medical Leave of Absence

Employees who are placed on a leave of absence resulting from a medical condition including injury, illness, pregnancy or childbirth shall receive the County contribution toward health plan coverage for a leave period up to eighteen (18) months. Premium amounts exceeding the County contribution and for dependents shall be the responsibility of the employee during the leave period. If an employee has paid leave accruals in excess of eighteen (18) months at the start of the leave, the County will continue to make its contribution toward health coverage while paid leave is being used and until such time as the paid leave is exhausted.

SECTION 10. Flexible Spending Account Plan

- A. All full-time and part-time employees in Union represented classifications shall be eligible to participate in the County sponsored Flexible Spending Account Plan.

The Flexible Spending Account Plan will include the following salary reduction options:

1. Pre-Tax Health Insurance Premium Option - for employees and their dependents;
2. Pre-Tax Health Care Spending Account Option;
3. Pre-Tax Dependent Care Spending Account Option
4. Pre-Tax Life Insurance Premium Option;
5. Pre-Tax Personal Accident Insurance Program;

These options are described in detail in the Flexible Spending Plan Legal Document which is available to all employee organizations. Compensation received in accordance with Section 11 (Benefit Allowance) may be used by employees to fund the options described above. All salary reduction amounts are included in base salaries for the purpose of computing retirement earnings and are subject to appropriate Internal Revenue Service regulations.

During the term of this MOU, either party may reopen negotiations on the feasibility of adding a Transportation Spending Account to the list of benefits available under this Section of the MOU.

The County shall meet and confer with the Union prior to revising the benefit options. The County agrees not to implement plan revisions unless a majority of recognized employee organizations agree to the proposed changes.

- B. Benefits selected under this plan cannot be changed during the plan year except for a change in family status consistent with the benefit change. Enrollment in the plan shall be offered on an annual basis at the beginning of the plan year. New employees may enroll within the first thirty (30) days of employment. Continued operation of the program shall be subject to County administrative procedures.

SECTION 11. Benefit Allowance

- A. The County shall contribute \$191.54 per pay period per full-time employee as a benefit allowance. Regular part-time employees are eligible for this allowance based on a prorated equivalent of their employment status. The benefit allowance, which is received in cash, has a primary purpose of allowing employees to fund employee and dependent health insurance costs. Employees may also use the allowance to fund options in the Flexible Spending Account Plan and/or receive the remainder in cash. This allowance will be paid on a biweekly basis to each regular employee based on the prorated number of non-premium hours paid in a pay period.

SECTION 12. Sick Leave

- A. Each regular full-time or regular part-time employee shall accrue sick leave at the rate of .0463 hours for each hour in a regular pay status excluding overtime, call-back and standby duty.
- B. Unused sick leave shall be cumulative from year to year, with no accrual limit.
- C. Sick leave usage may not exceed the employee's accrued sick leave balance reported on the Leave Report at the end of the pay period immediately preceding the pay period in which the leave is taken.
- D. A department head may require evidence in the form of a physician's certificate, or otherwise, of the adequacy of the reason for any employee's absence during the time for which sick leave was requested. Under no circumstances is sick leave to be used in lieu of, in addition to, or as vacation. The Auditor may require a physician's certificate from the department in order to determine correctness of payroll records.
- E. When a member of his immediate family is seriously ill or injured and requires his presence and attendance, an employee may be allowed by his appointing authority to use up to five days (40 hours) of his accumulated sick leave to attend such family member; provided, that not more than five days per year may be allowed for the illness or injury of any one member of the employee's immediate family. Notwithstanding the above limitations, subject to department head approval, an employee may exceed the five day limit to care for an immediate family member who has a catastrophic or life threatening illness as verified by a physician's statement.
- F. Up to a maximum of five days (40 hours) of his accumulated sick leave may be allowed by his appointing authority to an employee for absence from duty because of any and each death in his immediate family.
- G. For the purposes of Section E and F above, "immediate family" is defined as husband, wife, domestic partner, parent, step parent, brother, sister, child, step child, grandparent, grandchild, and mother-in-law or father-in-law of the employee.

- H. An employee may, when necessary and at the discretion of his department head, be granted up to two hours leave with pay to make voluntary nonremunerated blood donations to non-profit blood banks in the county. Time off in excess of two hours and up to an additional two hours may be used for this purpose, but such additional time off shall be charged to accumulated sick leave. Leave for the purpose of donating blood shall not exceed five times in any one calendar year.
- I. Each regular full-time or regular part-time employee with Accumulated Unused Sick Leave balances in excess of 240 hours as of September 17, 1978, will be eligible for sick leave pay off. Upon termination of employment from county services, 50% of the value of the Eligible Accumulated Unused Sick Leave hours will be paid at the employee's hourly rate in effect as of September 17, 1978. Eligible Accumulated Sick Leave hours are defined as the Accumulated Unused Sick Leave hours between 240 hours and 960 hours reported as of September 17, 1978, or if less, then hours reported at the time of termination.
- J. Any payment made under Section I above will be made only once to an employee in his work history with the County upon termination of employment. If an employee is subsequently rehired in the service of the County, incentive payment for Unused Sick Leave will not be applicable, and previous balances paid off upon termination will not be restored.
- K. Except upon Layoff in accordance with Civil Service Rule XI, termination of County employment shall abrogate all sick leave accrued to the time of such termination, regardless of whether such person subsequently re-enters county employment or service. Except as provided in Section I, no payment shall be made to any employee for unused sick leave accumulated to his credit at the time of his termination from county service.

SECTION 13. Family Care Leave

The County shall provide a Family Leave Care benefits program consistent with Sections 12945.2 and 19702.3 of the California Government Code. Specific details are set forth in the County Administrative Policies and Procedures Manual.

SECTION 14. Vacation

- A. For each hour in a regular pay status, excluding overtime, call-back, and stand-by, each regular full-time or regular part-time employee shall accrue vacation based on continuous County service as provided in the chart below.

<u>Continuous County Service</u>	<u>Hourly/Annual Accrual</u>	<u>Maximum Allowable Accrual</u>
0- 2 yrs. (0- 24 mo.)	.0463 hrs./ 96 hrs.	368 hrs.
3- 4 yrs. (25- 48 mo.)	.0616 hrs./128 hrs.	368 hrs.

5-10 yrs. (49-120 mo.)	.0731 hrs./152 hrs.	440 hrs.
11-14 yrs. (121-168 mo.)	.0847 hrs./176 hrs.	470 hrs.
15+ yrs. (169+ mo.)	.0962 hrs./200 hrs.	500 hrs.

- B. Annual vacation accrual may accumulate up to the Maximum Allowable Accrual provided for in the chart in A above.
- C. Notwithstanding the provisions of Sections A, and B above, an employee absent due to a work-related injury, receiving Workers Compensation Temporary Disability and unable to take vacation may accrue vacation above the Maximum Allowable Accrual. Following his/her return to work, the employee shall make every reasonable effort to promptly take vacation in excess of the Maximum Allowable Accrual.
- D. No payment in lieu of vacation shall be made to any employee except upon termination of employment. Terminating employees shall be paid for accumulated vacation as of the date of termination.
- E. An employee is not entitled to vacation credits or accrual unless or until they have been a regular employee for six (6) continuous months. Consequently, a person failing to complete such service receives no payment for vacation credits upon termination.
- F. Vacation shall not include any regular holidays taken during a vacation period.
- G. Employees may be required to take vacation with reasonable notice. In addition, employees may request vacation use. A reasonable effort shall be made to allow vacations to be taken at times convenient to the employee, so long as such use is consistent with the needs of the service and work load of the department. The County shall not administer this provision in an arbitrary or capricious manner.
- H. Vacation usage may not exceed the accrued vacation balance reported at the end of the prior pay period.
- I. At the time of appointment in units represented by the Union, employees appointed from outside Santa Barbara County government service from either a city, county, state agency, federal agency or special district, shall receive credit for their prior years' of public agency service toward their annual vacation accrual rate if that public agency service ended within six months of the date of County employment.
- J. In addition to any credit provided for in Paragraph J, above, permanent employees who separate from County service and then return may recoup their past service credit for purposes of vacation accrual under the following conditions:
 - a. Employees may be absent from County service no more than three consecutive years; and

- b. Employees must have left County service in good standing and their last two performance evaluation ratings prior to leaving County service must have been satisfactory or above.

Former service credit, in such cases, shall be combined with the new and current employment, in addition to any received in accordance with Paragraph J, above, in determining the employee's vacation accrual rates.

SECTION 15. Leave Donation

Purpose

To provide a mechanism for assisting employees who have exhausted paid leave due to a serious or catastrophic illness or injury. This provision allows a regular County employee to donate the monetary value of accrued vacation, holiday or overtime hours to a specific employee who has exhausted his/her own available leave balances. Serious or catastrophic illness or injury is defined as the employee's own adverse medical condition which requires the employee to be absent from work for more than twenty (20) consecutive work days, or a similarly debilitating illness or injury of the employee's immediate family member (as defined in Section 12, Paragraph G) requiring the employee's attendance.

Conditions

- A. To receive leave donations, an employee:
 - must have been employed in a regular position for a minimum of six months;
 - must be absent from work due to his/her own catastrophic illness or injury for more than twenty consecutive work days (as verified by a physician's statement), or be absent from work in order to attend his/her immediate family member who has a catastrophic illness or injury (as verified by a physician's statement); and
 - must have exhausted all earned leave balances (including sick leave [if related to the employee's own illness], vacation, overtime and holiday credits); except however, the appointing authority may approve the solicitation/acceptance of leave donations prior to all balances being exhausted, when the physician's statement and leave balances indicate the probable exhaustion of balances within two pay periods.
- B. Donated leave shall be changed to its cash value at the donor's base rate of pay and then credited to the recipient in equivalent hours of vacation at the recipient's base rate of pay.
- C. Donations:
 - are voluntary;

- are made from accrued vacation, holiday or overtime balances; donation of sick leave is not permitted; must be for a minimum of eight (8) hours, in whole hour increments; are irrevocable, and if any donated hours remain at the end of the recipient's catastrophic leave, they shall remain available for the sole use of the recipient; and
 - are taxable on the part of the recipient, in accordance with IRS regulations, and are subject to withholding as required by law.
- D. An employee may not donate more than eighty (80) hours to any other individual employee.
- E. The total donations received into his/her vacation balance by an employee shall normally not exceed 1040 hours; however, donations in excess of 1040 hours may be considered and approved by the recipient's appointing authority.
- F. Upon approval of a request for donations, the appointing authority (or his/her designee) shall, at the employee's request, post a notice of the eligible employee's need for donations on departmental bulletin boards accessible to employees; confidential medical information shall not be included in the notice. If the eligible employee is in his/her original probationary period, the notice will include a statement of that fact.
- G. Donations shall be administered according to procedures established by the Auditor-Controller, and requested on a form prescribed by the Auditor-Controller. Signed approvals of the receiving and donating employees must be properly provided before a donation is processed.
- H. Nothing in this section shall be construed to modify the employment relationship between the County and the receiving employee, or to restrict the County's management rights. Neither shall this section modify existing County rules, policies or agreements regarding unpaid leave of absence or family care leave.

SECTION 16. Salaries

There will be no merit step/performance-based increases for SEIU Local 620 represented employees in Bargaining Unit 20 during the term of this agreement.

SECTION 17. Salary Inequity Adjustments

- A. Once each year in February, the Union shall have the right to request that the County review the salary placement of up to twelve (12) classifications that meet one or more of the following criteria:
1. Significant turnover;
 2. Difficulty recruiting;

3. Internal misalignment with classifications(s) with similar responsibilities or duties;
4. Range or salary compaction; and/or
5. External misalignment with classification(s) with similar responsibilities or duties within the following jurisdictions:
 - a.) Comparison Counties: Marin, Santa Cruz, San Luis Obispo, Sonoma, Monterey, Placer, Solano; and,
 - b.) One or more relevant local public and/or private agencies including, but not limited to:

Cities of: Santa Barbara, Santa Maria, Lompoc and/or San Luis Obispo; Santa Barbara County Superintendent of Schools, Santa Barbara City College, Allan Hancock College, UCSB, California State Polytechnic University San Luis Obispo, Santa Maria-Bonita School District; Vandenberg Air Force Base; Cottage Hospital, Marian Hospital, Lompoc Hospital, Valley Hospital.

- B. Requests for review will including the following information:
 1. Class(es) to be studied;
 2. Which criteria set forth above are applicable;
 3. Supporting data that justifies the request;
 4. Any known or anticipated compaction or “ripple effects” created by an adjustment;
 5. Percentage increase proposed; and
 6. Estimated cost of salary inequity requested (including any known benefit cost adjustments).
- C. The Human Resources Department will conduct the review and provide copies of the results to the Union and the affected department(s). Following completion of the review or sixty days after the Union’s submittal of the information set forth in Paragraph B, whichever is sooner, and upon request of the Union, the parties shall meet and confer regarding the results. Costs of agreed upon salary inequity adjustments shall be in addition to any salary increases arising out of Section 16 (Salaries).
- D. The County agrees to provide the Union, upon request, reports indicating the number of positions allocated and filled within represented bargaining units.

SECTION 18. Administrative Leave

Employees in classifications exempt from overtime compensation are eligible for administrative leave in accordance with the following provisions:

- A. Purpose. Salaried employees are compensated for meeting the requirements and performing the duties of their job regardless of the number or scheduling of hours

worked. Such employees may be required periodically or routinely to work long or irregular hours, and to attend various meetings and functions outside of normal "business hours" to fulfill their responsibilities.

Due to standards of public accountability and the resulting need for all employees to account for all time for which they are compensated, the County has created a vehicle to record paid time off not charged to accrued leave balances when a salaried employee occasionally works less than his/her regular schedule. This paid time off is called administrative leave. The purpose of administrative leave is to provide a process for authorized leave time to record amounts to be paid to salaried employees when their pay period total regular hours plus any use of vacation, holiday or sick leave is less than their normal schedule (e.g., 80 hours for full-time employees).

- B. Approval Required. Salaried employees do not have a right to administrative leave. This leave is not an entitlement, is not related to hours worked (i.e., leave is not granted on an hour-for-hour worked basis), nor is it subject to accrual or payment for unused leave. Use is completely discretionary, upon approval of the department head. Department heads may approve administrative leave in recognition of extraordinary work assignments, excessive work time beyond normal work schedules or to reward outstanding individual performance.
- C. Procedure. Salaried employees, after having recorded any regular, sick leave, holiday and/or vacation taken as appropriate in a pay period, may use administrative leave with the approval of their department head. The department head may grant a salaried employee up to 80 hours of administrative leave per payroll year. The County Executive Officer may approve additional administrative leave upon the written request of the department head.

SECTION 19. Mileage Reimbursement

Employees who, when authorized by their department, use their personal vehicle for County business shall be reimbursed for each mile driven on County business. Said reimbursement shall be at the amount per mile exempted by the Internal Revenue Service for reporting of income.

SECTION 20. Standby Pay

Employees assigned to stand-by duty by their department heads shall be compensated and governed by the following:

- A. Standby (Duty Deputy) assignment requires that employees so assigned:
 - 1. be ready and take steps immediately to respond within a reasonable time to calls for their service;
 - 2. be readily reachable by telephone or paging device;

3. be readily reachable to report to work locations; and
 4. refrain from activities which might impair their ability to perform their assigned duties.
- B. Compensation shall be at the rate of \$450 per pay period and shall be paid in pay period in which the stand-by duty was performed.
 - C. No employee shall be paid for stand-by duty time and other compensable duty time simultaneously.
 - D. During the term of this agreement, upon request of the Union, the parties shall meet and confer on this Section.

SECTION 21. Bilingual Allowance

- A. An employee, whose duty assignments require regular and frequent use of bilingual language skills in English and either Spanish or Hmong or any other language including but not limited to American Sign Language shall be designated by the department head to receive a bilingual allowance. The department head shall designate the employee in writing to the Human Resources Director prior to being effective. The employee shall retain such bilingual designation only until a change in assignments is reported in writing by the department head to the Human Resources Director. Additional compensation for bilingual duties is payable as an allowance and not as part of basic salary, but shall be payable at the same time as a regular compensation. When a full-time employee is assigned by a department head to duties requiring regular and frequent use of bilingual language skills he/she shall receive an allowance of \$57.69 per pay period. When a part-time employee is assigned to bilingual duties, the bilingual allowance shall be prorated and paid on the same basis that the part-time position is filled and compensated.

Employees in classifications in which the primary responsibility is to interpret/translate between English and any other language shall not be eligible for this allowance.

- B. As used in this section, the phrase "regular and frequent" means at least once each working day, or at least five times each work week. Payment for the bilingual language skill is restricted to the actual needs of the position. An employee's ability to read, write, or speak a foreign language, occasional or incidental use of foreign language skills or the use of bilingual language skills other than for the purpose of meeting the requirements of the job shall not warrant a bilingual allowance.

SECTION 22. Holidays

- A. Holidays regularly observed by the County for represented employees are:
 - New Year's Day, January 1
 - Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s Birthday, 3rd Monday in January
 - Washington's Birthday, 3rd Monday in February

Memorial Day, last Monday in May
Independence Day, July 4
Labor Day, 1st Monday in September
Veterans Day, November 11
Thanksgiving Day, 4th Thursday in November
Thanksgiving Day Friday, the day after Thanksgiving
Christmas Day, December 25
One (1) Floating Holiday (see section B below)

- B. All regular employees in a pay status (including paid leave) for any portion of pay period one of each year shall be credited with eight (8) hours holiday leave. This holiday leave must be used during the payroll year and may not be accumulated from year to year. The floating holiday credit may be used in the same pay period in which it is accrued, subject to the provisions of Paragraph D below. Regular part-time employees shall receive a prorated equivalent.
- C. Holiday leave shall be subject to the approval and/or with reasonable notice taken at the direction of the appointing authority or designee.
- D. Each County holiday which falls on Saturday shall be observed on the preceding Friday; and, in this event, the Saturday shall not be considered as a holiday for purposes of compensation and/or time off. Each County holiday which falls on Sunday shall be observed on the following Monday; and, in this event, the Sunday shall not be considered as a holiday for purposes of compensation and/or time off.
- E. Regular employees leaving county service shall be paid all compensatory holiday time which has accrued but has not been otherwise compensated.
- F. In the following sections reference to eight (8) hours shall apply to regular full-time employees and in the case of regular part-time employee the eight (8) hours shall be a prorated equivalent.
- G. When a holiday falls on an employee's regularly scheduled work day, the employee shall be paid eight (8) hours cash payment for the holiday. When a holiday falls on an employee's regularly scheduled day off, the employee shall accrue eight (8) hours of compensatory holiday time.
- H. When an employee who is overtime exempt is required to work on a holiday which falls on the employee's regularly scheduled work day, the employee shall, in addition to eight (8) hours regular cash payment for the holiday, accrue compensatory holiday time on an hour for hour basis for all hours worked up to eight (8) hours.
- I. Employees who accrue holiday time shall take the compensatory time during the payroll year in which the holiday is accrued.
- J. In order to receive holiday compensation, an employee must be in paid status on the scheduled work day immediately prior to and/or after the holiday. Notwithstanding

the above, neither the first day of employment nor the last day of employment may be a holiday.

SECTION 23. Retirement

- A. The County offers the following retirement plans:
1. Employees Hired Before October 10, 1994

Contributory Retirement Plan, 2% at age 57 formula
(Plan 5A – Half Rates FAS-1)
 2. Employees Hired On or After October 10, 1994

Contributory Retirement Plan, 2% at age 57 formula
(Plan 5B –Full Rates FAS-1)
- B. The County may adjust the employee contribution rates to the Contributory Retirement Plans when such adjustments are based on an Actuary Report, recommended by the Retirement Board and approved by the Board of Supervisors. Prior to implementing employee contribution rate adjustments, the County shall give notice and upon request provide an opportunity to meet.
- The purpose of the meeting will be to discuss the implementation of the contribution rate changes. The effective date of the rate adjustments shall be in accordance with the applicable provisions of the County Employees Retirement Law of 1937.
- C. The Optional Non-Contributory Retirement Plan (Plan II) has been eliminated as an option for new employees and shall be maintained only for employees who elected to remain in Plan II prior to July 1999.
- C. The County shall implement a new retirement tier for employees hired on or after June 25, 2012 that includes the following components:
- 2% @ 61 ¼
 - Half-rates
 - FAS 3
 - 2% retirement COLA
 - Elimination of retiree medical program
- E. Effective January 23, 2012, the County will no longer pay up to \$80 biweekly, prorated for part-time employees, in employer retirement offset; paying that amount shall become the responsibility of employees.

Beginning on June 25, 2012, employees will pay up to one-half of the annual increase in Retirement COLA Normal costs, not to exceed a cap in their increased costs of 2% in any given year.

- F. Upon request of the Union, both parties will submit a request for a legal opinion to the Attorney General concerning the issue of calculation of Final Average Salary for part-time employees. If either (1) the Attorney General opines that one-year Final Average Salary is legally permissible for part-time employees, or (2) enabling legislation is deemed necessary by the Attorney General and such legislation is subsequently passed, then the County will obtain an actuarial evaluation of the cost of implementing one-year Final Average Salary for part-time employees and reopen negotiations on this issue.

SECTION 24. Deferred Compensation

- A. The County will continue to offer employees an opportunity to participate in a deferred compensation program. Except as provided in Paragraph B below, participation in the deferred compensation program is voluntary and permits employees to allocate up to a legally designated amount of their salaries into a deferred compensation plan.
- B. For employees in Bargaining Unit 20, the County shall contribute 0.24% of the employee's base salary each pay period into a 401(a) deferred compensation plan for the benefit of the employee. All employer contributions shall be immediately vested to the employee. Employees are responsible for the investment of assets in their individual account among the investment choices available and offered by the Plan Administrator. If an employee fails to direct any specific investment choice, the assets in his/her individual account will automatically be invested in the Plan Administrator's "general account." Specifics of the 401(a) Plan are contained in the Plan Document.

SECTION 25. License Renewal Reimbursement

Where the County requires that employees in a classification possess a license or certificate as an employment standard, the County shall reimburse employees for the cost of renewal of such licenses and certificates, including bar license dues, with the exception of Class C driver license.

If the employee leaves County employment during the licensing period, reimbursement shall be pro-rated (i.e., if fees have been paid in advance by the County, the employee shall be required to reimburse the County for the pro-rated portion of the fees through a reduction in the employee's final pay check).

Reimbursement for part-time employees will be pro-rated based on their percentage of full-time employment.

SECTION 26. Tuition and Textbook Reimbursement

- A. To the extent funding is available, the County shall, for those employees represented by the Union, provide for tuition and textbook reimbursement for regular full-time employees up to a maximum of \$500 per fiscal year and in accordance with administrative regulations governing this program as determined by the County. Only costs for textbooks required for approved courses shall be deemed reimbursable through this program. Before implementing any changes to the administrative regulations, the County shall notify the Union and upon request, negotiate the changes to the extent those changes are within the scope of representation.

Tuition reimbursement for regular part-time employees shall be prorated based on their part-time percentage.

Tuition and text book reimbursement provisions in effect in the Public Defender's Office prior to this agreement shall remain status quo through the duration of the agreement.

- B. Notwithstanding the above, the parties shall refer issues relating to program design, procedures and funding to the Labor/Management Collaborative for its consideration and recommendations to the Board of Supervisors.

SECTION 27. Transportation Demand Management (TDM)

Employees shall be eligible to participate in the County's TDM program and receive related benefits including the Alternative Commute Incentive.

SECTION 28. Performance Evaluations

Employees shall be given an opportunity to read and sign their performance evaluations prior to placement of the evaluations in the employee's official personnel files. It is acknowledged that the fact the employee has signed a performance evaluation does not necessarily mean the employee agrees with the evaluation, but that such signature shall be evidence of the employee's knowledge of the completed evaluation. The employee shall receive a copy of the performance evaluation within thirty (30) working days of the date of the evaluation. A performance evaluation may not be utilized by the County to affect an employee's job status unless and until the employee has been given an opportunity to review such evaluation. All unit employees shall have the right to use the County mediation program to appeal less than satisfactory performance evaluations.

SECTION 29. Classification Study Procedure

The parties reaffirm that the Human Resources Director retains the sole responsibility and authority for the classification of the various positions in the County service.

It is the intention of the parties that this section be included only to inform employees of established process and procedures to follow when requesting a classification study on their own behalf.

The request for a reclassification study by an employee who believes his position is misclassified must be submitted in writing through his department. Within thirty (30) days, the department will either return the request to the employee or forward it on to the Human Resources Director for his/her consideration. If the department returns the request to the employee, the employee may request that it be submitted to the Human Resources Department for consideration without the endorsement of the department. The Human Resources Department shall provide a written response to the employee's request in a reasonable period of time.

This section is not in any way modifying Section 418 (salary on temporary assignment out of class) of the rules of the Civil Service Commission. An employee's right to grieve this section shall be limited to allegations that the County has failed to comply with the procedures set forth herein.

SECTION 30. Civil Service Rules

The parties agree to continue discussion regarding modernization of Civil Service Rules, including possible revision of Civil Service Rule 912: appeals of discipline (Reduction, Suspension, Termination) to Binding Arbitration for final resolution, and appeals of discipline (Reduction, Suspension, Termination) to mediation prior to the final step of appeal. Changes shall be contingent upon mutual agreement and, if necessary, Civil Service Rules changes.

Either party may initiate negotiations on proposed Civil Service Rules (new or modified) which directly affect wages, hours and other terms and conditions of employment, to the extent such terms and conditions of employment are within the scope of representation. The parties agree that any changes proposed to Civil Service Rule Four "Compensation", which would diminish unit members' compensation or salary increases within the salary range would require mutual agreement.

It is agreed that any required negotiations over the proposed rule changes shall be concluded with the Union prior to presentation of proposed rule changes to the Board of Supervisors.

SECTION 31. Employer-Employee Relations Meeting

The County Executive Officer and the Union's Executive Director shall meet once per month (as requested), for one hour on issues of mutual interest. The County Executive Officer and the Union's Executive Director shall be entitled to one additional participant each. Other participants, if any, shall be subject to the mutual agreement of the parties.

SECTION 32. Labor Management Collaboration

The County and SEIU Local 620 desire to mutually encourage a cooperative, collaborative partnership approach to addressing and resolving workplace issues. Further, it is the goal of the County and the Union to provide an opportunity for labor and management to promote harmonious labor management relations through the productive resolution of issues at the department level.

To accomplish these goals, the County and the Union agree that upon the request of either party the Human Resources Director and Labor Representative(s) will meet to discuss and attempt to resolve issues. The Human Resources Director will involve appropriate departmental personnel as necessary.

SECTION 33. Safety

- A. The County recognizes its obligations to provide and maintain a safe and healthy working environment for its employees.
- B. The Union and County agree that it is in the best interest of all to provide a safe and healthy working environment and that this requires a cooperative effort by all concerned.
- C. An employee who observes an unsafe condition shall report the matter to his/her supervisor or other designee.
- D. Allegations regarding unsafe conditions shall be processed in accordance with the County's Safety Manual.
- E. The Director of General Services will work with the Union and other interested labor organizations/employee groups to establish a Safety Advisory Committee. The mission statement, operating procedures and membership of the committee shall be determined on a cooperative basis. Employee representatives will receive paid release time for committee activities occurring during the employee's work hours.

SECTION 34. Alternative Work Schedules and Job Sharing

- A. The County and the Union agree that under some circumstances, alternative work schedules (9/80, 4/10, and/or modified starting or ending times) may be beneficial to both employees and the County. Accordingly, employees may request to work an alternative work schedule. Such requests shall be subject to approval by County management. County management reserves the right to remove employees from alternative work schedules. To the extent possible, two weeks advance written notice will be provided to the employee. Employees shall not be removed from alternative work schedules for arbitrary or capricious reasons.

No sooner than January 2012, Local 620 may submit alternate workweek proposals for individual departments. County Employee Relations will arrange meetings with Departments regarding union proposals. If no agreement is obtained, Local 620 may appeal to the County Executive Officer or designee.

In addition, telecommuting requests by employees that are consistent with the County's Teleworking policy but are rejected by individual departments are also subject to appeal to the County Executive Officer or designee.

- B. Individuals interested in job sharing may submit a proposal to their department head for consideration. The department head may approve a job sharing arrangement under such terms and conditions as he/she deems appropriate consistent with this Memorandum of Understanding and applicable Civil Service Rules. If a job share is approved, the arrangement must be in writing and a copy shall be placed in the employees' personnel file maintained by the Human Resources Department. Participating employees are not guaranteed a right to return to their prior status.

SECTION 35. Grievance Procedure

Subsection 1. Purpose

- A. To promote improved employer-employee relations by establishing that grievances shall be heard and settled as informally as possible and as promptly and as closely as possible to the point of origin.
- B. The Union agrees to encourage an employee to discuss his grievance with his immediate supervisor. The immediate supervisor will, upon request of an employee, discuss the employee's complaint and attempt to adjudicate same at a mutually satisfactory time.

Subsection 2. Grievance, Defined

- A. A grievance shall be defined as a claim by an employee or group of employees adversely affected by an alleged violation, misinterpretation or misapplication of Memoranda of Understanding, department-wide policy or practice or County rules, regulations, resolutions, ordinances, or sideletters of agreement applicable to the employee except the following issues that provide their own means of administrative review:
 - 1. Appeals of disciplinary actions and appeals relating to Civil Service examinations shall be filed and processed pursuant to Santa Barbara County Civil Service Rules.
 - 2. Complaints relating to discrimination, occupational health and safety, Worker's Compensation, and Retirement Board matters shall be processed pursuant to established County complaint procedures in these areas.
- B. The Union recognizes management's right to establish policies governing the operation of the County departments. However, allegations also subject to the grievance procedure are those in which the complaint concerns as inconsistent application of policy where the inconsistency results in a denial of the employees' rights under those policies defined in "A" above.

Subsection 3. Basic Rules

- A. The procedure in this section shall be the exclusive means for the disposition of all written grievances arising under this Memorandum, and the County shall not be liable to the Union or to any employee in any respect except as may be determined under said procedure.
- B. Any employee (meaning a grievant), as that term is defined above, may file a grievance or may authorize by signature the filing of grievance on his behalf without fear of restraint, interference, coercion, discrimination or reprisal.
- C. Union stewards shall not be discriminated against in their employment relationship because of their activity in the investigation and processing of grievances on behalf of other employees. This section shall not be construed to confer any special privileges to Union stewards nor to relieve them of their obligation to fully perform all of the duties of their County position in a timely and competent manner.
- D. Formal grievance forms shall be made available to the employee through the Human Resources Department, other County departments and the Union, and all formal grievances shall be submitted on these forms. Any changes in the form shall be by mutual agreement.
- E. Formal grievance forms shall be complete upon filing and must explicitly specify the policy or the particular section of the agreement, rule, resolution, or ordinance, the violation of which is being alleged as the basis for the grievance. The remedy requested must also be specified. No modifications in the violation being alleged shall be made subsequent to filing unless mutually agreed to by both the County and the grievant, or his Union Representative.
- F. The employee has the right to the assistance of one Union steward in addition to the Union staff representative in the preparation and/or presentation of his written grievance. An employee is also entitled to represent himself individually at any step of the formal grievance procedure, provided, however, supervisory employees shall not represent non-supervisory employees where such activity results in a conflict of interest and further provided that the employee may not change his designation of representation other than designating himself during the grievance procedure. In the event the Union determines there is no violation or the proposed settlement is just, the Union is not under an obligation to represent a grievant beyond Step 3 of this procedure.

If the employee is represented in a formal grievance meeting, the department may designate a management representative to be present in such meeting.

- G. The grievant may withdraw the grievance at any stage of the formal grievance procedure by affixing his signature in the proper space on the

Human Resources Department's copy of the grievance form which shall then become a part of the Human Resources Department's records.

- H. If the employee's grievance is resolved at Step 1, 2, or 3 in the formal grievance procedure, as provided in subsection 7, the matter will be closed and the grievance resolved at that step. The grievant(s) concerned shall indicate acceptance of the resolution of the grievance by affixing his signature in the appropriate space indicated on the Human Resources Department's copy of the formal grievance form.
- I. By mutual agreement, the parties may revert the grievance to a prior level for reconsideration. In such an event, the grievant shall have the rights of appeal set forth in this section, if the grievance is not settled at the prior level.
- J. Employees with common supervision and with essentially identical grievances, including remedy, may initiate a single grievance. Employees with essentially similar grievances may be required, at the County's discretion, to consolidate to a single proceeding at Steps 3 through 6 of the formal grievance procedure.
- K. By mutual agreement, the parties may waive any step of the grievance procedure included in subsection 6 or 7.
- L. All terms used herein will have the meaning as defined in the County's Employer-Employee Resolution when used in connection with this document, unless the context indicates or dictates otherwise.

Subsection 4. Time Off for Processing of Grievances

The grievant and/or his Union steward shall be granted reasonable time off with pay from regularly scheduled duty hours to process a grievance, provided that the time off will be devoted to the prompt and efficient investigation and handling of grievances, subject to the following:

- A. Any grievant or his representative, when said representative is a County employee, shall not log compensatory time earned or premium pay time for any time spent in the processing or investigation of a grievance.
- B. When a grievant's Union Representative is a steward, the representative shall be employed in the same work unit or location as the grievant. When it is impossible to meet the foregoing condition, a grievant's representative who is a steward may be employed outside the same work unit or location, provided that said representative is no longer than thirty (30) minutes away, by the most practical and common mode of transportation, from the grievant's work location. This time limit may be waived by mutual agreement when the grievant is assigned to a remote work location. In no case shall County

vehicles be used for transportation in connection with the processing of grievances, nor will reimbursement be considered for use of private vehicles.

- C. Before performing any grievance work during scheduled duty hours a grievant or a grievant's steward shall obtain permission from his supervisor and shall report back to his supervisor when the grievance work is completed.
- D. A grievant or grievant's steward shall not leave his job to perform any grievance work unless his supervisor determines that his absence will not unduly interfere with the work of the unit in which he is employed. However, every reasonable effort will be made to grant such time off within two (2) working days and shall not be unreasonably denied for a period longer than three (3) days.
- E. When a grievant or any Union Representative must go into a section, department, or work unit to investigate or process a grievance, he shall be permitted to do so provided that:
 - 1. He explains the purpose of his visit, who he is visiting, and checks in and checks out with the supervisor on the section, department, or work unit, and
 - 2. Such investigation or processing does not unduly interfere with the work of the section, department, or work unit. However, an effort will be made to grant such access within two (2) working days and shall not be unreasonably denied for a period of longer than three (3) working days.
 - 3. Management retains the right to have a County representative accompany a Union Representative when he is granted access to County work sites.
- F. A County employee who has direct first-hand knowledge of the event giving rise to the grievance and whose testimony is necessary in establishing the facts of a particular grievance may be called as a witness in a formal grievance hearing. If the grievance hearing is held during the employee witness's work schedule, the attendance of such witness at the grievance hearing shall be conditional upon:
 - 1. Providing 48 hours' notice to their department of their proposed attendance;
 - 2. Such proposed attendance not unduly interfering with the operation of the department;

3. Needed witnesses up to 3 may attend mutually called formal grievance hearings on paid County time to present their testimony when necessary.

Subsection 5. Time Limits

- A. Time limits specified in Subsection 7 may be extended by mutual consent, in writing, of the grievant and/or the Union Representative, and the County.
- B. Failure by a grievant or the Union Representative to file an appeal within the specified time limits provided in Subsection 7, unless extended, shall constitute acceptance of the decision rendered at the lower level and the grievance shall not be subject to further appeal or reconsideration.
- C. Failure by management to respond to the employee's grievance within the time limit specified automatically grants to the employee or his representative the right to process the grievance to the next level.

Subsection 6. Informal Procedure

Any employee having a grievance should verbally present same directly to his supervisor in an effort to clarify the grievance and mutually achieve settlement. The initial presentation should be without the benefit of representation; however, one (1) subsequent presentation may be made with the benefit of representation.

The departmental management has the responsibility to:

- A. Inform an employee of any limitation of the department's authority to fully resolve the grievance; and
- B. Supply the employee with the necessary information to process his grievance to the proper agency, organization, or authority.

Subsection 7. Formal Procedure

Step 1: Immediate Supervisor

An employee may submit a formal grievance, on forms provided by the County as provided in Section 3, paragraph B, by filing one copy with his immediate supervisor and one copy with the Human Resources Department not more than ten (10) working days from the date of the action or incident claimed to be the basis for the grievance, or not more than ten (10) working days from the date of discovery of such action or incident, but in no event shall any grievance be accepted for consideration more than one year from the action or incident claimed as its basis regardless of the date of discovery. If the grievance is not presented within the time limitation herein provided, it shall be deemed not to exist. Within seven (7) working days of receipt of the

grievance, the immediate supervisor shall deliver his written decision to the grievant. Any grievance settled at this step shall be subject to the review and confirmation of the respective department head before the settlement may become effective. Such review will occur within seven (7) working days or the grievance shall automatically be moved to Step 2. In the event the department head does not confirm the settlement, the grievant may initiate Step 2 of this procedure.

Step 2: Department Head-Management Review

- A. If a grievance is not settled or an answer is not forthcoming, the grievance may be appealed in writing within seven (7) working days from the receipt of the decision of the immediate supervisor or his/her failure to respond to the department head.
- B. Within ten (10) working days of receipt of the grievance, the department head or his/her designee shall deliver his/her written decision to the grievant.

Step 3: County Executive Officer

If the grievance is not settled or an answer not forthcoming, the grievant and/or the Union Representative may appeal, in writing, within seven (7) working days from the receipt of the decision of the department head or within seven (7) working days from the expiration of the time limit for such decision under Step 2, to the County Executive Officer. Within ten (10) working days from receipt of appeal, the County Executive Officer, or his designated representative shall deliver his written decision to the grievant and the Union Representative.

Step 4: Mediation

If the grievance is not settled or an answer not forthcoming, the grievant and/or the Union Representative may require that the County enter into mediation regarding the grievance utilizing the California State Mediation and Conciliation Service. The mediation will be scheduled as soon as possible on a date mutually agreeable to the parties.

Step 5. Arbitration

- A. If the grievance is not settled or disposed of at Step 3, the grievance may be submitted within ten (10) working days, to the Human Resources Director for arbitration. Within ten (10) working days from receipt of the request for arbitration, the Human Resources Director shall request a panel of arbitrators from the State Mediation & Conciliation Service and provide the Union with a copy of the request. The Arbitrator shall be selected from a panel provided by

the State Conciliation Service. The hearing shall be conducted in accordance with the rules and regulations of the American Arbitration Association unless the parties mutually agree to other rules or procedures for the conduct of such arbitration.

- B. Except as provided in subsection E below, the fees and expenses of the Arbitrator shall be shared equally by the parties involved, it being understood and agreed that all other expenses including, but not limited to, fees for witnesses, transcripts, and similar costs incurred by the parties during arbitration, will be the responsibility of the individual party involved. Where the individual is representing himself, he shall be solely responsible for his share of the fees and expenses as outlined above.
- C. The Arbitrator shall have jurisdiction and authority to interpret the provisions of this Memorandum of Understanding. He shall not have jurisdiction or authority to alter, in any way, the provisions of this Memorandum.
- D. In relation to alleged violations of Memoranda of Understanding (including sideletters of agreement) and/or countywide rules, regulations, resolutions or ordinances, the decision of the Arbitrator shall be final and binding on both parties. In relation to alleged violations of department policy or practice, the decision of the Arbitrator shall be subject to Board of Supervisors review as provided in Step 5, below. Not more than one grievance shall be submitted to arbitration in the same proceeding without the consent of the parties, except that grievances that are based on the same set of facts which must necessarily be decided in the same way can be submitted in a single arbitration. If the Union fails, or the employee individually fails, refuses, or declines to demand arbitration of any such grievance, the affected employee or employees shall be conclusively bound thereby.
- E. Thereupon, the County and the Union shall endeavor to make a submission agreement, setting forth the issue or issues to be submitted to arbitration and any agreed stipulated relevant facts and principles. In the event of disagreement between the County and the Union, the issue or issues of the grievant as set forth in the written grievance shall be an issue to be submitted to arbitration.

In the event that there is a dispute as to arbitrability, the arbitrator shall hear that issue prior to opening the record on the merits of the dispute. If the arbitrator determines that the issue is not arbitrable the grievance will be dismissed and the matter considered closed. If the arbitrator determines that the issue is arbitrable, the matter will then

be set for hearing on the merits. The cost of the arbitrator for this threshold phase of the process shall be borne by the losing party.

- F. A grievance not appealed to arbitration within ten (10) working days after the County Executive Officer's, or his designated representative's, written disposition of the grievance, shall be barred for all purposes. The limits set forth herein may be extended by mutual agreement.
- G. In no event shall arbitration extend to:
 - 1. The interpretation, application, or legality of any federal, state or local law, however, if the Arbitrator, in his discretion, finds it necessary to interpret or apply such federal, state or local law in order to resolve the grievance which has been submitted to arbitration, he may do so.
 - 2. Matters under the jurisdiction of the County of Santa Barbara Civil Service Commission for which the Commission has established procedures or processes by which employees may appeal to, or request review by, said Civil Service Commission; however, if the Arbitrator, in his discretion, finds it necessary to interpret or apply matters under the jurisdiction of said Civil Service Commission in order to resolve the grievance which has been submitted to the Arbitrator, he may do so.
 - 3. The interpretation, application, or the legality of the rules or regulations of the department head, or the County Executive Officer, or any other county agency, or commission; however, if the Arbitrator, in his discretion, finds it necessary to interpret or apply such rules or regulations in order to resolve the grievance which has been submitted to the Arbitrator, he may do so.

Step 5: Board of Supervisors: Right to Final Decision (limited to alleged violations of department policy or practice)

With regard to alleged violations of department policy or practice, the Arbitrator's decision and award provided for in Step 4 shall be final and binding on the parties unless the Board of Supervisors, by majority vote, votes to set aside the decision and award of the Arbitrator within forty (40) days from the date of the issuance of the award and decision of the Arbitrator. In such event, the Board of Supervisors shall deliberate the grievance and, within a reasonable period of time (not to exceed forty (40) days), shall arrive at a decision which shall be final and binding. During such deliberations the County Executive Officer, or his designated representative, and the Union Representative shall make their presentations to the Board of Supervisors. Where possible, such presentations shall be

made within thirty (30) calendar days from the date of the issuance of the Arbitrator's award. In the event the Board sets aside the decision and award of the Arbitrator, the County shall pay the Arbitrator's fee. Each party to the arbitration will still be responsible for their own expenses and costs of arbitration.

SECTION 36. Employee Personnel Files

- A. All personnel files on an employee maintained by the County and the department will be open for inspection by that individual and his/her authorized representative at his/her request during business hours by appointment. He/she will be shown all contents of the file except those materials designated confidential by law. Copies will be provided to the individual upon his/her request.
- B. No material relating to performance appraisal or disciplinary action shall be placed in the personnel file of an employee represented by the Union without the employee first being given an opportunity to read such material and attach a reply if the employee desires, which shall remain with said material.
- C. Employees shall have the right to have commendations placed in their file upon request.

SECTION 37. Notice and Consultation Regarding Layoffs

The County agrees to consult with the Union when technological or economic changes occur which result in a substantial number of layoffs or would significantly affect the employees covered by this Memorandum of Understanding. The County shall also provide the Union with a designation of classes affected, the number of positions in the affected classes and an abstract of the employees in the classes affected by the layoff at least thirty (30) calendar days prior to the effective date thereof.

SECTION 38. State Disability Insurance (SDI)

- A. The parties shall continue discussions concerning SDI for employees in Bargaining Unit 20 during the term of this agreement.

SECTION 39. Long Term Disability Insurance

The parties shall continue discussions concerning SDI for employees in Bargaining Unit 20 during the term of this agreement. While discussions continue, Long Term Disability Insurance shall remain status quo for employees in Bargaining Unit 20.

SECTION 40. Term Life Insurance

Employees represented by the Union shall be provided with basic Group Term Life Insurance in the amount of \$20,000 paid for by the County. Part-time employees must be

employed a minimum of fifty percent (50%) of full-time in order to be eligible for insurance benefits.

SECTION 41. Rest Breaks

It is the County's intent that, whenever feasible, employees will receive a fifteen minute rest break for each four consecutive hours worked.

SECTION 42. Automatic Payroll Deposit

All employees covered by this agreement shall participate in the County's automatic payroll deposit program. Participation shall mean the employee's execution of a payroll authorization form and submission of a voided check or savings deposit slip to the Auditor's office. It shall be the employee's choice as to which bank he/she designates as the institution receiving the payroll funds.

When the authorization form is properly executed and filed with the Auditor, the County shall automatically deposit in the employee's designated bank account the net amount of pay each designated biweekly payday.

SECTION 43. Payroll Simplification

During the term of this agreement, the County may reopen negotiations on the issue of payroll simplification and/or modifications in compensation structure precipitated by the implementation of a new human resources and payroll system. If the County reopens negotiations on this subject the proposed changes will not be implemented unless the parties mutually agree.

SECTION 44. Leave of Absence Policy

Employees on leaves of absence shall use 80 hours (prorated for part-time employees) of leave balance up to the maximum hours of applicable leave in each pay period on a leave of absence. Except where they have less than 80 hours (prorated for part-time employees) of leave balance available, employees may not use partial leave balances to extend the number of pay periods they might otherwise remain in a paid status. Notwithstanding these restrictions on employees on leaves of absence, this article does not affect the ability of an employee who is not on a leave of absence to use sick leave, vacation leave, or holiday leave as provided for in Articles 12, 14 and 28 of this MOU.

During the term of this agreement, the County may reopen negotiations on the issue of a comprehensive leave of absence policy and related changes in terms and conditions of employment. If the County reopens negotiations on this subject, the proposed changes will not be implemented unless the parties mutually agree.

SECTION 45. Back To Work Program

- A. Employees who are unable to perform their regular duties due to injury or illness may be provided a temporary duty assignment in accordance with the Back to Work Policy.
- B. An employee who has returned to work from a work-related injury or illness (either in the Back To Work program or to his/her regular work assignment) will be granted paid leave not chargeable to the employee's accrued leave balances to attend medical appointments specifically related to the work-related injury or illness.

SECTION 46. Meet and Confer During Term

- A. The parties agree that during the term of the agreement, upon request of the County, the County and the Union will meet and confer regarding the subject of special duty allowances only. Provided, however, that the County shall not modify the special duty allowances specifically set forth in this agreement without mutual consent.
- B. The parties agree that during the term of the agreement, upon request of the County, the County and the Union will meet and confer regarding holiday-in-lieu pay for classifications represented by the Union. Provided, however, that the County shall not modify the holiday compensation practices specifically set forth in this agreement without mutual consent.

SECTION 47. Review of County Classification and Compensation Structure

During the term of this agreement the County and the Union agree, in collaboration, to review the County's current classification and compensation system. The review will include examination of public/private best practices as well as creative compensation strategies including incentives and skill-based pay. The intent of the review is to ensure that the County's classification and compensation system is contemporary and flexible enough to address the County's and the workforce's needs.

The Union and the County will determine the methodology of the review. Upon completion, the parties will make recommendations for potential improvements to the system. Any changes as a result of this review will not be implemented unless the parties mutually agree.

SECTION 48. No Strike Clause

Employees represented by the Union shall not take part in any strike, work action, or other concerted activity of any kind which will result in curtailing or restricting County services during the term of this Agreement.

The Union agrees not to sanction, encourage, or support any such strikes, work actions, or other concerted activity.

The term "strike, work action or other concerted activity" means any concerted failure to report for duty, any concerted absence from position (including sympathy strikes), any concerted stoppage of work, any concerted slowdown, sickout, refusal to work, interruption, call-in or failure in whole or in part to carry out the full, faithful, and proper performance of the duties of employment. The term "strike," "work action," "concerted activity" also means any participation in an action curtailing or restricting the operation of the County for the purposes of inducing, influencing, or coercing a change in the working conditions, compensation, and rights, privileges, and obligations of employment; provided, however, that nothing herein shall preclude employees from engaging in informational picketing or attending Union rallies so long as such activity does not curtail or restrict County operations.

In the event that a strike, work action, or other concerted activity occurs in violation of this Agreement, the Union shall, on written notice by the County, issue a statement addressed to the employees, a copy of which shall be delivered to the County, declaring the strike or other concerted activity not sanctioned, unlawful, and directing them to immediately return to work, or cease and desist.

In the event any employee covered under this Agreement violates the terms of the No Strike provision, the County retains the right to discharge or otherwise discipline any such employee.

SECTION 49. Conclusiveness of Agreement

- A. The provisions contained in this Agreement shall prevail over County practices and procedures and over State laws to the extent permitted by State law.
- B. This Agreement sets forth the full understanding of the parties regarding the matters set forth herein. Any prior Board resolution or ordinance, agreement between the parties, or any agreement between an employee (or group of employees) and a supervisor/manager, which is inconsistent with provisions of this Agreement, is hereby superseded.

SECTION 50. Savings Clause

Should any provision of this agreement be held inoperative, void or invalid by any court of competent jurisdiction, the remaining provisions of this agreement shall not be affected thereby, and the parties shall meet and confer for the sole purpose of arriving at a mutually satisfactory replacement of such provision.

SECTION 51. Obligation to Meet and Waiver Clause

Except as otherwise expressly provided in this agreement or where the parties mutually agree to meet and confer on the matter, the County and the Union expressly waive and relinquish the right, and each agrees that the other shall not be obligated during the term of this Memorandum to meet and confer with respect to any subject or matter, including mandatory subjects of negotiation, whether referred to or covered in this agreement, even though such subjects or matter was proposed and later withdrawn.

In the event any new practice, subject or matter arises during the term of this agreement and an action is proposed by the County, the Union shall be afforded all possible advance notice and shall have the right to meet and confer upon request. In the absence of agreement on such a proposed action, the County reserves the right to take necessary action by management direction and the Union reserves the right to then take whatever lawful action deemed necessary. The waiver of any breach of any term or condition of this Memorandum of Understanding by either party shall not constitute a precedent in the future enforcement of all its terms and conditions.

SECTION 52. Term of Agreement

The County and the Union agree that this Memorandum of Understanding shall not be binding upon the parties either in whole, or in part, unless and until ratified by Local 620 Membership and formally approved by a majority vote of the County Board of Supervisors. This Memorandum of Understanding shall remain in full force and effect to and including June 23, 2013. Either party may serve written notice to meet and confer concerning possible changes in the provisions of this agreement. Such notice shall be submitted in writing at least sixty days prior to the termination date of this agreement. It is the intent of the parties to conduct negotiations in such a manner as to reach a new agreement on or before the termination date of this agreement. If either party timely serves notice to meet and confer, the first negotiating session shall not commence earlier than one hundred twenty days nor less than sixty days prior to the termination date of this agreement, unless the parties mutually agree otherwise. The Union agrees to provide its initial proposals at the first negotiating session.

DATED: _____

COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA

Nicci Plata
Employee Relations Specialist

Joseph Pisano
Employee Relations Manager

Robert Macleod
Chief of Employee Relations

DATED: _____

SERVICE EMPLOYEES INTERNATIONAL
UNION, LOCAL 620

Mindi Boulet
Deputy Public Defender IV

Deedrea Edgar
Deputy Public Defender III

Steven Rice
Deputy Public Defender III

George Green
Senior Field Representative

APPENDIX

LETTER OF UNDERSTANDING
BETWEEN
THE COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA
AND
SERVICE EMPLOYEES INTERNATIONAL UNION, LOCAL 620

The parties have met and agreed to the following provisions for voluntary time off for both a County Voluntary Furlough Program and a Departmental Voluntary Furlough Program.

The purpose of this letter of agreement is to provide a vehicle for interested employees to provide assistance in:

- × Mitigating the effects of planned or anticipated layoffs on fellow departmental employees, and/or
- × Helping the County to reduce its expenses and thus assisting the County in dealing with its revenue shortfall which if not addressed may require further reductions in staff and curtailment of needed public services.

UNPAID TIME OFF FOR COUNTY VOLUNTARY FURLOUGH AND/OR
DEPARTMENTAL VOLUNTARY FURLOUGH

The appointing authority, on approval of the County Executive Officer, may grant a permanent or probationary employee a voluntary leave of absence without pay with right of return to the same position subject to the following conditions.

1. The employee must be in a pay status for at least one full day in each pay period for benefit calculations and to provide earnings from which normal employee deductions can be made. Additional paid time in each pay period may be required in order to generate sufficient earnings to cover salary deductions.
2. Leave may be taken in increments of one hour for FLSA non-exempt employees and in increments of one full work day for FLSA exempt employees.

3. Such leave shall be available only during a period(s) designated by the Board of Supervisors as a time of economic hardship.
4. The appointing authority may exercise reasonable discretion and approve or deny a request for voluntary furlough based upon his/her determination of feasibility, including but not limited to workload, fiscal impact and operational concerns. The decision of the appointing authority to approve or deny a request to participate in this program is final and as such shall not be appealable.
5. Credits toward sick leave and vacation shall accrue as though the employee were in a paid status.
6. The employee shall be paid for regular holidays occurring during an approved voluntary furlough as if he/she were in a paid status.
7. Credit towards retirement benefits shall accrue as though the employee were in a paid status (fulltime employees only).
8. Credit towards County contribution for any prorated benefit (i.e. health insurance contribution, additional cash, etc.) shall accrue as though the employee were in a paid status.
9. Payment of certain allowances and premiums shall continue as indicated in Attachment A.
10. Credit shall apply toward time in service for step advancement. Voluntary furlough shall not count as a break in service and shall not affect seniority. Probationary periods shall not be affected unless the amount of voluntary furlough exceeds 80 hours.
11. Regardless of how many unpaid leave hours are requested and approved, the employee shall make his/her same contributions to all employee benefits such as retirement and dependent health premiums, as if he/she were in a paid status. In accordance with #1 above, the employee must consider how much paid time in each pay period is required to generate sufficient earnings to cover benefit contributions. Voluntary deductions such as for union dues, credit union, deferred compensation, etc., will be deducted if earnings are sufficient.
12. Employees in other leaves without pay during a pay period shall not be eligible for this voluntary furlough program.
13. Such leave is available only to employees who are in paid status the scheduled workday before as well as the scheduled workday after the voluntary furlough.
14. Employees shall designate their voluntary time off either as:
 - A. Departmental Voluntary Furlough. The purpose of which shall be to mitigate (i.e., reduce or delay) the effects of anticipated or approved reductions in force that would otherwise necessitate layoffs in their department.

- B. County Voluntary Furlough. The purpose of which shall be to reduce (on a countywide basis, not department specific) County expenses in order to assist management of revenue shortfalls that if not addressed may require further reductions in staff and curtailment of needed public services.

The parties further agreed that:

- A. The County shall notify the employee organizations of periods of economic hardship designated by the Board of Supervisors.
- B. The employee organization shall, within 30 days of this agreement, inform the employees it represents that the organization is agreeable to the program.
- C. All employees shall be notified of the Voluntary Furlough program described above in a timely manner and of those periods designated as available for participation.
- D. While the County shall promote and encourage employee participation in this program, it is understood that an employee's participation shall be completely voluntary.
- E. The County Executive Officer shall direct department heads to seriously and adequately consider all requests to participate in this program. However, the decision of the appointing authority to approve or deny a request for voluntary furlough is final and not appealable.
- F. If in the event that mandatory work furloughs are required, employees having participated in the County Voluntary Furlough Program shall receive hour for hour credit for time already furloughed in the last twelve months. Employees having participated in the Departmental Voluntary Furlough Program shall receive hour for hour credit up to 24 hours for time already furloughed in the last twelve months.
- G. The County shall provide, on a quarterly basis, a summary of voluntary furlough savings by department to participating employee organizations.
- H. The County acknowledges and recognizes that by employees and departments participating in this program, less work will be performed and that certain delays and/or reductions in service may result.

Agreed to By County of Santa Barbara and:

SEIU, LOCAL 620 (Bargaining Units 23-27)

Dated: April 30, 1992