### **ATTACHMENT I:**

# FORM COG07-25(A1) INSTRUCTIONS FOR PROPOSALS COMPLIANCE AND SUBMITTAL

## **Compliance with the Solicitation**

Submissions must be in strict compliance with this solicitation. Failure to comply with all provisions of the solicitation may result in disqualification.

## **Compliance with the NCTCOG Standard Terms and Conditions**

By signing its submission, Offeror acknowledges that it has read, understands and agrees to comply with the NCTCOG standard terms and conditions.

## **Acknowledgment of Insurance Requirements**

By signing its submission as applicable, Offeror acknowledges that it has read and understands the insurance requirements for the submission. Offeror also understands that the evidence of required insurance must be submitted within **ten (10)** working days following notification of its offer being accepted; otherwise, NCTCOG may rescind its acceptance of the Offeror's proposals. The insurance requirements, if required, are outlined in the General Terms and Conditions.

Name of Organization/Contractor(s):	
Signature of Authorized Representative:	
Date:	

### ATTACHMENT II:

# FORM COG07-25(B1) CERTIFICATIONS OF OFFEROR

I hereby certify that the information contained in this proposal and any attachments is true and correct and may be viewed as an accurate representation of proposed services to be provided by this organization. I certify that no employee, board member, or agent of the North Central Texas Council of Governments has assisted in the preparation of this proposal. I acknowledge that I have read and understand the requirements and provisions of the solicitation and that the organization will comply with the regulations and other applicable local, state, and federal regulations and directives in the implementation of this contract.

also certify that I have read and understood all sections of this solicitation and will comply with a the terms and conditions as stated; and furthermore that I,		
Name of Organization/Contractor(s):		
Signature of Authorized Representative:		
Date:		

## **ATTACHMENT III:**

FORM TR08-25(B2)

APPENDIX D

Purposefully Excluded

### ATTACHMENT IV:

# FORM COG07-25(C2) RESTRICTIONS ON LOBBYING CERTIFICATION

Section 319 of Public Law 101-121 prohibits recipients of federal contracts, grants, and loans exceeding **one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000)** at any tier under a federal contract from using appropriated funds for lobbying the Executive or Legislative Branches of the federal government in connection with a specific contract, grant, or loan. Section 319 also requires each person who requests or receives a federal contract or grant in excess of **one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000)** to disclose lobbying.

No appropriated funds may be expended by the recipient of a federal contract, loan, or cooperative agreement to pay any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any federal executive department or agency as well as any independent regulatory commission or government corporation, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with any of the following covered federal actions: the awarding of any federal contract, the making of any federal grant, the making of any federal loan the entering into of any cooperative agreement and the extension, continuation, renewal, amendment, or modification of any federal contract, grant, loan, or cooperative agreement.

As a recipient of a federal grant exceeding **one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000)**, NCTCOG requires its subcontractors of that grant to file a certification that neither the agency nor its employees have made, or will make, any payment prohibited by the preceding paragraph.

Subcontractors are also required to file with NCTCOG a disclosure form if the subcontractor or its employees have made or have agreed to make any payment using non-appropriated funds (to <u>include</u> profits from any federal action), which would be prohibited if paid for with appropriated funds.

# LOBBYING CERTIFICATION FOR CONTRACTS, GRANTS, LOANS, AND COOPERATIVE AGREEMENTS

The undersigned certifies to the best of his or her knowledge and belief, that:

- (1) No federal appropriated funds have been paid or will be paid by or on behalf of the undersigned, to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any federal agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with the awarding of any federal contract, the making of any federal grant, the making of any federal loan, the entering into of any cooperative agreement, and the extension continuation, renewal amendment, or modification of any federal contract, grant, loan, or cooperative agreement.
- (2) If any funds other than federal appropriated funds have been paid or will be paid to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with this federal contract, grant, loan, or cooperative agreement, the undersigned shall complete and submit Standard Form LLL, "Disclosure Form to Report Lobbying," in accordance with its instructions.
- (3) The undersigned shall require that the language of this certification be included in the award documents for all subawards at all tiers (including subcontracts, subgrants, and contracts under grants, loans, and cooperative agreements) and that all subrecipients shall certify and disclose accordingly.

This certification is a material representation of fact upon which reliance was placed when this transaction was made or entered into. Submission of this certification is a prerequisite for making or entering into this transaction imposed by Section 1352, Title 31, U.S. Code. Any person who fails to file the required certification shall be subject to a civil penalty of not less than **ten thousand dollars** (\$10,000) and not more than **one hundred thousand dollars** (\$100,000) for each such failure.

Name of Organization/Contractor(s):	
Signature of Authorized Representative:	
Date:	

## DISCLOSURE OF LOBBYING ACTIVITIES

Complete this form to disclose lobbying activities pursuant to 31 USC 1352 and email to TRAgreements@nctcog.org

1. Type of Federal Action: a. contract b. grant c. cooperative agreement d. loan e. loan guarantee f. loan insurance	Status of Federal Action:     a. bid/offer/application     b. initial award     c. post-award		3. Report Type:     a. initial filing     b. material charge  For Material Change Only:     year quarter date of last report
4. Name and Address of Reporting Enti	ty:	5. If Reporting Er	ntity in No. 4 is Subawardee, Enter Name
	er <i>if known</i>	and Address of	
Time	II KIIOWII		
Congressional District, if known:		Congressional Dis	trict, if known:
6. Federal Department Agency:		7. Federal Progra	m Name/Description:
			•
			if applicable:
8. Federal Action Number, if known:		9. Award Amount	, if known:
10 a Name and Address of Labbying E	ntitu	\$ b Individuals Bor	forming Services (including address if
10. a. Name and Address of Lobbying E (if individual, last name, first na		different from N	
(II marriadar, last hame, met h		(last name, first	•
		(111111, 1111)	,
	(attach Continuation	Sheet(s) SF-LLL-A, if	necessary
11. Amount of Payment (check all that a	oply):	13. Type of Payme	nt (check all that apply):
		a. retainer	
¢	natural mlanmad		- foo
\$ 8	ictuai pianneu	b. one-time	
		c. commis	sion
12. Form of payment (check all that appl	y):	d. continge	ent fee
a. cash		e. deferred	1
b. in-kind specify: nature		i. other; s	pecify:
value			
14. Brief Description of Services Performed or to be Performed and Date(s) of Service including officer(s), employee(s), or Member(s) contacted, for Payment indicated in Item 11:			
	(attach Continuation	Sheet(s) SF-LLL-A, if r	necessary)
15. Continuation sheet(s) SF-LLL-A attack	•	Yes No	<b>y</b> ,
16. Information requested through this			
by title 31 U.S.C. section 1352.			
lobbying activities is a material re		Signature:	
upon which reliance was placed by			
this transaction was made or e		Print Name:	
disclosure is required pursuant to 3 information will be reported to the		Title	
annually and will be available for pul	•	11tie	
person who fails to file the required		Telephone:	Date:
subject to a civil penalty of not les		. 5.500	
not more than \$100,000 for each such			
Federal Use Only:		Authorized for Local	Reproduction Standard Form - LLL
			-

### INSTRUCTIONS FOR COMPLETION OF SF-LLL DISCLOSURE OF LOBBYING ACTIVITIES

This disclosure form shall be completed by the reporting entity, whether subawardee or prime Federal recipient, at the initiation or receipt of a covered Federal action, or a material change to a previous filing pursuant to title 31 U.S.C. section 1352. The filing of a form is required for each payment or Agreement to make payment to any lobbying entity for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with a covered Federal action. Use the SF-LLL-A Continuation Sheet for additional information if the space on the form is inadequate. Complete all items that apply for both the initial filing and material change report. Refer to the implementing guidance published by the Office of Management and Budget for additional information.

- 1. Identify the type of covered Federal action for which lobbying activity is and/or has been secured to influence the outcome of a covered Federal action.
- 2. Identify the status of the covered Federal action.
- 3. Identify the appropriate classification of this report. If this is a follow-up report caused by a material change to the information previously reported, enter the year and quarter in which the change occurred. Enter the date of the last previously submitted report by this reporting entity for this covered Federal action.
- 4. Enter the full name address city, state and zip code of the reporting entity. Include Congressional District if known. Check the appropriate classification of the reporting entity that designates if it is or expects to be a prime or subaward recipient. Identify the tier of the subawardee e.g., the first subawardee of the prime is the 1st tier. Subawards include but are not limited to subcontracts, subgrants and Contract awards under grants.
- 5. If the organization filing the report in item 4 checks "Subawardee," then enter the full name, address, city, state and zip code of the prime Federal recipient. Include Congressional District, if known.
- 6. Enter the name of the Federal agency making the award or loan commitment. Include at least one organizational level below agency name, if known. For example, Department of Transportation, United States Coast Guard.
- Enter the Federal program name or description for the covered Federal action (item 1.) If known, enter the full Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance (CFDA) number for grants, cooperative Agreements, loans and loan commitments.
- 8. Enter the most appropriate Federal identifying number available for Federal action identified in item 1 (e.g., Request for Proposal (RFP) number; invitation for Bid (B) number, grant announcement number; the Contract grant, or loan award number; the application/proposal control number assigned by the Federal agency.) Include prefixes, e.g. "RFP-DE-90-001."
- 9. For a covered Federal action where there has been an award or loan commitment by the Federal agency, enter the Federal amount of the award/loan commitment for the prime entity identified in item 4 or 5.
- 10. (a) Enter the full name, address, city, state and zip code of the lobbying entity engaged by the reporting entity identified in item 40 to influence the covered Federal action.
  - (b) Enter the full names of the individuals(s) performing services, and include full address if different from 10(a). Enter Last Name, First Name and Middle Initial (MI).
- 11. Enter the amount of compensation paid or reasonably expected to be paid by the reporting entity (item 4) to the lobbying entity (item 10). Indicate whether the payment has been made (actual) or will be made (planned). Check all boxes that apply. If this is a material change report, enter the cumulative amount of payment made or planned to be made.
- 12. Check the appropriate box(es). Check all boxes that apply. If payment is made through an in-kind contribution, specify the nature and value of the in-kind payment.
- 13. Check the appropriate boxes(s). Check all boxes that apply. If other, specify nature.
- 14. Provide a specific and detailed description of the services that the lobbyist has performed or will be expected to perform and the date(s) of any services rendered. Include all preparatory and related activity, not just time spent in actual Contract with Federal officials. Identify the Federal official(s) or employee(s) Contracted or the officer(s), employees, or Member(s) of Congress that were contacted.
- 15. Check whether or not a SF-LLL-A Continuation Sheet(s) is attached.
- 16. The certifying official shall sign and date the form, print his/her name, title, and the telephone number.

Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 30 minutes per response, including time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. Send comments regarding the burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing this burden, to the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reduction Project (0348-0046), Washington, D.C. 20503.

# DISCLOSURE OF LOBBYING ACTIVITIES CONTINUATION SHEET

Reporting Entity:	_ Page	of

## **ATTACHMENT V:**

# FORM COG07-25(D1) DRUG-FREE WORKPLACE CERTIFICATION

The (company name) will provide a Drug Free Work Place in compliance with the Drug Free Work Place Act of 1988. The unlawful manufacture, distribution, dispensing, possession or use of a controlled substance is prohibited on the premises of the
(company name) or any of its facilities. Any employee who violates this prohibition will be subject to disciplinary action up to and including termination. All employees, as a condition of employment, will comply with this policy.
CERTIFICATION REGARDING DRUG-FREE WORKPLACE
This certification is required by the Federal Regulations Implementing Sections 5151-5160 of the Drug-Free Workplace Act, 41 U.S.C. 701, for the Department of Agriculture (7 CFR Part 3017), Department of Labor (29 CFR Part 98), Department of Education (34 CFR Parts 85, 668 and 682), Department of Health and Human Services (45 CFR Part 76), and the U.S. Department of Transportation (49 CFR Part 90), the Federal Transit Administration (41 U.S.C 702) and the Federal Highway Administration (49 CFR Part 32).
The undersigned subcontractor certifies it will provide a drug-free workplace by:
Publishing a policy Proposal notifying employees that the unlawful manufacture, distribution, dispensing, possession or use of a controlled substance is prohibited in the workplace and specifying the consequences of any such action by an employee;
Establishing an ongoing drug-free awareness program to inform employees of the dangers of drug abuse in the workplace, the subcontractor's policy of maintaining a drug-free workplace, the availability of counseling, rehabilitation and employee assistance programs, and the penalties that may be imposed on employees for drug violations in the workplace;
Providing each employee with a copy of the subcontractor's policy Proposal;
Notifying the employees in the subcontractor's policy Proposal that as a condition of employment under this subcontract, employees shall abide by the terms of the policy Proposal and notifying the subcontractor in writing within five days after any conviction for a violation by the employee of a criminal drug abuse statue in the workplace;
Notifying the Board within <b>ten (10)</b> days of the subcontractor's receipt of a notice of a conviction of any employee; and,
Taking appropriate personnel action against an employee convicted of violating a criminal drug statue or requires such employee to participate in a drug abuse assistance or rehabilitation program.
Name of Organization/Contractor(s):
Signature of Authorized Representative:

### ATTACHMENT VI:

# FORM COG07-25(E1) CONFLICTS OF INTEREST DISCLOSURE

<u>Purpose</u>: The purpose of the Conflict of Interest Disclosure is to protect the North Central Texas Council of Government's (NCTCOG) interest when it is contemplating entering into a contractual arrangement by ensuring a fair and unbiased selection process. This disclosure helps mitigate the risk of real or perceived conflicts of interest for members of the selection committee regarding personal interests in the selection of a proposer.

**<u>Definitions</u>**: For the purpose of this policy the following terms shall have the following meanings:

"Conflict of Interest" shall mean any situation in which a person is in a position to derive personal benefit from actions or decisions made in their official capacity. Examples of conflict of interest include:

- Is currently employed by, or is a consultant to or under contract with NCTCOG; or,
- Is negotiating or has an arrangement concerning future employment or contracting with NCTCOG.

"Financial interest" shall mean any person who has, directly or indirectly, through business, investment, or family relationship any of the following:

- An ownership or investment interest in any entity with which NCTCOG has a transaction or Contractual arrangement; or,
- A compensation arrangement with any entity or individual with which the NCTCOG has a transaction or Contractual arrangement; or,
- A potential ownership or investment interest in, or compensation arrangement with, any entity or individual with which NCTCOG is negotiating a transaction or arrangement.

"Business Relationship" shall mean a connection between two or more parties based on commercial activity of one of the parties. The term does not include connection based on:

- A transaction that is subject to rate or fee regulation by a federal, state, or local governmental entity or an agency of a federal, state, or local governmental entity; or,
- A transaction conducted at a price and subject to terms available to the public; or,
- A purchase or lease of goods or services from a person that is chartered by a state or federal agency and that is subject to regular examination by, and reporting to, that agency.

<u>Determining Whether a Conflict of Interests Exists</u>: A conflict of interest exists if an employee of the proposing firm has a real or perceived financial interest or may receive personal benefit because of their decision with regards to NCTCOG's selection process. All proposal team members are required to disclose any conflict of interest to NCTCOG for review. As part of NCTCOG's review, NCTCOG may request to discuss the conflict of interest with the proposal team member.

## CONFIDENTIAL

## STATEMENT OF DISCLOSURE

The entity identified below, through its authorized representative, hereby certifies that no conflict of interest exists herein:

SIGNATURE OF AUTHORIZED PERSON:	
NAME OF AUTHORIZED PERSON:	
NAME OF COMPANY:	
DATE:	

### **ATTACHMENT VII:**

# FORM COG07-25(F1) CERTIFICATION OF FAIR BUSINESS PRACTICES

That the submitter has not been found liable for unfair business practices in a civil or criminal judicial or state agency administrative proceeding during the preceding year. The submitter further affirms that no officer of the submitter has served as an officer of any company found liable for unfair business practices in a civil or criminal judicial or state agency administrative during the preceding year.

Name of Organization/Contractor(s):	
Signature of Authorized Representative:	
Date:	

### ATTACHMENT VIII:

# FORM COG07-25(G1) CERTIFICATION OF GOOD STANDING TEXAS CORPORATE FRANCHISE TAX CERTIFICATION

Pursuant to Article 2.45, Texas Business Corporation Act, state agencies may not contract with for profit corporations that are delinquent in making state franchise tax payments. The following certification that the corporation entering into this offer is current in its franchise taxes must be signed by the individual authorized on Form 2031, Corporate Board of Directors Resolution, to sign the contract for the corporation.

The undersigned authorized representative of the corporation making the offer herein certified that the following indicated Proposal is true and correct and that the undersigned understands that making a false Proposal is a material breach of contract and is grounds for contract cancellation.

Indicate the certification that applies to your corporation:

indicate the certification that applies to yo	ui corpoi	ation.
		-profit corporation and certifies that it is not ax payments to the State of Texas.
<del></del>		profit corporation or is otherwise not subject to to the State of Texas.
Type of Business (if not corporation):		Sole Proprietor
		Partnership
•	•	Other ration Act, the North Central Texas Council of ation regarding state franchise tax payments.
(Printed/Typed Name and Title of Authoriz	zed Repr	resentative)
Signature		
Data		

### ATTACHMENT IX:

# FORM COG07-25(H1) REQUIRED STATE CLAUSES CERTIFICATION

This Contract is subject to the Public Law 115-232, Section 889, and Texas Government Code sections 2271-2276, for required state clauses:

- a. If required to make a certification pursuant to Texas Government Code Section 2271.02, the CONSULTANT providing goods and services under this Contract confirms that it does not and will not boycott Israel during the term of this Contract. The CONSULTANT shall incorporate required provisions in any subcontract entered into as part of this Contract.
- b. Pursuant to Chapter 2276, Government Code, as enacted by S.B. 13, 87th Legislature, NCTCOG is prohibited from using public funds to contract with entities who boycott energy companies. The CONSULTANT verifies that it does not discriminate against energy companies and will not discriminate during the term of the contract. The CONSULTANT shall incorporate required provisions in any subcontract entered into as part of this Contract.
- c. Pursuant to Chapter 2274, Government Code, as enacted by S.B. 19, 87th Legislature, NCTCOG is prohibited from using public funds to contract with entities who discriminate against firearm and ammunition industries. The CONSULTANT agrees that it does not have a practice, policy, guidance, or directive that discriminates against a firearm entity or firearm trade association and will not discriminate during the term of the contract. The CONSULTANT shall incorporate required provisions in any subcontract entered into as part of this Contract.

The entity identified below, through its authorized representative, hereby certifies that no funds under this Contract will be obligated or expended for any of the activities included herein:

SIGNATURE OF AUTHORIZED PERSON:	
NAME OF AUTHORIZED PERSON:	
NAME OF COMPANY:	
DATE:	

## **ATTACHMENT X:**

# FORM COG07-25(I3) REQUIRED 2 CFR 200 CLAUSES

Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles & Audit Requirements for Federal Awards

- 1. Equal Employment Opportunity. CONSULTANT shall not discriminate against any employee or applicant for employment on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, and religion.
- **2. Davis-Bacon Act**. **CONSULTANT** agrees to comply with all applicable provisions of 40 USC § 3141 3148.
- 3. Contract Work Hours and Safety Standards. CONSULTANT agrees to comply with all applicable provisions of 40 USC § 3701 3708 to the extent this agreement indicates any employment of mechanics or laborers.
- **4.** Rights to Invention Made Under Contract or Agreement. CONSULTANT agrees to comply with all applicable provisions of 37 CFR Part 401.
- 5. Clean Air Act, Federal Water Pollution Control Act, and Energy Policy Conservation Act. CONSULTANT agrees to comply with all applicable provisions of the Clean Air Act under 42 USC § 7401 7671, the Energy Federal Water Pollution Control Act 33 USC § 1251 1387, and the Energy Policy Conservation Act under 42 USC § 6201.
- 6. Debarment/Suspension. CONSULTANT is prohibited from making any award or permitting any award at any tier to any party which is debarred or suspended or otherwise excluded from or ineligible for participation in federal assistance programs under Executive Order 12549, Debarment and Suspension. CONSULTANT and its subcontractors shall comply with the special provision "Certification Requirements for Recipients of Grants and Cooperative Agreements Regarding Debarments and Suspensions". CONSULTANT shall certify its compliance through execution of the Contract.
- 7. Restrictions on Lobbying. CONSULTANT agrees to comply with all applicable provisions of 2 CFR §200.450. CONSULTANT shall include a statement of compliance with the Lobbying Certification and Disclosure of Lobbying Activities in procurement solicitations exceeding one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000). Lobbying Certification and Disclosure of Lobbying Activities shall be completed by subcontractors and included in subcontractor contracts, as applicable. Each tier certifies to the tier above that it will not and has not used Federal appropriated funds to pay any person or organization for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a member of Congress, officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a member of Congress in connection with obtaining any Federal contract, grant or any other award. Each tier must also disclose any lobbying with non-Federal funds that takes place in connection with obtaining any Federal award.

- **8. Procurement of Recovered Materials**. **CONSULTANT** agrees to comply with all applicable provisions of 2 CFR §200.322.
- 9. Prohibition on Certain Telecommunications and Video Surveillance Services or Equipment. Pursuant to Public Law 115-232, Section 889, and 2 CFR Part 200, including §200.216 and §200.471, NCTCOG is prohibited from using federal funds to procure, contract with entities who use, or extend contracts with entities who use certain telecommunications and video surveillance equipment or services provided by certain Chinese controlled entities. The CONSULTANT agrees that it is not providing NCTCOG with or using telecommunications or video surveillance equipment and services as prohibited by 2 CFR §200.216 and §200.471 CONSULTANT shall certify its compliance through execution of the Contract. The CONSULTANT shall pass these requirements down to any of its contractors funded under this Agreement. The CONSULTANT shall notify NCTCOG if the CONSULTANT cannot comply with the prohibition during the performance of this Agreement.
- 10. Domestic Preference. As appropriate and to the extent consistent with law, the CONSULTANT should, to the greatest extent practicable, provide a preference for the purchase, acquisition, or use of goods, products, or materials produced in the United States (including but not limited to iron, aluminum, steel, cement, and other manufactured products). Consistent with §200.322, the following items shall be defined as: "Produced in the United States" means, for iron and steel products, that all manufacturing processes, from the initial melting stage through the application of coatings, occurred in the United States. "Manufactured products" means items and construction materials composed in whole or in part of non-ferrous metals such as aluminum; plastics and polymer-based products such as polyvinyl chloride pipe; aggregates such as concrete; glass, including optical fiber; and lumber.
- **11. Termination For Convenience**. The **CONSULTANT** may terminate the agreement for its convenience in whole or in part at any time without cause, upon **thirty (30)** days written notice. Upon termination for convenience, the vendor will be entitled to payment for goods or services satisfactorily performed or delivered.
- 12. Trafficking in Persons. CONSULTANT agrees to comply with all applicable provisions of 2 CFR §175.15. NCTCOG, the CONSULTANT, and its subcontractors are prohibited from (i) engaging in severe forms of trafficking in persons during the period of time that the award is in effect; (ii) procure a commercial sex act during the period of time that the award is in effect; (iii) use forced labor in the performance of the award or subawards under the award. The Federal award agency may unilaterally terminate the award, without penalty, if the CONSULTANT (i) is determined to have violated an applicable prohibition; (ii) has an employee who is determined by the agency officially authorized to terminate the award to have violated an applicable prohibition of this award term. NCTCOG must notify the Federal award agency immediately if any information received from the CONSULTANT indicates a violation of the applicable prohibitions.
- **13. Whistleblower Protection**. **CONSULTANT** agrees to comply with whistleblower rights and protections under 41 USC 4712 and 2 CFR 200.217. **NCTCOG**, the **CONSULTANT**, and its subcontractors shall not discharge, demote, or otherwise discriminate against an employee as

a reprisal for disclosing to a person or body described in paragraph (a)(2) of 41 U.S.C. 4712 information that the employee reasonably believes is evidence of gross mismanagement of a Federal contract or grant, a gross waste of Federal funds, an abuse of authority relating to a Federal contract or grant, a substantial and specific danger to public health or safety, or a violation of law, rule, or regulation related to a Federal contract (including the competition for or negotiation of a contract) or grant. **NCTCOG** and the **CONSULTANT** must inform their employees in writing of employee whistleblower rights and protections under 41 U.S.C. 4712.

**14. Internal Controls**. The **CONSULTANT** agrees to comply with all applicable provisions of 2 CFR 200.303 to establish, document, and maintain effective internal control over the federal award in compliance with federal statutes, regulations, and the terms and conditions of the federal award, including reasonable cybersecurity and other measures to safeguard information.