

Memorandum of Understanding

By and Between

County of Madera

and the

Peace Officer Unit

(Deputy Sheriffs' Association)

July 1, 2024 – June 30, 2026

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING – PEACE OFFICER UNIT
(July 1, 2024– June 30, 2026)

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CHAPTER 1: GENERAL PROVISIONS

ARTICLE 1.1 – INTRODUCTION

A. Preamble

This Memorandum of Understanding (MOU), made and entered into this **27th day of May 2025**, by and between the County of Madera (hereinafter referred to as “County”) and the Madera County Deputy Sheriffs’ Association (hereinafter referred to as “Association”), for and on behalf of the employees hereinafter identified.

B. Duration of MOU

Except as otherwise provided herein, this MOU shall be effective upon adoption by the Board of Supervisors of the County of Madera and remain in effect until midnight the 30th day of June 2026.

C. Scope of Agreement

This shall constitute the full and complete agreement between both parties and shall supersede and cancel all previous agreements and memorandums of understanding, both written and oral. The parties agree that, except as expressly set forth herein, this contract shall not be subject to reopening on any item for the duration of the Agreement or unless mutually agreed to by both parties. Neither party is obligated to agree to reopen this contract except as stated herein, and any agreement to reopen this contract must be signed in writing by the parties.

ARTICLE 1.2 – RECOGNITION

A. Association Recognition

Pursuant to Section 3500-3510 of the Government Code of the State of California and subject to the provisions of Madera County Code Chapter 2.63, the Association is recognized as the certified employee organization having the exclusive right to meet and confer for all employees within classes designated in the Peace Officer Unit as listed in Section ‘B’ below.

B. Unit Classifications

The Employer hereby recognizes the Association as the only organization entitled to meet and confer on matters within the scope of representation for the classes listed in the table below.

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Classification (On Peace Officer & Related Classifications Salary Table)	Salary Range	Overtime Designation
Deputy Sheriff I	13	Overtime Eligible
Deputy Sheriff II	15	Overtime Eligible
District Attorney Investigator	15	Overtime Eligible
Senior District Attorney Investigator	17	Overtime Eligible
Sheriff’s Corporal	17	Overtime Eligible
Sheriff’s Sergeant	19	Overtime Eligible
Supervising District Attorney Investigator	21	Overtime Eligible

C. Recognition of Mutual Obligation

The Association and Employer recognize and acknowledge their mutual obligation and responsibility to effectuate the purpose set forth in, and to adhere to, the conditions and clauses set forth in this MOU.

D. Definitions

1. **Employer**
 The term “Employer” as used herein shall refer to the County of Madera.
2. **Association**
 The term “Association” as used herein shall refer to the Madera County Deputy Sheriff’s Association.
3. **Employee**
 The term “Employee” as used herein shall mean any person in the Classified Service employed by the County who is occupying a permanent position, within the Peace Officer Unit as established under the provisions of Madera County Code Chapters 2.60 and 2.63.
4. **Department Head**
 The term “Department Head” as used herein shall mean the group or person having the lawful power to make appointments or to remove persons from positions in the County service (also known as “Appointing Authority”).
5. **Meet and Confer**

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The term “meet and confer” as used herein shall mean the mutual obligation of the Employer and the Association to exchange information, opinions, and proposals, and to endeavor to reach agreement on matters within the scope of representation, pursuant to California Government Code Sections 3500-3510.

ARTICLE 1.3 – EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

A. Non-Discrimination

The parties to this Agreement agree that they shall not, in any manner, discriminate against any person whatsoever because of sex, race, color, ancestry, religious creed, national origin, physical or mental disability, medical condition, age, marital status, the taking of family and medical leave per the Family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA) or pregnancy disability leave, sexual orientation, political or religious opinions or affiliations, gender identity, and any other factor unrelated to job performance. Complaints pursuant to such issues will be handled pursuant to the County equal employment opportunity and anti-harassment policies.

B. Non-Discrimination of Union Members

As provided in Madera County Code 2.63.040, the Employer will not interfere with or discriminate against any Employee by reason of membership in the Association.

ARTICLE 1.4 – EXISTING POLICIES, SEVERABILITY AND REOPENERS

A. Existing Laws, Regulations and Policies

This Agreement is subject to all existing laws of the State of California, ordinances, regulations, and policies of the County.

B. County Policies

The Association and Employer have met and conferred on the following County Policies/Programs:

1. [The Policies and Guidelines on Drugs and Alcohol Use in the Workplace](#), Resolution No. 2025-025, as modified by the provisions of the Drug and Alcohol Policy Addendum shall apply to members of this bargaining unit.
2. [Computer Equipment and Systems Usage Agreement](#)
3. Lateral Transfer Policy – Transfer provisions limited to officers below the rank of Sergeant.
4. [Catastrophic Leave Program](#) – Employees may transfer leave balances across bargaining unit lines.

C. Severability

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The provisions of this MOU are declared to be severable and if any section, subsection, sentence, clause, or phrase of this MOU shall for any reason be held to be invalid or unconstitutional, such decision shall not affect the validity of the remaining sections, subsections, sentences, clauses, and phrases of this MOU, but they shall remain in effect, it being the intent of the parties that this MOU shall stand, notwithstanding the invalidity of any part.

Should any portion of this MOU be found invalid or unconstitutional, the parties will meet and confer to arrive at a mutually satisfactory replacement for the portion found to be invalid or unconstitutional.

D. Reopeners during Term of Agreement

1. The parties agree to reopen Section 5.1 one time only during the term of this agreement to negotiate the adoption of a CalPERS retiree health vesting schedule for employees first hired by the County following adoption of such a vesting schedule. The parties anticipate the enactment of future legislation allowing the County to adopt such a vesting schedule.
2. It is agreed, by both parties, to reopen negotiations to discuss proposed changes to the Drug/Alcohol Policy, Sexual Harassment/Discrimination Prevention Policy, Dress Code Policy and other policies as needed.
3. During the term of this agreement, the County may reopen Section 5.1 one time only to negotiate possible changes to the existing medical insurance programs, medical insurance plans and/or cost sharing formulas for the medical insurance benefits provided to employees with the goal of reducing overall medical insurance costs/expenses for both the County and employees. If the parties cannot agree on changes to the existing medical insurance programs, medical insurance plans and/or cost sharing formulas during the reopener, there shall be no changes to medical insurance programs, medical insurance plans or cost sharing formulas.

ARTICLE 1.5 – TAX INITIATIVE

Should the Employer undertake to seek voter approval for revenue enhancements proposed to offset costs related to public safety, the Association agrees to take a public position of support.

CHAPTER 2: UNIT RIGHTS

ARTICLE 2.1 – AGREEMENT

Execution of this MOU by the Association shall not be deemed a waiver of any Association or

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employee right unless the right is clearly or explicitly modified or restricted herein.

ARTICLE 2.2 – NOTIFICATION

A. Unit Notification

Employer and the Association affirm the principle that harmonious employee-employer relations are to be promoted and furthered. When a person is hired in any of the covered job classes, the County shall notify that person that the Association is the certified representative for the employees and shall notify the Association of such hiring.

B. Employee Listing

The County agrees to provide the Association representative with the name, job title, department, work location, work, home, and personal cellular telephone numbers, personal email addresses on file with the County, and home addresses of newly hired employees within 30 days of initial hire or by the first pay period following hire. The County also agrees to provide the Association representative with this information for all employees in the bargaining unit at least every 120 days.

ARTICLE 2.3 – EMPLOYEE REPRESENTATIVES

A. In General

Representatives of the Association shall have reasonable access to employees, provided such access does not interfere with County business. Department Heads and first-line supervisors will be notified by the Employer of the provisions of this Section. Association business shall not be conducted during working time without approval from the Department Head or designee.

B. Access to Bulletin Boards

Reasonable space will be made available within the Sheriff's Office and District Attorney's Office, and each work location maintained by the Sheriff's Office and District Attorney's Office where employees are regularly assigned, to place an Association purchased bulletin board. The Association is responsible for maintaining all such boards and will hold the County harmless for any materials posted on Association bulletin boards.

C. Grievance Representation

Representatives of the Association shall have access to any employee or employees presenting a grievance pursuant to Section 7.1.

D. Disciplinary Action Representation

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Employees are entitled to representation by the Association at all stages of the disciplinary process. This includes, without limitation, the right to request the presence of an Association representative during questioning that could lead to punitive action against the employee.

Peace officer employees shall be afforded all rights guaranteed by the Public Safety Procedural Bill of Rights Act.

E. Association Representative

In addition to their regularly assigned work, employees shall be permitted reasonable time during working hours to notify their Association representative of any violations of this MOU. Employees of the Association may contact their representative during business hours to report grievances, violations of this MOU or to report safety violations.

F. Release Time

The Employer shall provide release time without the loss of compensation or other benefits for a reasonable number of Association representatives, based on the operational needs of the department, for the following reasons:

1. Attendance at meetings that could lead to punitive action when presence is requested by the employee.
2. Attendance at meetings with management at either the departmental or county level.
3. Attendance at New Employee Orientation.
4. Meet and confer sessions.
5. Testifying or appearing as the designated Association representative in conferences, hearings, or proceedings before the Public Employment Relations Board or agents thereof or in matters before the civil service commission or Board of Supervisors.

G. Association Right to Access to New Employee Orientations

The County shall provide the Association with at least 10 days' notice in advance of a new employee orientation or other onboarding process, including the dates and times available for bargaining unit representative(s) to meet with new employees. The County will provide the Association with an annual or other periodic schedule of new employee orientations when available. Such notification shall meet the '10-day notice' requirement.

Association representatives will be given a maximum of thirty (30) minutes to meet with newly hired employees of their bargaining unit at the end of the New Employee Orientation. The Association will be allowed to communicate with new employees without interference and may provide written materials to the new employees.

The Association will provide the Department of Human Resources with the name of the

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Association representative who will attend the orientation to meet with newly hired employees of their bargaining unit. That employee shall be provided with release time from their regular duties, including travel time, for this sole purpose.

ARTICLE 2.4 – UNION DUES

A. Dues Deduction

The Employer will deduct Association dues or fees from the payroll warrant of each employee who has voluntarily authorized a payroll deduction as certified by the Association. Such dues or fees deductions shall be remitted to the Association monthly with an itemized statement.

The Association shall keep the Employer currently informed as to the amount of dues to be deducted and such notification shall be certified to the Employer in writing over the signature of authorized officers or representatives of the Association.

B. Certification

Changes in Association membership dues or fees shall be certified to the Employer at least one (1) pay period in advance of the effective date of such changes and the Employer shall have no responsibility for collecting dues, fees, assessments, or other deductions unless such deductions are certified to the Employer as prescribed at least one (1) pay period in advance of the payday upon which such deduction is to be made.

C. Revocation

Employees shall direct all requests to cancel or change Association membership dues or fees deductions to the Association.

D. Indemnification

The Association shall indemnify, defend, and hold the Employer harmless against all claims, demands, expenses, judgments, or other liabilities on account of dues or fees collected by the Employer and paid over to the Association.

E. Refund to Employer

The Association agrees to refund to the Employer any amounts proven to have been improperly paid to the Association pursuant to Section 2.4 (A) of this MOU.

CHAPTER 3: COUNTY RIGHTS

ARTICLE 3.1 – MANAGEMENT RIGHTS

The Employer retains the exclusive right to manage the County. All the rights, powers,

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functions, and authority of the Employer which it had prior to the time the Association became certified as Representative of the employees of the Employer and which are not limited or modified by specific provisions of this MOU, are retained by the Employer. The Employer specifically retains the right to manage and supervise its employees as follows:

1. To hire, promote, transfer, assign, classify positions, retain employees, and to suspend, demote, discharge, or take other disciplinary action against employees.
2. To lay off, or demote employees from duties because of lack of work, lack of funds, in the interest of the economy, or other legitimate reasons.
3. To determine the policies, standards, procedures, methods, means and personnel by which County operations are to be conducted.
4. To take whatever actions may be necessary to carry out the mission of the County in situations of emergency.
5. All rights formerly or presently claimed by or vested in the County on the effective date of this MOU and not otherwise mentioned in this section are retained by the County unless explicitly waived by the County by Resolution or by a Memorandum of Understanding.
6. Nothing in this provision shall be construed to interfere with the County's right to manage its operations in the most economical and efficient manner consistent with the best interest of all the citizens, taxpayers, and employees of the County and consistent with the obligations of this MOU and the provisions of Meyers-Milias-Brown Act ("MMBA"), California Government Code Sections 3500 et. seq.
7. This MOU is intended to cover all aspects of wages, hours, and working conditions for employees covered herein. Therefore, nothing in this MOU shall prevent the Employer from modifying any matter not specifically provided for in this MOU, subject to meet and confer requirements of the MMBA.

CHAPTER 4: WAGES

ARTICLE 4.1 – SALARY

A. Base Wage Rate

1. The wage rates for all employee classes covered herein shall be as shown in the Salary Table identified as "[Peace Officer & Related Classifications](#)".
2. Shift differential pay, longevity pay, assignment pay, and all other incentives required to be paid under this MOU, will be separately calculated based solely on the employee's base rate of pay.

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B. Payroll

Employees shall receive monthly pay on the last working weekday of the month, except in circumstances which are beyond the control of the Board of Supervisors.

C. Automatic Deposit of Monthly Pay

The County shall provide employees the option of automatic deposit of their monthly pay to certain financial institutions.

D. Pay Card

Pay Cards shall be authorized to those employees who do not wish to have their pay electronically submitted via direct deposit to a financial institution.

ARTICLE 4.2 – SPECIFIED WAGE ADJUSTMENTS

A. Appointment to a Position in a Class with a Higher Rate of Pay

Employees appointed to a position of higher salary range than previously held as a result of promotion, position reclassification, or temporary assignment, to work out of class, shall be paid at the nearest higher salary in the new range which will provide at least a five percent (5%) increase, except that no increase shall exceed the “H” step of the new range. Salary increases pursuant to this Section shall be effective on the date of appointment, and in the case of promotion or reclassification, a new anniversary date shall be established.

B. Temporary Assignment Pay/Working Out of Class

When an employee is temporarily assigned work out-of-class, the employee will receive the pay of the higher class commencing on the 15th regularly scheduled consecutive working day of such assignment. Where the assignment is made, and the Employer has knowledge that it will be an extended vacancy/absence (more than fifteen (15) days) giving rise to the assignment, the acting pay differential shall commence immediately upon assignment. All requests for temporary assignments shall be submitted to the Director of Human Resources for authorization or denial.

C. Bilingual Compensation

Bilingual Pay shall be paid at the rate of \$65 per pay period.

Employees with bilingual skills may be eligible for bilingual pay for the use of a second language as requested by the department head. The Department of Human Resources shall

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schedule the employee for a proficiency examination after the request is received. Employees who are deemed proficient in the second language, will qualify for the bilingual pay. Part-time employees' bilingual pay shall be prorated. The effective date of the bilingual pay will be the pay period following the proficiency determination.

Employees who do not pass the proficiency examination must wait six (6) months to request to be retested. The decision of the Director of Human Resources to approve or remove bilingual pay shall be final and not subject to the grievance procedures.

Employees who move to another position that does not require the use of the second language shall have the bilingual pay removed.

Employees who receive bilingual pay and are absent without pay for more than eighty-eight (88) hours during a pay period, will not be eligible to receive the bilingual pay for that pay period.

D. P.O.S.T. Certification Incentive Pay

Incentive pay shall be granted to those employees in classes represented by the Association upon presentation of a valid Intermediate, Advanced and/or Supervisory P.O.S.T. Certificate awarded to them by the California Commission on Peace Officer Standards and Training (P.O.S.T.). Said incentive pay shall be paid for each certificate (cumulative) and calculated from the base rate of pay as follows:

1. Intermediate P.O.S.T. Certificate

Effective January 1, 2026, employees who possess an Intermediate certificate will receive an incentive pay of seven and a half percent (7.5%).

2. Advanced P.O.S.T. Certificate

Effective January 1, 2026, employees who possess an Advanced certificate will receive an incentive pay of three percent (3%).

3. Supervisory P.O.S.T. Certificate

Effective January 1, 2026, employees who possess a Supervisory certificate will receive an incentive pay of three percent (3%).

For employees who have not previously submitted evidence of P.O.S.T. Certification to the Department, incentive pay shall be effective on the first day of the pay period following submission of a valid applicable certificate.

E. Emergency Medical Technician Incentive Pay

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1. Employees in the following classifications who are certified as Emergency Medical Technicians (EMT) will be eligible to receive a two and one-half percent (2.5%) incentive to perform basic emergency medical services as needed while on duty: Deputy Sheriff (I/II), Sheriff's Corporal and Sheriff's Sergeant.
2. The two and one-half percent (2.5%) EMT incentive will become effective the pay period following submission of proof that the employee possesses any of the following:
 - a. Valid Central California Emergency Medical Services Authority EMT Card;
 - b. Valid California Emergency Medical Services Authority EMT Card;
 - c. Valid National Association of Emergency Medical Technicians Certification Card;
or
 - d. Valid National Registry of Emergency Medical Technicians Certification
3. Employees who do not possess one of the certification patterns referenced in 2a), 2b) or 2c) above can obtain certification by either:
 - a. Voluntarily paying for the appropriate course offerings that lead to the completion of an approved EMT training program; or
 - b. Participating in a free EMT training program available to the Madera County Sheriff's Department. Should the free EMT training program become unavailable to the Madera County Sheriff's Department, the Department will pay the cost of an approved EMT training program so long as the Department budget allows.

Regardless of how the course offerings are completed as referenced in 3a) and 3b) above, the Sheriff's Office agrees to pay all costs associated with the necessary registration process to complete the certification for all interested employees.
4. For those employees who possess, or subsequently obtain EMT certification it is agreed that the Sheriff's Office will cover the costs of any continuing education or training requirements needed to maintain certification. It is further agreed upon that the Sheriff's Office reserves the right to offer continuing education and training courses at no cost to the employee. Should the employee not participate in the no cost continuing education or training courses offered by the Sheriff's Office, it is understood that the employee shall bear all costs associated with such courses.
5. For those employees who either possess, or subsequently obtain EMT certification it is agreed upon that the Sheriff's Office will cover any initial National Registry certification and recertification fees. The Sheriff's Office shall remit payment for the National Registry certification and recertification fees directly to the vendor.

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6. Employees will be allowed on-duty time to complete any required EMT continuing education or training courses.
7. There is currently no maximum number of employees eligible to receive the EMT incentive; however, should a cap be necessary based on department operations, it is agreed upon that the Deputy Sheriff's Association will be contacted to participate in the meet and confer process prior to the Sheriff's Office instituting a cap.
8. Shift assignments and work locations will not be impacted based on an employee's EMT certification. If there are proposed changes in this regard, the Deputy Sheriff's Association will be contacted to participate in the meet and confer process.
9. The Sheriff's Office will pay for and provide the necessary EMT equipment for eligible employees (e.g., stethoscope, trauma scissors, etc.). Further, every patrol vehicle will be equipped with a standard medical kit; however, the EMT kit will contain enhanced equipment to ensure that basic emergency medical services can be performed by the employee receiving the EMT incentive.
10. Employees who are eligible for the EMT incentive and who perform basic emergency medical services understand that they will work within the scope of practice as an EMT and consistent with Title 22 of the California Code of Regulations (Division 9, Chapter 2).
11. That the two and one-half percent (2.5%) EMT incentive is defined as Special Compensation pursuant to the provisions of the California Public Employees Retirement System (CalPERS). As a result, the incentive is subject to the County's and the employee's retirement contribution rate each pay period and will be included as part of final compensation for retirement purposes.

F. Public Information Team (PIT) Incentive Pay

Effective November 1, 2017, incentive pay in the amount of three percent (3%) shall be granted to any unit employee who is assigned by their department head to perform duties related to the Madera County Public Information Team, as approved by the Board of Supervisors on October 24, 2017.

The employee assigned to perform duties related to the Madera County Public Information Team is also required to maintain the content of the department's website. The three percent (3%) incentive pay also compensates the employee for these duties.

That the three percent (3%) incentive pay is not defined as Special Compensation pursuant to the provisions of the California Public Employees Retirement System (CalPERS). As a result, the incentive is not subject to the County's or the assigned employee's retirement

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contribution rate each pay period and will not be included as part of final compensation for retirement purposes.

Should the three percent (3%) incentive pay become defined as Special Compensation, the County will begin the appropriate reporting to CalPERS, and the incentive pay will be subject to the County's and the assigned employee's retirement contribution rate each pay period.

The department head reserves the right to assign an employee to perform duties related to the Madera County Public Information Team and to maintain the department's website based on employee skill set, performance and/or operational need; therefore, the duties associated with the three percent (3%) incentive pay can be reassigned to other employees, who may be represented by a different bargaining unit.

G. Overpayment/Underpayment

The County Auditor-Controller shall be authorized to apply, in full, any necessary salary adjustment resulting from overpayment or underpayment to the net succeeding pay period, without regard to cause of such underpayment or overpayment except as provided below:

If the overpayment is \$150.00 or less, the County shall deduct the full amount from the employee's next payroll check. If the overpayment is greater than \$150.00, deductions from future paychecks shall be made at the same rate the employee was overpaid.

In cases of underpayment or overpayment, employees will be assisted by Auditor-Controller's staff to resolve the issue in the most timely manner possible and consistent with past practice.

ARTICLE 4.3 – ASSIGNMENT PAY

A. Maximum Assignment Pay

No employee shall receive assignment pay for which the cumulative total, when added to other assignments, exceeds ten percent (10%).

All assignment pays shall be calculated solely from the base rate of pay.

B. Detective Assignment

A Deputy Sheriff or Sheriff's Sergeant assigned to detectives by the Sheriff (or designee) shall be eligible for and receive compensation in the amount of an additional two and one-half percent (2½%). These assignments are exclusive of the Madera Narcotics Enforcement Team and High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area assignments.

C. Madera Narcotics Enforcement Team and High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area Assignments

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The Deputy Sheriff and/or Sheriff's Sergeant assigned to Madera Narcotics Enforcement Team and the High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area will be compensated, during their period of assignment, an additional two and one-half percent (2-1/2%).

D. Canine Assignment

Deputy Sheriff's and/or Sheriff's Sergeants approved to participate in the Canine Program shall receive fair and reasonable compensation in the amount of seven percent (7.00%) in recognition of the additional qualifications necessary to the task of dog handling. This compensation shall be in the nature of premium pay and is sufficient to compensate officers for any and all training and time necessary to perform these duties.

The County will provide Health Insurance for Pets (VPI Pet Insurance) at the premium cost not to exceed \$500.00 per year plus up to \$500.00 per year per dog for out-of-pocket care expenses. Out of pocket expenses over \$500.00 can be submitted to the Board of Supervisors for consideration.

E. Range Master Assignment

A Deputy Sheriff, Sheriff's Sergeant, or District Attorney Investigator assigned as a Rangemaster by their respective Department Head (or designee) shall be eligible for and receive compensation in the amount of an additional two and one-half percent (2½%). A maximum of one (1) District Attorney Investigator shall be eligible for Rangemaster assignment pay within the District Attorney's Office. There shall be no maximum set for the Sheriff's Office; however, all assignments shall be based on operational need.

F. Field Training Officer (FTO) Assignment

A Sheriff's Sergeant assigned to perform Field Training duties will be compensated, during the period of assignment, an additional two and one-half percent (2½%). No more than one (1) Sergeant shall be eligible to receive this assignment pay at any one time.

G. SWAT Team Assignment

A Deputy Sheriff, Sheriff's Corporal or Sheriff's Sergeant assigned to the SWAT Team who meet the criteria for certification as a marksperson shall be compensated, during the period of assignment, an additional two and one-half percent (2.5%). No more than eleven (11) Sheriff's Sergeants, Sheriff's Corporals or Deputy Sheriffs shall be eligible to receive such assignment pay.

H. Dive Team Assignment

A Deputy Sheriff, Sheriff's Corporal or Sheriff's Sergeant assigned to the Dive Team and who possesses basic open water diver certification shall be compensated, during the period of

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assignment, an additional two and one-half percent (2.5%).

I. Hostage/Crisis Negotiations Team Assignment

A Deputy Sheriff, Sheriff’s Corporal or Sheriff’s Sergeant assigned to the Hostage/Crisis Negotiations Team and who meets or have met the following educational requirements shall be compensated, during the period of assignment, an additional two and one-half percent (2.5%):

1. Received a POST certificate for completing a course of education in Crisis Intervention; or
2. Received a POST certificate for completing a course of education in Hostage Negotiations; or
3. Received a certificate for completing a course of education in Basic Crisis Negotiations offered by the US Department of Justice, Federal Bureau of Investigations.

J. Search and Rescue Team Assignment

A Deputy Sheriff, Sheriff’s Corporal or Sheriff’s Sergeant who is assigned to the Search and Rescue Team and who has completed the required educational courses and/or obtained the required certifications shall be compensated, during the period of assignment, an additional two and one-half percent (2.5%).

ARTICLE 4.4 – CLASSIFICATIONS

A. Classification Specifications

If during the term of this MOU, classification specifications are created or deleted for classes within the Peace Officer Unit, the Employer agrees to discuss with the Association the proposed adoption or deletion of such classification specifications and meet and confer over proposed salary ranges.

B. Reclassification

If an employee covered by this MOU is permanently assigned work of a substantially new or different nature so as to constitute a new job class as determined by the Civil Service Commission, the Employer and the Association acting under the provisions of the Madera County Code shall determine the wage rate through established procedures.

ARTICLE 4.5 – SHIFT DIFFERENTIAL

A. Night Duty Differential

Employees who are required to perform night duty as defined herein on regularly established shifts, shall, in addition to their regular salary, be paid \$5.00 per night shift worked.

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Effective January 1, 2026, employees who are required to perform night duty as defined herein on regularly established shifts shall receive a differential of two and a half percent (2.5%) calculated from the base rate of pay. Employees who are primarily assigned to day shifts and temporarily cover a night shift shall not be eligible for the night duty differential.

B. Night Duty Defined

A night shift shall mean an assigned schedule of work hours of which at least seventy-five percent (75%) of the shift is after 5:00 P.M. and before 8:00 A.M.

C. Night Duty Limitation

Night duty, as herein provided, does not include overtime, standby time, or call-back overtime.

Employees who are absent without pay for more than eighty-eight (88) hours during a pay period will not receive the Night Duty Differential for that pay period.

ARTICLE 4.6 – PROBATIONARY PERIOD

A. Probationary Period Timeframe

An employee appointed from an eligible list to a permanent position shall serve a probationary period consisting of twelve (12) full calendar months in paid status.

B. Step Placement

All employees placed on Step A will remain on Step A for twelve (12) months in a paid status before being moved to Step B.

CHAPTER 5: FRINGE BENEFITS

ARTICLE 5.1 – HEALTH AND WELFARE

A. Plan Contribution

The County agrees to fund and maintain a health benefit program at the contribution rate of 95% for single member coverage and an additional 50% of the difference for either two-party or dependent coverage using the lowest premium rate CalPERS HMO health plan (excluding Kaiser), offered Dental Program and the Vision Service Plan.

B. Primary Plan

Effective with the 2015 Plan year, County employees hired on or after January 1, 2015, and whose spouse or registered domestic partner works for the Madera County Superior Court

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shall no longer receive the County’s ‘two-spouse employed rate’ and shall be required to choose either the County as the primary employer for health insurance coverage or obtain coverage as a dependent through their Court-employed spouse or registered domestic partner.

C. Evidence of Outside Health Coverage

Any employee providing evidence of health coverage from an outside source, comparable to the coverage options with the County of Madera, will be eligible to have the County pay one hundred dollars (\$100) per pay period into a deferred compensation account in lieu of participation in the County health benefit program.

ARTICLE 5.2 – FLEXIBLE BENEFITS

Employer will provide an IRS Section 125 program, that includes a premium conversion program for medical, dental and vision benefits and flexible spending accounts. The flexible spending account (FSA) program provides for employees to set aside pre-tax payroll deductions to pay for reimbursable medical and/or dependent care expenses. This program will comply with IRS regulations and be administered totally at the expense of participants in the expanded program.

ARTICLE 5.3 – EMPLOYEE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

Employer will contract with a licensed health care services provider for an Employee Assistance Program that will provide employees and their dependents confidential behavioral health counseling for a total of up to three (3) visits each six (6) months.

ARTICLE 5.4 – RETIREMENT

A. CalPERS “Classic Members” Retirement Benefit Formula

The Employer agrees to maintain the CalPERS 3%@55 local safety retirement formula for all employees hired and/or employed as of December 31, 2012. This retirement formula will also apply to those employees who are hired on or after January 1, 2013, and who are defined as “classic members” pursuant to the California Public Employee Pension Reform Act (PEPRA). In addition, the Employer agrees to maintain the single highest year basis for retirement computation pursuant to Government Code Section 20042.

B. CalPERS “New Employees” Retirement Benefit Formula

Pursuant to PEPRA, the Employer is required to offer and maintain the CalPERS 2.7%@57 local safety retirement formula for all “new employees” hired on or after January 1, 2013 [Government Code Section 7522.25 (a) (d) (e)], with the highest 36-consecutive months as the basis for retirement computation [Government Code Section 7522.32 (a)].

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C. Employee Retirement Contribution Rates

1. Classic Members:
Classic members shall continue paying the full 9% employee contribution for the CalPERS 3%@55 local safety retirement formula.
2. New Employees:
New employees shall continue paying 50% of the normal cost as determined by CalPERS for the 2.7%@57 local safety retirement formula.

D. Military Credit

The Employer agrees to maintain a contract amendment with CalPERS to provide an option for employees to purchase military service credit as public service at the employee’s expense pursuant to Government Code Section 21024.

ARTICLE 5.5 – SPECIAL COMPENSATION

A. Longevity Pay

Additional compensation shall be given to employees who have completed ten (10), fifteen (15) and twenty (20) years of continuous full-time, satisfactory service with the County. Longevity pay shall be calculated solely from the base rate of pay. Longevity pay shall become effective the first pay period following the Employee reaching the corresponding years of continuous full-time, satisfactory service benchmark.

B. Longevity Pay Schedule

The Longevity Pay Schedule is as follows:

# Of Years of Continuous Full-time, Satisfactory Service	Total Additional Percentage Paid to the Employee (Calculated Based on Employee’s Base Rate of Pay)
10 years-14 years	5.00%
15 years-19 years	7.50%
20 + years	10.00%

ARTICLE 5.6 – SICK LEAVE

A. Sick Leave Accrual and Payout

Employees in the Peace Officer Unit shall be allowed eight (8) hours of sick leave credit for each pay period of continuous full-time service and shall be limited to one thousand (1,000)

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hours in the number of sick leave hours to accumulate. Existing hours held by employees in excess of one thousand (1,000) shall remain accumulated. Upon retirement, accrued sick leave shall be converted to service credit pursuant to Section ‘E’ below. Upon termination, employees shall be paid for their sick leave balances according to the following table:

Years of Service	Percentage of Current Hourly Rate		
	A – 0 to 75 Days	B – 76 to 150 Days	C – Over 150 Days
5 to 9 Years	15%	7.5%	3%
10 to 14 Years	25%	12.5%	5%
15 to 19 Years	35%	17.5%	7%
20 + Years	50%	25%	10%

For purposes of calculation, upon termination, the first seventy-five (75) days of sick leave accrual shall be compensated at a rate not to exceed 50% of the current hourly rate as shown in Column “A”. For additional sick leave accrued above 75 days, but not exceeding 150 days, sick leave compensation shall be paid at the rate shown in Column “B”. For sick leave days accrued in excess of 150 days, compensation shall be at the rate shown in Column “C”.

B. Sick Leave Usage

Except as hereinafter provided, sick leave pay shall be granted only by the Department Head and only in the case of:

- a. Employee absence required by the employee’s bona fide illness or injury causing inability to work.
- b. Exposure to contagious disease requiring quarantine.
- c. To obtain a diagnosis, consultation, care or treatment of an existing health condition, or the preventative care, for the employee or for an employee’s family member as provided for pursuant to Labor Code section 246.5.
- d. An employee who is a victim of domestic violence, sexual assault or stalking as provided by Labor Code section 246.5.
- e. An Employee’s need for leave as a result of a reproductive loss event pursuant to Government Code section 12945.6.

C. Verification of Treatment

The Department Head or the Director of Human Resources may in any case require a physician’s certificate establishing the necessity for an employee’s absence on sick leave or for all absences for consultation or treatment. Verification (such as an e-mail, website screenshot, fax, etc.) of an in-person, telephonic or other virtual consult/treatment session shall suffice pursuant to this Section.

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D. Exceptions

Employees will not be entitled to sick leave while absent from duty on account of any of the following, except as provided:

1. Disability arising from any sickness or injury purposely self-inflicted or caused by other willful misconduct.
2. Sickness or disability sustained while on leave of absence other than his or her regular vacation.

E. Conversion of Accrued Sick Leave into Service Credit

1. Effective March 2020, current and prospective County employees who retire from County service shall have all unused accrued sick leave hours converted to CalPERS service credit.
2. If the employee is at maximum CalPERS service credit at the time of retirement, all unused accrued sick leave hours shall be paid out pursuant to the sick leave payoff provision outlined in their respective MOU.
3. At the time of retirement from County employment, the County shall certify to CalPERS the amount of unused accrued sick leave hours that is available for the employee to convert to service credit.
4. Unused accrued sick leave at the time retirement is to be converted to sick leave credit at the rate of 0.004 years of service credit for each day (eight (8) hours) of unused sick leave (i.e., 250 (eight (8) hour) days, or 2,000 hours, of sick leave equals one additional year of service credit). All partial credits will be calculated by proration using the formula determined by CalPERS.
5. Employees who terminate their employment with Madera County for a reason other than retirement, or for employees who are terminated for cause, except in those instances where there is an agreement between both parties that the employee retires in lieu of termination, are ineligible to convert unused accrued sick leave to service credit. Ineligible employees shall be paid out for their unused accrued sick leave pursuant to the sick leave payoff provision outlined in their respective MOU.

F. Use of Sick Leave during Probationary Period

Subject to all other requirements, employees shall be allowed to use any accrued sick leave during their probationary period.

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ARTICLE 5.7 – VACATION LEAVE

A. Vacation Accrual

The Employer agrees to maintain the current vacation accrual as follows:

<u>Years of Service</u>	<u>Accrual Rate</u>
<u>0 - 1</u>	<u>6.67 hours per pay period</u>
<u>1 - 2 ½</u>	<u>8 hours per pay period</u>
<u>2 ½ - 5 ½</u>	<u>10 hours per pay period</u>
<u>5 ½ -10</u>	<u>12 hours per pay period</u>
<u>10+</u>	<u>14 hours per pay period</u>

Accruals are credited at the end of the pay period in which they are earned, and the hours are available for the employee’s use in the following pay period subject to departmental procedures for requesting time off.

B. Payout of Vacation Hours Over Vacation Cap

Employees may accrue vacation time to the total of forty-five (45) days (360 hours). If, through no fault of the employee, the Employer denies the employee the opportunity to use accrued vacation time, further accrual will be paid in cash until such time as accrued vacation time is reduced below the forty-five (45) day (360 hours) maximum.

C. Usage of Vacation When Over the Vacation Cap

It is acknowledged that during the County’s Furlough Program from January 2010 through June 2013 certain employee vacation leave balances exceeded the 360-hour vacation cap due to the temporary waiver granted during this timeframe. As a result, the 360-hour vacation cap was reinstated effective July 1, 2013.

Individual employee vacation balances in effect as of June 30, 2013, became the new maximum cap and employees shall not earn or accrue additional vacation hours until such time as their balances are at or below 360 hours.

The County’s long-standing practice of allowing employees who are at the 360-hour cap to earn vacation hours and utilize them in the next succeeding pay period shall be reinstated only where an employee’s vacation balance decreases to or is at the 360-hour cap.

D. Vacation Cash Out Program

1. Employees may be eligible to cash out up to eighty (80) hours of accrued leave (excluding sick leave) per calendar year.

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2. Eligible employees can cash out the accrued hours up to two (2) times per year. The established cash out pay periods are in March and November of each calendar year.
3. In order to cash out leave hours under this section, employees must complete an irrevocable election pre-designating the number of accrued leave hours (up to eighty (80)) the employee will cash out in the two cash out pay periods in the following year. Only hours accrued in the calendar year following the date of the election will be eligible for cash out.
4. Any leave hours accrued in previous calendar years, and leave hours accrued in the present calendar year which have not previously been designated for cash out pursuant to an election, shall remain in the employee's leave bank and are not eligible for cash out.
5. Eligible employees may cash out any combination of hours, up to the pre-designated amount in the employee's election, in March, November, or both, provided that the employee has accrued that amount of hours in the calendar year in which the election is effective. Employees may not cash out less than ten (10) hours in the pay period in which they choose to cash out hours.
6. Eligible employees and the impacted accrued leave balances are defined/outlined as follows:
 - a. An eligible employee must have executed an irrevocable election for the current year and have at least one hundred (100) hours of accrued vacation at the end of the pay period preceding the cash out pay period. For example, an eligible employee must have a minimum of one hundred (100) hours of accrued vacation as of the end of February to be eligible to cash out hours in March.
 - b. If an eligible employee has a vacation balance that exceeds three hundred and sixty (360) hours at the end of the pay period preceding the cash out pay period, the cash out hours shall only be deducted from their vacation balance.
 - c. If an eligible employee has a vacation balance that is less than three hundred and sixty (360) hours at the end of the pay period preceding the cash out pay period, the cash out hours can be deducted, in any combination, from their vacation, compensation time off (CTO) and/or holiday compensation balances. The minimum number of ten (10) cash out hours still applies and can be spread among the three referenced balances in this subsection.
7. All cash out hours shall be paid at the employee's hourly rate that was in effect during the pay period of the cash out.
8. The employee must submit their irrevocable cash out election to their assigned departmental payroll representative by December 15th of the calendar year prior to

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- the year in which the designated hours will be earned. Any employee who does not file an election by December 15th of the present calendar year will not be eligible to cash out any leave hours pursuant to this section in the following calendar year.
9. Following submission of an employee's election, the assigned departmental payroll representative shall: 1) ensure that employees interested in participating in the cash out program meet the minimum eligibility requirements as stated herein; and 2) submit the election form to the Department of Human Resources.
 10. Employees eligible to receive a cash out understand that the Auditor-Controller's Office is obligated to withhold any personal income taxes due pursuant to Federal and State Law, and that the cash out and all other reportable income will be reported and included on participating employees' annual W-2 forms. Employees also understand that they are solely responsible for any personal Federal and/or State income tax obligations associated with participation in the Cash Out Program. The County is not responsible for advising employees about any State or Federal tax obligations, nor is the County responsible for paying any portion of an employee's tax obligation.
 11. The cash outs are not defined as Special Compensation pursuant to the provisions of the California Public Employees Retirement System (CalPERS). As a result, cash outs are not subject to the County's or the eligible employee's retirement contribution rate each pay period and will not be included as part of final compensation for retirement purposes.
 12. All accrued leave hours in an employee's leave bank that are not cashed out pursuant to this section shall be available for leave usage and/or for pay out upon separation from employment, where applicable.

ARTICLE 5.8 – HOLIDAYS

The following days are established as holidays for employees of the Peace Officer Unit:

New Year's Day, January 1
Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, the third Monday in January
Presidents' Day, the third Monday in February
Memorial Day, the last Monday in May
Juneteenth, June 19
Independence Day, July 4
Labor Day, the first Monday in September
Veteran's Day, November 11
Thanksgiving Day, the fourth Thursday in November
Friday After Thanksgiving
Christmas Day, December 25

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8-Hour Winter Holiday (to be taken Christmas Eve)

Two Floating Holidays

Floating holidays will be available for use or credited to leave balances for employees in probationary/permanent status as follows: two (2) floating holidays on January 1 of each year. Use of the floating holidays may be requested and scheduled in accordance with provisions of Madera County Code Section 2.60.590.

In addition, any day specified as a holiday (not to be confused with days of thanksgiving, prayer, fasting, or otherwise) by executive order of the Governor of the State of California or the President of the United States shall be a paid holiday.

Effective January 1, 2011, whenever a holiday falls on a Saturday or Sunday, the previous Friday, or the following Monday respectively, shall be recognized in lieu thereof. Any officer or employee whose regularly scheduled day off falls on a holiday or who is otherwise required to work on a holiday shall be entitled to a day off with pay to be taken in accordance with the provisions of Madera County Code Section 2.60.590.

ARTICLE 5.9 – SPECIAL LEAVE WITH PAY

An employee shall be granted special leave with pay not to exceed a total of eighty (80) hours in any one calendar year to be charged to sick leave in the event of an illness of or preventive care for an employee's immediate family member. Immediate family member is defined as the employee's spouse, child, parent, registered domestic partner, grandparent, grandchild, sibling, father or mother in-law, or a designated person*. Child may include biological, adopted, foster, step, legal ward, or a child to whom the employee stands in loco parentis. The definition of child applies regardless of age or dependency status. Parent may include biological, adoptive, foster, step, legal guardian of the employee or employee's spouse or registered domestic partner, or a person who stood in loco parentis when the employee was a minor.

*For specific information regarding a designated person, refer to Government Code section 12945.2 (1)(b)(2).

ARTICLE 5.10 – BEREAVEMENT LEAVE

Employees will be entitled to three (3) days (not to exceed twenty-four hours) paid Bereavement Leave not to be charged to any personal balance per occurrence for the death of an immediate family member. An employee shall be granted special leave with pay not to exceed a total of fifty-six (56) hours in any one calendar year to be charged to any available leave in the event of a death of the employee's immediate family member. "Immediate family member" is defined as spouse, registered domestic partner, children, stepchildren, parents,

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grandparents, grandchildren, brothers, sisters, and father or mother in-law. Child may include biological, adopted, foster, step, legal ward, or a child to whom the employee stands in loco parentis. The definition of child applies regardless of age or dependency status. Parent may include biological, adoptive, foster, step, legal guardian of the employee or employee's spouse or registered domestic partner, or a person who stood in loco parentis when the employee was a minor.

When requesting to utilize sick leave related to a death of a family member, the definition of immediate family member is outlined in Article 5.9.

CHAPTER 6: TERMS AND CONDITIONS

ARTICLE 6.1 – HOURS OF WORK

A. Workweek and Working Hours

Except as specifically provided in this MOU, eight (8) hours per day, exclusive of mealtime, shall constitute a regular day's work for employees covered by this MOU. The established FLSA work period shall not exceed one hundred and seventy-one (171) hours per twenty-eight (28) day work period. The 28-day work period shall be based on that which commenced at 00:01 A.M., Saturday, September 24, 1994. The monthly salary designated by range in the table in Section 1.2(B) is based upon working and/or use of paid leave benefits five (5) days per week, eight (8) hours per day, for all calendar months in a year.

1. Patrol Duty Workday:

(13.02.00) The regular workday for employees assigned to patrol duty may consist of twelve (12) hours including mealtime. Employees assigned to patrol duty shall be required to remain on duty during their mealtime.

B. Alternate Work Schedule

Alternate schedules and shift patterns (e.g., 4/10) may be implemented upon mutual agreement of the Department Head and the Association, with final approval by the Board of Supervisors.

Any mutually agreed upon alternative work schedule or shift pattern will be re-evaluated after a ninety (90) day period. During the ninety (90) day evaluation period, the Department Head or the Association may terminate the schedule by a request in writing no later than fifteen (15) days prior to the end of the ninety (90) day period.

If the alternative work schedule or shift pattern is not terminated as specified above, a second ninety (90) day evaluation period shall occur during which the Department Head may terminate the schedule by notifying the Association in writing of the decision.

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C. Extra Help Shift Coverage at the Madera County Jail

1. Work opportunities of a voluntary and sporadic nature may be offered to those represented by the Deputy Sheriff's Association for shift coverage at the Madera County Jail.
2. Compensation will be based upon each employee's regular hourly rate of pay, not to exceed the 'H' Step hourly rate of the Correctional Officer II classification.
3. Hours worked shall be calculated pursuant to the terms and conditions for overtime set forth in that Memorandum of Understanding which is applicable to each employee's regular full-time employment. Other entitlements, or provisions of the Memorandum applicable to regular full-time employment, shall not be applicable to sporadic employment, i.e., work out of class, night premium, call back, etc.
4. Deputy Sheriffs performing the work and duties of Madera County Correctional Officers pursuant to this section shall retain their classification designations as Deputy Sheriffs for all purposes. The parties acknowledge and agree that the principal duties of Deputy Sheriffs working in the County's correctional/detention facility pursuant to this section remain that of Deputy Sheriff.
5. Hours worked at the Madera County Jail shall be recorded on a separate timesheet and submitted to the Assistant Sheriff or their designee each pay period, pursuant to normal deadlines for timesheets. There shall be no option to accrue compensatory time in lieu of overtime pay for hours worked during shift coverage pursuant to this section.
6. The parties shall submit a combined roster with the name and contact numbers of employees who are eligible to work pursuant to this section. Said roster shall list employees in the order by which contact should be made.
7. All employees working subject to this section shall be responsible for ensuring that the totality of hours worked in both their regular employment and in their extra-help employment are in compliance with established safety criteria, which is listed below as Exhibit 'A'.
8. During the term of this Memorandum of Understanding, all parties shall agree to meet, as necessary, for the purpose of discussing unresolved issues.
9. This section shall not confer upon any Employee an expectation, right, or entitlement to work or receive shift coverage hours, nor shall it limit the County's exclusive right to employ and schedule employees outside of the Deputy Sheriff's Association for full-time, part-time, extra-help, temporary, or sporadic service with the Madera County Jail.
10. Nothing in this section shall constitute a practice or benefit of employment not otherwise provided in current recognized Memoranda of Understanding.

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Exhibit A – Safety Criteria

Madera County Custodial Facilities – 8 Hour Work Schedules

Safety Criteria for the protection of employees, as well as those in our custody, has been previously established as follows:

In any given seven (7) day work period, as reported on the timecard, overtime shall not exceed 32 extra hours worked.

Officers are not to work more than (1) “back-to-back” shift in any two (2) day (48 hour) period.

There shall be a minimum of one full day (24 hours) off during the seven (7) day work period as reported on the timecard.

Officers must have eight (8) hours off duty after working any consecutive 16 hours.

ARTICLE 6.2 – OVERTIME

A. Definition of Overtime

Notwithstanding the established FLSA work period, the term “overtime” as used herein shall mean the hours actually worked over forty (40) in a seven (7) day period for employees working eight (8) or ten (10) hour shifts. For employees working twelve (12) hour shifts who are regularly scheduled to work eighty (80) hours in a fourteen (14) day period, contractual overtime will be paid for hours actually worked over eighty (80) hours in the fourteen (14) day period. If employees working twelve (12) hour shifts are regularly scheduled to work eighty-four (84) hours in a fourteen (14) day period, overtime will be paid for hours actually worked over eighty-four (84) hours in the fourteen (14) day period. Paid leave hours, absences without pay and holidays observed are not considered hours actually worked when calculating overtime hours. Overtime hours are paid at one and one-half times (1.5x) the employee’s regular rate of pay.

B. Authorization Required

Employees shall not work overtime unless authorized by the Department Head, or designee.

C. Compensatory Time

Employees required to work overtime shall be compensated by allowing the employee compensatory time off (CTO) or cash at the employees’ option. Employees may accumulate up to a maximum of 240 hours in a CTO bank to be maintained and governed in accordance with the Fair Labor Standards Act. Any overtime in excess of 240 hours shall be payable in cash only. Employees will be permitted reasonable opportunities to use compensatory time off. Notwithstanding the above, the employee and Employer may mutually agree to have any and all

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compensatory time paid in cash.

All payments for overtime worked shall be included in the regular salary check in the pay period in which it was earned.

Following ratification of this MOU, should an overtime eligible employee move into an overtime exempt position, any accumulated CTO shall be paid out to the employee at the employee’s regular rate of pay prior to the position change.

ARTICLE 6.3 – STANDBY COMPENSATION

A. Definition of Standby

When the Employer requires an employee to remain available for call back at any time, the employee shall receive standby pay. Except in cases of emergency, all standbys shall be approved in advance by the Department Head or designee.

B. Standby Pay

When an employee is required to standby, the employee shall be compensated for such standby time at the rate of one dollar and twenty cents (\$1.20) per hour.

C. “Take Home-Car” Policy

Employees of the Sheriff’s Office who elect to participate in the Department’s “take-home- car” program shall do so subject to the Sheriff’s General Order VI-4, dated, February 1, 2010, and shall not be eligible for standby pay as a result.

ARTICLE 6.4 – CALL-BACK COMPENSATION

A. Definition of Call-Back

When the Employer, due to an emergency, or by order of the Court, requires the employee to return to work other than their regularly scheduled workday, the employee shall be entitled to Call Back compensation.

B. Minimum Compensation

The Employer shall compensate the employee a minimum of four (4) hours overtime compensation irrespective of the actual time worked when an employee is called back to perform an emergency task. In the event the task exceeds four (4) hours duration, the total compensation shall be for hours actually worked.

C. Call-Back – Sheriff’s Sergeant Assigned to Detective Division

When the Employer requires a Sheriff’s Sergeant assigned to the Detective Division to return to work other than their regularly scheduled workday, the employee will be entitled to a

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minimum of four (4) hours overtime compensation. In the event the task exceeds four (4) hours duration, the total compensation shall be for hours actually worked.

D. Call-Back by Order of the Court

When an employee is called back by order of the Court, the Employer shall compensate the employee, including Sheriff's Sergeants assigned to the Detective Division, a minimum of three (3) hours overtime compensation irrespective of the actual hours worked. In the event the Court appearance exceeds three (3) hours duration, the total compensation shall be for hours actually worked.

ARTICLE 6.5 – REIMBURSEMENTS AND PROVIDED EQUIPMENT

A. Uniform Allowance

The Employer agrees to fund a uniform allowance at a rate of \$75.00 per pay period for classes in the Peace Officer Unit, with the exception of those employees in the class of District Attorney Investigator.

1. SWAT Assignment

Employees assigned to SWAT shall receive an additional twenty-five dollars (\$25) per pay period in uniform allowance.

2. Search and Rescue Assignment

Employees assigned to Search and Rescue shall receive an additional four dollars and seventeen cents (\$4.17) per pay period in uniform allowance.

Employees who receive a uniform allowance and are absent without pay for more than eighty-eight (88) hours during a pay period, will not receive the uniform allowance payment for that pay period.

B. Safety Eyewear

Employees who regularly wear prescription eyeglasses will be reimbursed for the difference between the cost of one pair of regular prescription lenses versus prescription safety lenses. Reimbursement shall be made upon submission of an invoice to the Department of Human Resources setting forth the difference in the cost of safety lenses.

ARTICLE 6.6 – FURLOUGH HOURS TIME OFF BANK

Employees with unused furlough bank hours may continue to retain and utilize the hours remaining in the separate time off bank (TOB). Employees are required to use the TOB hours before using sick or vacation leave, pursuant to existing practice and/or contract terms. TOB shall have no impact on the vacation cap accrual.

Individual employee vacation balances in effect as of June 30, 2013, became the new

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maximum cap and employees shall not earn or accrue additional vacation hours until such time as their balances are at or below 360 hours.

ARTICLE 6.7 – SAFETY

A. Promoting the Prevention of Accidents

The Employer and the Association undertake to promote in every way possible the realization and the responsibilities of the individual employee with regard to preventing accidents to themselves or their fellow employees.

B. Compliance with Laws and Regulations

The Employer shall comply with all applicable laws and regulations pertaining to occupational safety and health.

C. Safety and Health Provisions

The Employer agrees to make all reasonable provisions for the safety and health of its employees.

D. Safety and Health Hazards

In the event any safety or health hazard is detected, it shall promptly be reported to the appropriate supervisor. The Employer shall remedy the problem as soon as possible and no employee shall be exposed to the unsafe conditions pending its correction.

E. No Retaliation

No employee shall be discharged or otherwise disciplined for bringing to the attention of their supervisor any unsafe condition that may exist.

F. Safety Eyewear

See Article 6.6 Reimbursements and Provided Equipment for details.

ARTICLE 6.8 – EMPLOYEE FILES

A. Department of Human Resources Files

The Department of Human Resources shall keep such records, in compliance with applicable laws, as are necessary for transactions and reference and for making reports showing administrative actions, including records of all examinations; eligible lists; records and files of employment history of each employee; history of each position; and correspondence. The Department of Human Resources shall designate a human resources information system (HRIS) to track and maintain the vacation, sick leave, and other accrual leaves for County employees. The HRIS shall be the system of record for all vacation, sick leave, and other

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accrual leaves of County employees.

B. Auditor-Controller's Office Files

The records of payrolls shall be maintained in the database of the Office of the Auditor-Controller, which shall be the official record of payrolls and audit reports of vacation, sick leave, and other accrual of leave. Each employee shall be entitled to a copy of their own record of pay and leave accrual and usage, whether provided with each paycheck or upon request.

C. Confidential Nature of Personnel Records

All official personnel records/files shall be considered to be of a confidential nature and will be made available only to the employee, to the Board of Supervisors, to the employee's department head or their representative. Records shall not be released to any other official or to the public without specific authorization of the employee, except in response to a valid subpoena.

D. Documents Critical of an Employee

All documents critical of an employee including performance evaluations, to be placed in the personnel file, shall be subject to the requirements of Government Code Sections 3305 and 3306.

E. Peace Officer Rights

All peace officers shall be afforded rights guaranteed them in Government Code Section 3300 et seq.

CHAPTER 7: PROCEDURES

ARTICLE 7.1 – GRIEVANCE PROCEDURES

A. Grievance Definition

The term "grievance" as used herein shall refer to a complaint or claim by an employee, a group of employees or the Association (hereinafter collectively "Grievant") alleging a violation of the specific terms of this MOU, or a violation of established rules, regulations, or policies of the Employer.

B. Adjustment Procedure

Adjustment Procedure – Any Grievant having any grievance shall proceed as follows:

A written grievance must be filed within fifteen (15) calendar days from the time the Grievant

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becomes aware or should have become aware of the issue or incident giving rise to the problem.

The Grievance shall contain a complete statement of the grievance, the alleged facts upon which the Grievance is based, the section(s) of the MOU alleged to have been violated and the desired remedy. Failure to provide sufficient information may deem the Grievance to be invalid.

1. The Grievant shall first seek an adjustment of the grievance by the immediate supervisor unless the supervisor is a party to the grievance. Upon receipt of the written grievance, the immediate supervisor shall give the Grievant a written reply within fifteen (15) calendar days.
2. If the immediate supervisor's response is not satisfactory to the Grievant, the Grievant may, within fifteen (15) calendar days, file an appeal to the Department Head. The Department Head or their designee shall give the Grievant a written response within fifteen (15) calendar days.
3. If the Department Head's response is not satisfactory to the Grievant, the Grievant may, within fifteen (15) calendar days, file an appeal to the Director of Human Resources. The Director of Human Resources may take steps to resolve the grievance or may notify the employee of the need to proceed. The employee may then elect to have the parties meet with a mediator from the State of California's Mediation and Conciliation Services in an attempt to resolve the Grievance.
4. The Employer and the Grievant may mutually agree to waive steps 1, 2 and 3 and proceed directly to a Grievance Advisory Committee (Committee).
5. If the Grievance remains unresolved after Step 3, the Grievant may, within fifteen (15) calendar days, file an appeal to the Director of Human Resources requesting a hearing before a Grievance Advisory Committee ("Committee").
 - a. The Committee shall be comprised of one (1) employee representative selected by the Grievant, one (1) employee representative selected by the Department Head, and one (1) member of the Civil Service Commission, selected by the President of the Commission, who shall serve as Chairman. No member of the Committee selected by the Grievant and Department Head shall be from the Department of the Grievant or have direct involvement in the grievance in question.
 - b. The Grievance Advisory Committee shall be convened within thirty (30) calendar days to hear the grievance.
 - c. Each party shall have the right to appear before the Committee and be represented by legal counsel. The Committee shall render a written

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recommendation for resolution of the grievance, including the remedy, within thirty (30) calendar days following the hearing.

- d. The Committee’s recommendation shall be submitted to the Civil Service Commission for its review and decision. Should the Commission not accept the findings or recommendations of the Committee, a hearing date shall be set to review the case. The decision of the Commission shall be final.

C. Timeline Limits

All time limits outlined under the grievance procedures may be extended by mutual agreement of the parties.

D. Waived Grievances

Grievances not presented in writing pursuant to Section (B) above within the time limits prescribed shall be deemed waived and shall not be subject to the appeal procedure.

ARTICLE 7.2 – IMPASSE PROCEDURES

A. Definition of Impasse

“Impasse” as used herein shall mean that the representatives of the Employer and the Association have reached a point in their meeting and conferring in good faith on the terms of a successor MOU where their differences on matters to be included in such MOU and concerning which they are required to meet and confer, remain so substantial that further meeting and conferring would be futile.

B. Initiation of Impasse Procedures

If the meet and confer process has reached impasse, either party may submit a written request to the other party for an impasse meeting together with a statement of its position on all disputed issues. An impasse meeting shall then be scheduled promptly by the County’s designated Human Resources’ staff member.

The purpose of such impasse meeting shall be:

1. To identify and specify in writing the issues that remain in dispute.
2. To review the parties’ position(s) in a final effort to resolve the disputed issue or issues.
3. If the dispute is not resolved, to discuss arrangements for the utilization of the impasse procedures as provided.

C. Mediation

If either party desires to submit the dispute to mediation, the dispute shall be submitted to

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the State Mediation and Conciliation Service. All mediation proceedings shall be private. The mediator shall make no public recommendation, nor take any public position at any time concerning the issues.

D. Fact-Finding

If the parties are unable to resolve the impasse within thirty (30) days after the appointment of a mediator, the Association may request that the parties' differences be submitted to a fact-finding panel in accordance with Government Code Sections 3505.4 and 3505.5.

ARTICLE 7.3 – REDUCTION IN FORCE

A. Layoffs

Layoffs shall be within each department by inverse order of seniority within the designated class, subject to bumping rights within the identified class series represented by the Bargaining Unit.

B. Calculating Seniority

For purposes of reductions in force and lay-off, the calculations of classification, department, and county-wide seniority will exclude any time an employee is absent without pay. Overtime hours will not be counted towards seniority.

C. Same Classification

For purposes of reductions in force and lay-off, the classifications of Deputy Sheriff I and Deputy Sheriff II shall be considered the same classification.

D. First to be Laid Off

Temporary and provisional employees shall be laid off first.

E. Notification to Employees

Should the Board of Supervisors determine a reduction in staff is necessary, the employees identified for lay-off will be notified in writing as far in advance of the effective date as possible, but not less than thirty (30) days prior to the action. Employees will also be informed of their bumping rights to a formerly held lower class within the class series represented by the bargaining unit and/or their placement on the reinstatement eligible list. A copy of the notification will be submitted concurrently to the Association.

F. Layoff Order

When positions within the same department are identified for reduction, employees in the affected classification(s) will be laid off (subject to bumping rights) in the following order:

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1. Employee with the least seniority in the class.
2. Employee with the least seniority within the department.
3. Employee with the least seniority County-Wide.
4. The date in which the employee's application was received by the Department of Human Resources for the class affected by the lay-off.

G. Voluntary Layoff

Voluntary lay-off may be granted to an employee even though the employee has sufficient seniority to avoid lay-off. The purpose of this provision is to permit the substitution of a more senior employee for lay-off for that of a less senior employee on a voluntary basis. Employees in this status, if reappointed from a reinstatement eligible list within 60 days of separation, will retain the anniversary date held at date of separation.

H. Demotion and Bumping Rights

Employees identified for lay-off may elect to accept the lay-off or to demote into a formerly held lower classification within the department and displace (bump) a less senior employee from a position (bumping rights). Such bumping may result in the lay-off or demotion of a less senior employee in the lower classification. The determination of which employees are subject to lay-off after all employees exercise their available bumping rights will be determined in the order specified in Section 'F' above.

I. Salary Range Placement as a Result of Transfer, Downward Classification or Voluntary Demotion

Employees appointed to a position of the same salary range or to a position of a lower range than previously occupied as a result of a transfer, downward classification, or voluntary demotion, shall be paid at the step providing the closest salary as before, except that the salary shall not be higher than the amount previously received or the "H" step in the new range. The anniversary date shall remain unchanged.

J. Reinstatement After Layoff

1. Employees who are actually laid off shall be placed on a reinstatement eligible list for the class from which they were laid off. Employees on a reinstatement eligible list shall be offered reinstatement based on inverse order of lay-off so that the last employee laid off is the first employee reinstated from the eligible list and continuing in inverse order of lay-off. Names shall remain on the reinstatement eligible list for two (2) years.
2. Such employees shall have an absolute right only to reappointment to vacant positions in the same class and in the same department from which they were laid off. In all

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- other instances, they shall be certified from the reinstatement list in accordance with the Civil Service Rules and shall be subject to a new probationary period.
3. If an employee whose name is on the reinstatement eligible list has been involuntarily laid off from a position in the class and in the department for which certification is requested, their name alone shall be certified.

ARTICLE 7.4 – DISCIPLINARY ACTION

The Civil Service Commission and Civil Service Rules for the County of Madera shall govern disciplinary and hearing procedures, unless mutually agreed upon by both parties.

ARTICLE 7.5 – CIVIL SERVICE CHANGES

A. Job Abandonment

The parties agree that should an employee be absent without approved leave for a period of five (5) days, that action shall be considered Abandonment of Position and shall result in termination of employment.

B. Termination for Cause

The parties agree that employees who are terminated for cause (misconduct), and whose terminations are sustained following exhaustion of all appeal rights, shall not be eligible for reemployment with the County. In the unlikely event such a terminated employee becomes reemployed with the County, said employee shall again be terminated and shall only be entitled to payment for any services rendered to the County.

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Signatures:

County of Madera (“County”)

Sabrina Mendez

Sabrina Mendez, Chief County Negotiator

Chenecua Dixon

Chenecua Dixon (May 27, 2025 08:41 PDT)

Chenecua Dixon, Director of Human Resources

Madera County Deputy Sheriffs’ Association (“Association”)

Timothy K. Talbot

Timothy K. Talbot, (May 22, 2025 20:29 PDT)

Timothy K. Talbot, Representative

Miguel Hernandez

Miguel Hernandez, President