

**COMBINED VOLUNTARY COOPERATION AND
OPERATIONAL ASSISTANCE
MUTUAL AID AGREEMENT
BETWEEN
THE CITY OF SWEETWATER, FLORIDA AND
THE CITY OF NORTH MIAMI, FLORIDA**

This Voluntary Cooperation and Operational Assistance Mutual Aid Agreement is made as of this 25th day of February, 2014, by and between the CITY OF SWEETWATER, FLORIDA, a Florida municipal corporation, having its principal office at 500 Southwest 109th Avenue Sweetwater, Florida 33174, and the CITY OF NORTH MIAMI, FLORIDA, a Florida municipal corporation having its principal office at 776 Northeast 125th Street – 4th Floor, North Miami, Florida 33161 and states as follows:

WHEREAS, it is the responsibility of the governments of the City of Sweetwater, Florida, and the City of North Miami, Florida to ensure the public safety of their citizens by providing adequate levels of police services to address any foreseeable routine or emergency situation; and

WHEREAS, there is an existing and continuing possibility of the occurrence of law enforcement problems and other natural and man-made conditions which are, or are likely to be, beyond the control of the services, personnel, equipment, or facilities of the City of Sweetwater Police Department or the City of North Miami Police Department; and

WHEREAS, it is in the best interest and advantage of the City of North Miami and the City of Sweetwater to receive and extend mutual aid to each other in the form of law enforcement services and resources to adequately respond to:

- (1) Continuing, multi-jurisdictional criminal activity, so as to protect the public peace and safety, and preserve the lives and property of the people; and
- (2) Intensive situations including, but not limited to, natural or manmade disasters or emergencies as defined under Section 252.34, Florida Statutes; and

- (3) Joint provision of certain law enforcement services specified herein and allowed pursuant to Florida Statute 166.0495; and

WHEREAS, the City of North Miami and the City of Sweetwater have the authority under The Mutual Aid Act, Chapter 23, Part I, Florida Statutes, to enter into a combined mutual aid agreement for law enforcement services which:

- (1) Permits voluntary cooperation and assistance of a routine law enforcement nature across jurisdictional lines; and
- (2) Provides for rendering of assistance in a law enforcement emergency.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT KNOWN, that the City of North Miami, a political subdivision of the State of Florida, and the City of Sweetwater, a political subdivision of the State of Florida, in consideration for mutual promises to render valuable aid in times of necessity, do hereby agree to fully and faithfully abide by and be bound by the following terms and conditions.

SECTION I: PROVISIONS FOR VOLUNTARY COOPERATION

Each of the aforesaid law enforcement agencies hereby approve and enter into this agreement whereby each of the agencies may provide voluntary cooperation and assistance of a routine law enforcement nature across jurisdictional lines. The nature of the law enforcement assistance to be rendered shall include but not be limited to:

- a. Concurrent law enforcement jurisdiction in and throughout the territorial limits of the City of North Miami and the City of Sweetwater for arrests, made pursuant to the laws of arrest, for felonies and misdemeanors, including arrestable traffic offenses, which spontaneously take place in the presence of the arresting officer, at such times as the arresting officer is traveling from place to place on official business outside of his or her jurisdiction, for example, to or from court, or at any time when the officer is within the territorial limits of his or her jurisdiction.
- b. Concurrent law enforcement jurisdiction in and throughout the territorial limits of the City of North Miami and the City of Sweetwater for arrests, made pursuant to the laws of arrest, of persons identified as a result of

investigations of any offense constituting a felony or any act of Domestic Violence as defined in Section 741.28, Florida Statutes, when such offense occurred in the municipality employing the arresting officer.

- c. Concurrent law enforcement jurisdiction in and upon the jurisdictional waters of the City of North Miami and the City of Sweetwater for arrests, made pursuant to the laws of arrest, for felonies and misdemeanors and boating infractions.
- d. Participating in exigent situations, without the need for a formal request, including, but not limited to, area searches for wanted subjects, perimeters, crimes in progress, escaped prisoners, traffic stops near municipal boundaries, requests for assistance when no available local units are nearby, calls indicating a crime or incident has occurred in which a citizen may likely be injured and the assisting municipality is closer to the area than the officer receiving the call.
- e. Concurrent law enforcement jurisdiction in and throughout the territorial limits of the City of North Miami and the City of Sweetwater for investigations of homicides, sex offenses, robberies, assaults, batteries, burglaries, larcenies, gambling, motor vehicle thefts, drug violations pursuant to Chapter 893, Florida Statutes, and inter-agency task forces and/or joint investigations.

Prior to any officer taking enforcement action pursuant to paragraphs (a) through (e) above, the officer shall notify the jurisdiction in which the action will be taken, unless exigent circumstances prevent such prior notification, in which case notification shall be made as soon after the action as practicable. If the agency having normal jurisdiction responds to the scene the assisting agency's officer may turn the situation over to them and offer any assistance requested including, but not limited to, a follow-up written report documenting the event and the actions taken.

These provisions are not intended to grant general authority to conduct investigations, serve warrants and/or subpoenas or to respond without request to emergencies already being addressed by the agency of normal jurisdiction, but is intended to address critical, life-threatening or public safety situations, prevent bodily injury to

citizens, or secure apprehension of criminals whom the law enforcement officer may encounter.

SECTION II: PROVISIONS FOR OPERATIONAL ASSISTANCE

The aforesaid law enforcement agencies hereby approve and enter into this agreement whereby each of the agencies may request and render law enforcement assistance to the other to include, but not necessarily be limited to dealing with, the following:

1. Joint multi-jurisdictional criminal investigations.
2. Civil affray or disobedience, disturbances, riots, large protest demonstrations and assemblies, controversial trials, political conventions, labor disputes, and strikes.
3. Any natural, technological or manmade disaster.
4. Incidents which require rescue operations and crowd and traffic control measures including, but not limited to, large-scale evacuations, aircraft and shipping disasters, fires, explosions, gas line leaks, radiological incidents, train wrecks and derailments, chemical or hazardous waste spills, and electrical power failures.
5. Terrorist activities including, but not limited to, acts of sabotage.
6. Escapes from, or disturbances within, prisoner processing facilities.
7. Hostage and barricaded subject situations, and aircraft piracy.
8. Control of major crime scenes, area searches, perimeter control, back-ups to emergency and in-progress calls, pursuits, and missing person calls.
9. Enemy attack.
10. Transportation of evidence requiring security.
11. Major events, e.g., sporting events, concerts, parades, fairs, festivals, and conventions.
12. Security and escort duties for dignitaries.
13. Incidents requiring utilization of specialized units; e.g., underwater recovery, marine patrol, aircraft, canine, motorcycle, bicycle, mounted, SWAT, bomb, crime scene and police information.
14. Emergency situations in which one agency cannot perform its functional objective.

15. Joint training in areas of mutual need.
16. Joint multi-jurisdictional marine interdiction operations.
17. Off-duty special events.
18. DUI Checkpoints.

SECTION III: PROCEDURE FOR REQUESTING OPERATIONAL ASSISTANCE

1. Mutual aid requested or rendered will be approved by the Chief of Police, or designee. The Chief of Police, or designee, of the agency whose assistance is sought shall evaluate the situation and the agency's available resources, consult with his/her supervisors, if necessary, and will respond in a manner he/she deems appropriate.

2. The Chief of Police in whose jurisdiction assistance is being rendered may determine who is authorized to lend assistance in his/her jurisdiction, for how long such assistance is authorized, and for what purpose such authority is granted. This authority may be granted either verbally or in writing as the particular situation dictates.

3. Specific reporting instructions for personnel rendering mutual aid will be included in the request for mutual aid. In the absence of such reporting instructions, personnel will report to the ranking on-duty supervisor on the scene.

4. Communications instructions should be included in each request for mutual aid and each agency's communications centers will maintain radio contact with each other until the mutual aid situation has ended.

5. Incidents requiring mass processing of arrestees, transporting prisoners, and operating temporary detention facilities will be handled per established procedures of the requesting agency or Chief of Police involved.

SECTION IV: COMMAND AND SUPERVISORY RESPONSIBILITY

a. COMMAND:

The personnel and equipment that are assigned by the assisting Chief of Police shall be under the immediate command of a supervising officer designated by the assisting Chief of Police. Such supervising officer shall be under the direct supervision and command of the Chief of Police or his/her designee of the agency requesting assistance.

b. CONFLICTS:

Whenever an officer is rendering assistance pursuant to this agreement, the officer shall abide by and be subject to the rules and regulations, personnel policies, general orders, and standard operating procedures of his/her own employer. If any such rule, regulation, personnel policy, general order or standing operating procedure is contradicted, contravened or otherwise in conflict with a direct order of a superior officer of the requesting agency, then such rule, regulation, policy, general order or procedure shall control and shall supersede the direct order.

c. HANDLING COMPLAINTS:

Whenever there is cause to believe that a complaint has arisen as a result of a cooperative effort as it may pertain to this agreement, the Chief of Police or his/her designee of the agency employing the officer who is the subject of the complaint shall be responsible for the investigation of the complaint. The Chief of Police or designee of the requesting agency should ascertain at a minimum:

1. The identity of the complainant;
2. An address where the complaining party can be contacted;
3. The specific allegation; and
4. The identity of the employees accused without regard as to agency affiliation.

If it is determined during the investigation of a complaint that the accused is an employee of the assisting agency, the above information, with all pertinent documentation gathered during the receipt and processing of the complaint, shall be forwarded without delay to the agency for administrative review. The requesting agency may conduct a review of the complaint to determine if any factual basis for the complaint exists and/or whether any of the employees of the requesting agency violated any of their agency's policies or procedures.

SECTION V: LIABILITY

Each party engaging in any mutual cooperation and assistance, pursuant to this agreement, agrees to assume responsibility for the acts, omissions or conduct of such

party's own employees while engaged in rendering such aid pursuant to this agreement, subject to the provisions of Section 768.28, Florida Statutes, where applicable.

SECTION VI: POWERS, PRIVILEGES, IMMUNITIES AND COSTS

a. Employees of the City of North Miami and the City of Sweetwater when actually engaging in mutual cooperation and assistance outside of their normal jurisdictional limits but inside this State, under the terms of this agreement, shall, pursuant to the provisions of Section 23.127(1), Fla. Stat. (as amended), have the same powers, duties, rights, privileges and immunities as if the employee was performing duties inside the employee's political subdivision in which normally employed.

b. Each party agrees to furnish necessary personnel equipment, resources and facilities and to render services to each other party to this agreement as set forth above; provided, however, that no party shall be required to deplete unreasonably its own personnel, equipment, resources, facilities, and services in furnishing such mutual aid.

c. The political subdivision that furnishes equipment pursuant to this agreement must bear the cost of loss or damage to that equipment and must pay any expense incurred in the operation and maintenance of that equipment.

d. The political subdivision furnishing aid pursuant to this agreement shall compensate its employees during the time of the rendering of aid and shall defray (provide for the payment of) the actual travel and maintenance expenses of its employees while they are rendering aid, including any amounts paid or due for compensation for personal injury or death while its employees are rendering aid.

e. The privileges and immunities from liability, exemption from laws, ordinances and rules, and pension, insurance, relief, disability, workers' compensation, salary, death, and other benefits that apply to the activity of an employee of an agency when performing the employee's duties within the territorial limits of the employee's agency apply to the employee to the same degree, manner, and extent while engaged in the performance of the employee's duties extraterritorially under the provisions of this mutual aid agreement. This section applies to paid, volunteer, reserve and auxiliary employees.

f. Nothing herein shall prevent the requesting agency from requesting supplemental appropriations from the governing authority having budgeting jurisdiction to reimburse the assisting agency for any actual costs or expenses incurred by the assisting agency performing hereunder.

SECTION VII: FORFEITURES

a. In the event an agency seizes any real property, vessel, motor vehicle, aircraft, currency or other property pursuant to the Florida Contraband Forfeiture Act during the performance of this agreement, the agency requesting assistance in the case of requested operational assistance and the seizing agency in the case of voluntary cooperation shall be responsible for maintaining any forfeiture action pursuant to Chapter 932, Florida Statutes. The agency pursuing the forfeiture action shall have the exclusive right to control and the responsibility to maintain the property in accordance with Chapter 932, Florida Statutes, to include, but not be limited to, the complete discretion to bring the action or dismiss the action.

b. All proceeds from forfeited property seized as a result of or in accordance with this agreement shall be divided equally between the parties, less the costs associated with the forfeiture action.

SECTION VIII: INSURANCE

Each political subdivision shall provide, upon request, satisfactory proof of liability insurance by one or more of the means specified in Section 768.28, Florida Statutes, in an amount which is, in the judgment of the governing body of that political subdivision, at least adequate to cover the risk to which that party may be exposed. Should the insurance coverage, however provided, of any party be canceled or undergo material change, that party shall notify all parties to this agreement of such change within ten (10) days of receipt of the notice or actual knowledge of such change.

SECTION IX: EFFECTIVE DATE

This agreement shall take effect upon execution and approval by the hereinafter named officials and shall continue in full force and effect until November 1, 2018. Under no circumstances may this agreement be renewed, amended or extended except in writing.

SECTION X: CANCELLATION

Either party may cancel its participation in this agreement upon delivery of written notice to the other political subdivision. Cancellation will be at the discretion of any political subdivision to this mutual aid agreement.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties hereto cause to these presents to be signed on the date first written above.

AGREED AND ACKNOWLEDGED this 25th day of February, 2014.

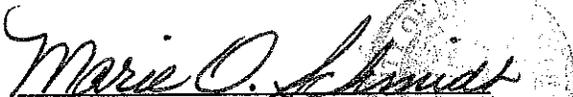


JOSÉ M. DIAZ
Mayor
City of Sweetwater
Date: _____



STEPHEN E. JOHNSON
City Manager
City of North Miami
Date: _____

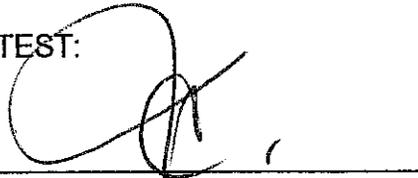
ATTEST:



MARIE O. SCHMIDT
City Clerk
City of Sweetwater

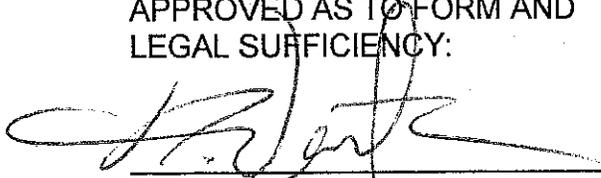


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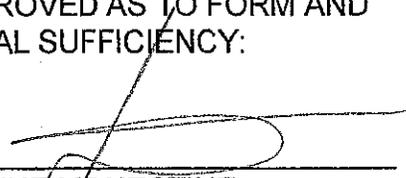
MICHAEL A. ETIENNE
City Clerk
City of North Miami

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND LEGAL SUFFICIENCY:

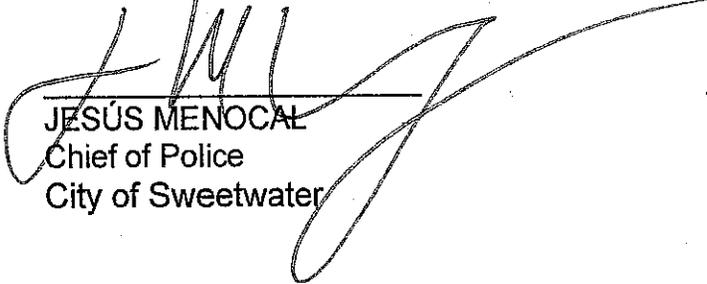


RALPH VENTURA
City Attorney

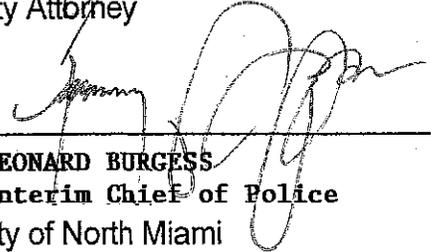
APPROVED AS TO FORM AND LEGAL SUFFICIENCY:



REGINE MONESTINE
City Attorney



JESÚS MENOCA
Chief of Police
City of Sweetwater



LEONARD BURGESS
Interim Chief of Police
City of North Miami