

AMENDMENT TO

**JOINT EXERCISE OF POWERS AGREEMENT FOR THE PURPOSE OF CONTINUING
A REGIONAL MEDICAL SERVICES AGENCY AND PROVIDING FOR THE
IMPLEMENTATION, OPERATION AND MANAGEMENT OF AN EMERGENCY
MEDICAL SERVICES SYSTEM IN THE COUNTIES OF Lassen, Modoc, Plumas,
Sierra and Trinity Counties STATE OF CALIFORNIA**

This AMENDMENT, effective on the date provided below, by and between the Counties of Lassen, Modoc, Plumas, Sierra and Trinity, each a political subdivision of the State of California (collectively referred to as "Member Counties" or each individually as a "Member County")

RECITALS

WHEREAS, the Member Counties are parties to a Joint Exercise of Powers Agreement for the Purpose of Continuing a Regional Medical Services Agency and Providing for the Implementation, Operation and Management of an Emergency Medical Services System ("JPA Agreement").

WHEREAS, through the JPA Agreement, the Member Counties have delegated authority to Nor-Cal EMS ("Agency") to act as the local emergency medical services agency ("LEMSA") for the Member Counties. Each Member County has delegated LEMSAs authority to the Agency in accordance with Health & Safety Code section 1797.200.

WHEREAS, before the formation of the Agency, LEMSAs duties for the Member Counties were exercised on behalf of the Member Counties by Northern California EMS, Inc., a California non-profit corporation ("Corporation").

WHEREAS, upon its effective date of formation, the Agency was intended to succeed Corporation as the LEMSAs for the Member Counties.

WHEREAS, as of the effective date of this Amendment, because of the need to obtain a certain federal approval, the Agency is unable to perform all the tasks LEMSAs are required to perform under the Emergency Medical Services System and the Prehospital Emergency Medical Care Personnel Act (Health & Safety Code, § 1797 et seq., “EMS Act”), the regulations codified in Division 9 of Title 22 of the California Code of Regulations (commencing with § 100000, “Title 22 Regulations”), and emergency medical services guidelines the California Emergency Medical Services Authority (“EMSA”) has issued (“EMSA Guidelines”).

WHEREAS, because the Agency is presently unable to carry out all LEMSA duties and functions until it receives the necessary federal approval, as more fully described within, the Member Counties have determined it is necessary for Corporation to continue furnishing, on a temporary basis, LEMSA services until Agency receives the necessary federal authorization.

WHEREAS, through this Amendment to the JPA Agreement (“Amendment”), the Member Counties provide for a temporary redesignation of Corporation as LEMSA pending Agency’s receipt of all necessary federal approvals, upon which the Agency shall resume service as LEMSA, as provided within.

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the mutual promises, covenants, and conditions hereinafter contained, the parties hereto agree as follows:

SECTION 1

SUSPENSION OF LEMSA POWERS

From the date upon which all Member Counties have executed this amendment until receipt of the federal approval, as specified in Section 2 of this Amendment, Agency shall not be considered the LEMSA for the Member Counties, as provided in Article V, Sections A and B of the Agreement, nor shall exercise any LEMSA power for or on behalf of any of the Member Counties. For purpose of this Agreement, “LEMSA power” includes

any power, authority, obligation, or responsibility California law confers on or provides to LEMSAs under the EMS Act, Title 22 Regulations, EMSA Guidelines, or otherwise. "LEMSA powers" under this Agreement includes all the "Designated Agency Functions" for Member Counties as stated in Article V, Section C of the Agreement.

SECTION 2

RESUMPTION OF LEMSA POWERS

The Agency shall resume its delegation as LEMSA for the Member Counties under Article V, Sections A and B of the Agreement and shall resume exercise of LEMSA powers, including those specified in Article V, Section C of the Agreement, upon the Agency's receipt of confirmation from the United States Department of Justice ("USDOJ") that Agency is authorized to conduct background checks of emergency medical services technicians in accordance with applicable federal law and policy. The Agency shall resume status of LEMSA and shall exercise LEMSA powers on behalf of Member Counties upon the Agency's issuance of the notice required by Section 3 of this Amendment. Upon the effective date of that notice, the Corporation shall cease its temporary provision of LEMSA services, the Agency shall act as LEMSA for all Member Counties, and this Amendment shall be of no further effect.

SECTION 3

NOTICE OF RESUMPTION

Upon receipt of confirmation the USDOJ has authorized the Agency to conduct background checks, the Chief Executive Officer of the Agency, or designee, shall provide written notice to the Member Counties, through their respective Chairs of their Boards of Supervisors, that (1) the Agency has received the necessary federal authorization, and (2) Agency shall resume its status as LEMSA and shall resume exercise of all LEMSA powers, including those stated in Article V, Section C of the Agreement, upon the effective date of resumption. For purpose of this Agreement, the "effective date of resumption"

shall be five business days following the mailing of the written notice required by this Section to all Member Counties.

SECTION 4
PRESERVATION OF AUTHORITY

During the period in which Agency does not exercise LEMSA powers under this Amendment, the Agency retains all other powers vested in it under the Agreement. Except as provided within, this Amendment shall not be construed as delegating to Corporation any discretionary authority of the Agency, including but not limited to the adoption of budgets, holding of public meetings, execution of contracts, making of personnel decisions, or the exercise of other customary local agency duties.

So agreed.

COUNTY OF LASSEN

COUNTY OF MODOC

Chair
Board of Supervisors

Date

Chair
Board of Supervisors

Date

COUNTY OF PLUMAS

COUNTY OF SIERRA

Chair
Board of Supervisors

Date


Chair
Board of Supervisors

Date

COUNTY OF TRINITY

Chair
Board of Supervisors

Date

Approved as to Form
NOV 26 2025

Lassen County Counsel

Recommendation

It is recommended that the Board of Supervisors approve the resolution authorizing execution of an amendment to the Joint Powers Agreement for the Nor-Cal EMS Joint Powers Authority (“Agency”).

Background and Discussion

The Counties of Lassen, Modoc, Plumas, Sierra, and Trinity (“Member Counties”) jointly formed the Nor-Cal EMS Joint Powers Authority under a Joint Exercise of Powers Agreement dated March 5, 2025. The purpose of the Agency is to operate as the regional local emergency medical services agency (“LEMSA”) for the Member Counties in accordance with the Emergency Medical Services System and the Prehospital Emergency Medical Care Personnel Act (Health & Safety Code § 1797 et seq.).

Prior to forming the JPA, the Member Counties had designated Northern California EMS, Inc. (“Corporation”), a California nonprofit corporation, to perform LEMSAs functions on their behalf. When the JPA was established, it was the intent of the Member Counties for the newly formed Agency to succeed the Corporation as the LEMSAs.

Since formation, the Agency has sought federal authorization from the United States Department of Justice (“USDOJ”) to conduct background checks of emergency medical technicians as required under state and federal law. This authorization has not yet been granted. The Corporation, however, already possesses the necessary federal authorization to perform such background checks in its role as custodian of records for the Chester Fire Department.

Because the ability to conduct background checks is an essential function of a LEMSAs, JPA administration and legal counsel have determined it is necessary for the Corporation to temporarily continue providing LEMSAs services until the Agency receives the required USDOJ authorization. The proposed amendment to the JPA formalizes this temporary arrangement.

The amendment temporarily suspends the Agency’s authority to exercise LEMSAs powers and reinstates the Corporation as the designated LEMSAs for the Member Counties. The suspension will remain in effect only until the Agency receives confirmation from the USDOJ that it is authorized to conduct background checks.

Upon receiving such authorization, the Agency’s Chief Executive Officer will issue written notice to the Member Counties, after which the Agency will automatically resume full LEMSAs powers and the temporary designation of the Corporation will terminate. The amendment preserves all other powers of the Agency during this interim period, including its authority over budgeting, public meetings, and administrative operations.

Fiscal Impact

Approval of the amendment would not have any material fiscal impact.

Conclusion

Approval of the attached resolution and execution of the amendment will ensure that the Member Counties remain in compliance with Health & Safety Code § 1797.200 by maintaining a functioning and properly authorized LEMSA while the Agency completes the federal approval process. This action is necessary to avoid interruption in emergency medical services oversight and maintain continuity of LEMSA functions across all five Member Counties.

RESOLUTION NO. _____

**RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS, COUNTY OF LASSEN,
STATE OF CALIFORNIA, APPROVING AN AMENDMENT TO THE JOINT
EXERCISE OF POWERS AGREEMENT FOR THE PURPOSE OF CONTINUING
A REGIONAL MEDIAL SERVICES AGENCY AND PROVIDING FOR THE
IMPLEMENTATION, OPERATION AND MANAGEMENT OF AN EMERGENCY
MEDICAL SERVICES SYSTEM IN THE COUNTIES OF LASSEN, MODOC,
PLUMAS, SIERRA AND TRINITY COUNTIES, STATE OF CALIFORNIA**

WHEREAS, under the Emergency Medical Services System and the Prehospital Emergency Medical Care Personnel Act (“EMS Act,” Health & Safety Code, 1797 et seq.) Lassen County is responsible for administering and asserting medical control over the local emergency medical services system; and

WHEREAS, counties may create a local emergency medical services agency (“LEMSA”) for their own territories, they may contract with an entity to perform LEMSAs services, or they may join with other counties through multi-county joint-powers agencies to carry out EMS Act responsibilities; and

WHEREAS, Lassen County is presently a member of a five-member joint-powers agency (“JPA”) known formally as Nor-Cal EMS; and

WHEREAS, the agreement forming the JPA is dated March 5, 2025, and is between the Counties of Lassen, Modoc, Plumas, Sierra, and Trinity (“Member Counties”); and

WHEREAS, Lassen County authorized execution of the agreement forming the JPA on March 18, 2025; and

WHEREAS, before the formation of the JPA, the Member Counties designated a nonprofit corporation, Northern California EMS, Inc. (“Corporation”), to serve as their LEMSAs; and

WHEREAS, since its formation, the JPA has attempted to secure necessary federal

RESOLUTION NO. _____

approval of the ability to conduct background checks of emergency medical technicians, which authority the United States Department of Justice (“USDOJ”) has not yet approved; and

WHEREAS, Corporation, in its capacity of custodian of records for the Chester Fire Department has had, and presently has, access to USDOJ background information to conduct such investigations; and

WHEREAS, because of the conditions the USDOJ places on the organizations and entities authorized to conduct background checks, it is necessary for Corporation to temporary continue providing LEMSA services to all Member Counties until the USDOJ approves JPA request for authorization to conduct such checks; and

WHEREAS, because of the importance of any LEMSA having the right and ability to conduct background checks, and to ensure the Member Counties may continue to designate a LEMSA under California Law, the Member Counties have determined they should authorize the Corporation to continue serving as LEMSA until the Agency secures the USDOJ approval; and

WHEREAS, an amendment to the JPA Agreement has been prepared that would allow the Corporation to exercise LEMSA power pending the completion of the Agency’s USDOJ application; and

WHEREAS, the amendment to the JPA provides for resumption of the Agency’s delegation as LEMSA upon notification by the Agency following its receipt of USDOJ authorization; and

WHEREAS, the Member Counties determine the JPA amendment is necessary to ensure they may collectively designate a LEMSA in accordance with Health & Safety Code section 1797.200 and that LEMSA may exercise all necessary and lawful powers pending the Agency’s securing of USDOJ authorization.

RESOLUTION NO. _____

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Supervisors of the County of Lassen, State of California hereby approves the Amendment to the JPA Agreement attached as Exhibit A and authorizes the Chair of the Board of Supervisor to execute the same.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors is directed to promptly transmit to the Agency the executed JPA Agreement and to provide such other documentation as may be necessary to reflect or confirm Lassen County's approval of the amendment.

This resolution was adopted on the __th day of December 2025, at a regular meeting of the Lassen County Board of Supervisors in Susanville, California by the following vote:

AYES: _____

NOES: _____

ABSTAIN: _____

ABSENT: _____

CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF LASSEN, STATE OF CALIFORNIA

ATTEST:
JULIE BUSTAMANTE
Clerk of the Board

BY: _____
Michele Yderraga, Deputy Clerk of the Board

Resolution No. _____

RESOLUTION NO. _____

I, MICHELE YDERRAGA, Deputy Clerk of the Board of the Board of Supervisors, County of Lassen, do hereby certify that the foregoing resolution was adopted by the said Board of Supervisors at a regular meeting thereof held on the ____th day of December 2025.

Deputy Clerk of the Lassen County Board of Supervisors