

EXHIBIT D

HIPAA BUSINESS ASSOCIATE AGREEMENT (Form revision approved 4/18/18)

This Exhibit shall constitute the Business Associate Agreement (the "Exhibit") between Contractor, (the "Business Associate") and the County of Tulare (the "Covered Entity"), and applies to the functions Business Associate will perform on behalf of Covered Entity (collectively, "Services"), that are identified in the Agreement (as defined below).

Business Associate acknowledges and agrees that all Protected Health Information ("PHI") that is created or received by Covered Entity and disclosed or made available in any form, including but not limited to paper record, oral communication, audio recording, and electronic display by Covered Entity or its operating units to Business Associate or is created or received by Business Associate on Covered Entity's behalf shall be subject to this Agreement.

1. **Purpose.** This Exhibit is intended to ensure that the Business Associate will establish and implement appropriate privacy and security safeguards with respect to PHI (as defined below) that the Business Associate may create, receive, use, or disclose in connection with the Services to be provided by the Business Associate to the Covered Entity. Such safeguards will be consistent with the standards set forth in regulations promulgated under the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996, Public Law 104-191 ("HIPAA") as amended by the Health Information Technology for Economic and Clinical Health Act as set forth in Title XIII of Division A and Title IV of Division B of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 ("HITECH Act") and amendments to include HIPAA's Administrative Simplification provisions.

2. **Regulatory References.** All references to regulatory Sections, Parts and Subparts in this Exhibit are to Title 45 of the Code of Federal Regulations, parts 160 and 164 (the "HIPAA Privacy Rule" and the "HIPAA Security Rule") as in effect or as amended, and for which compliance is required, unless otherwise specified.

3. **Definitions.** Unless otherwise defined in this Agreement, the terms used in this Agreement shall have the meanings ascribed in the HIPAA Regulations; provided that PHI shall mean Protected Health Information, as defined in 45 C.F.R. section 160.103, limited to the Protected Health Information Business Associate received from, created, or received on behalf of Covered Entity as its Business Associate.

4. Obligations and Activities of Business Associate.

Business Associate agrees to:

- a. Acknowledge that it is required by Sections 13401 and 13404 of the HITECH Act to comply with the HIPAA Security Rule, Sections 164.308 through 164.316, including the Security Rule's Administrative, Physical and Technical safeguard requirements and the use and disclosure provisions of the HIPAA Privacy Rule, Sections 164.502 and 164.504.
- b. Not use or further disclose PHI other than as permitted or required by this Exhibit, or as required by law.
 1. Use appropriate safeguards to maintain the security, including compliance with Subpart C of 45 CFR Part 164, with respect to electronic PHI, to prevent use or disclosure of the PHI other than as provided for by this Agreement. Appropriate safeguards shall include implementing administrative, physical, and technical safeguards that reasonably and appropriately protect the confidentiality, integrity, and availability of the PHI that is created, received, maintained or transmitted on behalf of the Covered Entity and limiting use and disclosure to applicable minimum necessary rules, regulations and statutes.
 2. To the extent practicable, Business Associate will secure all PHI by technological means that render such information unusable, unreadable, or indecipherable to unauthorized individuals and in accordance with any applicable standards or guidance issued by the Department of Health and Human Services under Section 13402 of the HITECH Act.
- c. Report breach disclosures immediately to Covered Entity. Business associate: 1) shall report to Covered Entity any use or disclosure of PHI not provided for by this Agreement on the first day the Business Associate knows or should have known about it; 2) notify the Covered Entity of any and all breaches of PHI, and provide detailed information to the Covered Entity about the

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breach, along with the names and contact information, when available, of all individuals whose PHI was involved. **(See Section 6 of this Exhibit for further detail.)** 3) agrees that such notification will meet the requirements of Section 13402 of the HITECH Act and § 164.410 of the amended HIPAA regulations.

- d. Enter into a written agreement with any agent, including a subcontractor, to whom it provides PHI received from, or created or received by Business Associate on behalf of Covered Entity, pursuant to which such agent or subcontractor agrees to be bound by the same restrictions and conditions that apply through this Agreement to Business Associate with respect to such information in accordance with 45 CFR 164.502(e)(1)(ii) and 164.308(b)(2) if applicable. **(See Section 11 of this Exhibit for further detail.)**
- e. Make internal practices, books, and records, including policies and procedures relating to the use and disclosure of PHI available to the Covered Entity or to the Secretary of the United States Department of Health and Human Services (“Secretary”), for purposes of determining Business Associate’s compliance with the HIPAA Privacy Rule and Security Rule. **(See Section 12 of this Exhibit for further detail.)**
 - 1. Business Associate shall concurrently provide to the Covered Entity a copy of any PHI that Business Associate provides to the Secretary.
- f. Maintain and make available the information required to provide an accounting of disclosures of PHI as would be required for Covered Entity to respond to a request by an individual for an account of disclosures of PHI in accordance with 45 CFR § 164.528.

5. Permitted Uses and Disclosures by Business Associate.

- a. Business Associate may use PHI to report violations of law to appropriate Federal and State authorities consistent with Section 164.502(j).

Unless otherwise limited in this Exhibit, Business Associate may:

- b. Use or disclose PHI to perform functions, activities, or services for, or on behalf of, Covered

Entity as necessary to perform the services described in Exhibit A to the Agreement, or as otherwise specified in the Master Exhibit, subject to limiting use and disclosure to applicable minimum necessary rules, regulations and statutes and provided that such use or disclosure would not violate the Privacy Rule if done by Covered Entity.

- c. Use PHI for the proper management and administration of the Business Associate or to carry out the legal responsibilities of the Business Associate.
- d. Disclose PHI for the proper management and administration of the Business Associate, provided that disclosures are required by law, or Business Associate obtains the appropriate medical release from the person whose PHI is being disclosed and the person to whom the PHI is disclosed provides reasonable assurances in writing that the PHI will remain confidential and used or further disclosed only as required by law or for the purpose for which it was disclosed to the person, and the person notifies the Business Associate of any instances of which it is aware in which the confidentiality of the information has been breached.
- e. Use PHI to provide Data Aggregation services to Covered Entity as permitted by Section 164.504(e)(2)(i)(B).

6. Reporting Unauthorized Uses and Disclosures.

- a. Business Associate agrees to notify Covered Entity of any breach, or security incident involving PHI of which it becomes aware, including any access to, or use or disclosure of PHI not permitted by this Exhibit. Such notification will be made immediately after discovery and will include, to the extent possible, the identification of each individual whose PHI has been, or is reasonably believed by the Business Associate to have been, accessed, acquired, used or disclosed, a description of the PHI involved, the nature of the unauthorized access, use or disclosure, the date of occurrence, and a description of any remedial action taken or proposed to be taken by Business Associate. Business Associate will also provide to Covered Entity any other available

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information that the Covered Entity is required to include in its notification to the individual under Section 164.404(c) at the time of the initial report or within three (3) days of the information becoming available.

- b. In the event of a request by law enforcement under Section 164.412, Business Associate may delay notifying Covered Entity for the applicable timeframe.
- c. A breach or unauthorized access, use, or disclosure shall be treated as discovered by the Business Associate on the first day on which such unauthorized access, use, or disclosure is known, or should reasonably have been known, to the Business Associate or to any person, other than the individual committing the unauthorized disclosure, that is an employee, officer, subcontractor, agent or other representative of the Business Associate.
- d. In meeting its obligations under this section, it is understood that Business Associate is not acting as the Covered Entity's agent. In performance of the work, duties, and obligations and in the exercise of the rights granted under this Exhibit, it is understood and agreed that Business Associate is at all times acting as an independent contractor in providing services pursuant to this Exhibit and the Agreement.

7. Mitigation of Harmful Effects.

- a. Business Associate agrees to mitigate, to the greatest extent possible, any harm that results from the following actions: breach, security incident, or unauthorized access, use or disclosure of PHI by Business Associate or its employees, officers, subcontractors, agents, or other representatives.
- b. Following the actions listed in Section 7(a) of this Exhibit, Business Associate agrees to take any and all corrective action necessary to prevent recurrence, to document any such action, and to make said documentation available to Covered Entity.
- c. Except as required by law, Business Associate agrees that it will not inform any third party of a

breach or unauthorized access, use or disclosure of PHI without obtaining the Covered Entity's prior written consent. Covered Entity hereby reserves the sole right to determine whether and how such notice is to be provided to any individuals, regulatory agencies, or others as may be required by law, regulation or contract terms, as well as the contents of such notice.

8. Indemnification.

Business Associate agrees to:

- a. Hold harmless, defend at its own expense, and indemnify Covered Entity for the costs of any mitigation undertaken by Business Associate pursuant to Section 7 of this Exhibit.
- b. Assume responsibility for any and all costs associated with the Covered Entity's notification of individuals affected by a breach or unauthorized access, use or disclosure by Business Associate or its employees, officers, subcontractors, agents or other representatives when such notification is required by any state or federal law or regulation, or under any applicable contract to which Covered Entity is a party.
- c. Hold harmless, defend at its own expense and indemnify Covered Entity and its respective employees, directors, officers, subcontractors, agents or other members of its workforce (each of the foregoing hereinafter referred to as "Indemnified Party") against all actual and direct losses suffered by the Indemnified Party and all liability to third parties arising from or in connection with any breach of this Exhibit or from any acts or omissions related to this Exhibit by Business Associate or its employees, directors, officers, subcontractors, agents or other members of its workforce. Accordingly, on demand, Business Associate shall reimburse any Indemnified Party for any and all actual and direct losses, liabilities, lost profits, fines, penalties, costs or expenses (including reasonable attorney's fees) which may for any reason be imposed upon any Indemnified Party by reason of any suit, claim, action, proceeding or demand by any third party which results from the Business Associate's acts or omissions hereunder. Business Associate's obligation to indemnify any

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Indemnified Party shall survive the expiration or termination of the Agreement.

9. Individuals' Rights.

Business Associate agrees to:

- a. Provide access, at the request of Covered Entity, and in the time and manner designated by the Covered Entity, to PHI in a Designated Record Set, to Covered Entity or, as directed by Covered Entity, to an individual in order to meet the requirements under Section 164.524.
- b. Make any amendment(s) to PHI in a Designated Record Set that the Covered Entity directs or agrees to make pursuant to Section 164.526, at the request of Covered Entity or an individual, and in the time and manner designated by the Covered Entity.
- c. Document such disclosures of PHI and information related to such disclosures as would be required for Covered Entity to respond to a request by an individual for an accounting of disclosures of PHI in accordance with Section 164.528.
- d. Provide to Covered Entity or an individual, in the time and manner designated by Covered Entity, information collected in accordance with Section 9(c) of this Exhibit, to permit Covered Entity to respond to a request by an individual for an accounting of disclosures of PHI in accordance with Section 164.528.
- e. Comply with any restriction to the use or disclosure of PHI that Covered Entity agrees to in accordance with Section 164.522.

10. Obligations of Covered Entity.

Covered Entity shall:

- a. Provide Business Associate with the notice of privacy practices that Covered Entity produces in accordance with Section 164.520, as well as any changes to such notice.
- b. Provide Business Associate with any changes in, or revocation of, permission by individual to use or disclose PHI, if such changes affect Business Associate's permitted or required uses and disclosures.

- c. Notify Business Associate of any restriction to the use or disclosure of PHI that Covered Entity has agreed to in accordance with Section 164.522, to the extent that such restriction may affect Business Associate's use or disclosure of PHI.

11. Agents and Subcontractors of Business Associate.

- a. Business Associate agrees to ensure that any agent, subcontractor, or other representative to whom it provides PHI received from, or created or received by Business Associate on behalf of Covered Entity, agrees in writing to the same restrictions, conditions and requirements that apply through this Exhibit to Business Associate with respect to such information, including the requirement to promptly notify the Business Associate of any instances of unauthorized access to or use or disclosure of PHI of which it becomes aware. Upon request, Business Associate shall provide copies of such agreements to Covered Entity.
- b. Business Associate shall implement and maintain sanctions against any agent, subcontractor or other representative that violates such restrictions, conditions or requirements and shall mitigate the effects of any such violation.

12. Audit, Inspection, and Enforcement.

- a. Business Associate agrees to make internal practices, books, and records relating to the use and disclosure of PHI received from, or created or received by Business Associate on behalf of, Covered Entity, available to any state or federal agency, including the Secretary, for the purposes of determining compliance with HIPAA and any related regulations or official guidance.
- b. With reasonable notice, Covered Entity and its authorized agents or contractors may audit and/or examine Business Associate's facilities, systems, policies, procedures, and documentation relating to the security and privacy of PHI to determine compliance with the terms of this Exhibit. Business Associate shall promptly correct any violation of this Exhibit found by Covered Entity and shall certify in writing that the correction has been made. Covered Entity's failure to detect any

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unsatisfactory practice does not constitute acceptance of the practice or a waiver of Covered Entity's enforcement rights under the Agreement.

13. **Permissible Requests by Covered Entity.** Covered Entity shall not request Business Associate to use or disclose PHI in any manner that would not be permissible under the Privacy Rule if done by Covered Entity.

14. **Term and Termination.**

- a. The terms of this Exhibit shall remain in effect for the duration of all services provided by Business Associate under the Agreement and for so long as Business Associate remains in possession of any PHI received from, or created or received by Business Associate on behalf of Covered Entity unless Covered Entity has agreed in accordance with this section that it is not feasible to return or destroy all PHI.
- b. Upon termination of the Agreement, Business Associate shall recover any PHI relating to the Agreement and this Exhibit in its possession and in the possession of its subcontractors, agents or representatives. Business Associate shall return to Covered Entity, or destroy with the consent of Covered Entity, all such PHI, in any form, in its possession and shall retain no copies. If Business Associate believes it is not feasible to return or destroy the PHI, Business Associate shall so notify Covered Entity in writing. The notification shall include: (1) a statement that the Business Associate has determined that it is not feasible to return or destroy the PHI in its possession, and (2) the specific reasons for such determination. If Covered Entity agrees in its sole discretion that Business Associate cannot feasibly return or destroy the PHI, Business Associate shall ensure that any and all protections, requirements and restrictions contained in the Agreement and this Exhibit shall be extended to any PHI for so long as Business Associate maintains such PHI, and that any further uses and/or disclosures will be limited to the purposes that make the return or destruction of the PHI infeasible.
- c. Covered Entity may immediately terminate the Agreement if it determines that Business

Associate has violated a material term of this Exhibit.

15. **Amendment.** The Parties agree to take such action as is necessary to amend this Exhibit from time to time as is necessary for Covered Entity and Business Associate to comply with the requirements of the HIPAA Privacy and Security Rules and the HITECH Act.

16. **Lost Revenues; Penalties/Fines.**

- a. **Lost Revenues.** Business Associate shall make Covered Entity whole for any revenues lost arising from an act or omission in billing practices by Business Associate.
- b. **Penalties/Fines for Failure to Comply with HIPAA.** Business Associate shall pay any penalty or fine assessed against Covered Entity arising from Business Associate's failure to comply with the obligations imposed by HIPAA.
- c. **Penalties/Fines (other).** Business Associate shall pay any penalty or fine assessed against Covered Entity arising from Business Associate's failure to comply with all applicable Federal or State Health Care Program Requirements, including, but not limited to any penalties or fines which may be assessed under a Federal or State False Claims Act provision.

17. **Entire Agreement.** This Exhibit constitutes the entire HIPAA Business Associate Agreement between the parties, and supersedes any and all prior HIPAA Business Associate Agreements between them.

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