

AGREEMENT
TO PROVIDE 9-1-1 CALL ANSWERING AND EMERGENCY DISPATCHING SERVICES

This Agreement is made and entered into effective July 1, 2021, by and between Lowndes County, a political subdivision of the state of Georgia, and Echols County, a political subdivision of the State of Georgia (individually a “Party” and collectively “the Parties”);

WITNESSETH:

WHEREAS, Lowndes County owns and operates a 9-1-1 center (the “9-1-1 Center”) from which Lowndes County provides 9-1-1 call-answering and emergency dispatching services; and

WHEREAS, Echols County desires Lowndes County to answer 9-1-1 telephone calls made from within Echols County routed to the 9-1-1 Center and to provide emergency dispatching services for the Echols County Sheriff, the Echols County Volunteer Fire Department, and the Hospital Authority of Valdosta and Lowndes County (the “Agencies”) related to providing, respectively and as applicable, law enforcement services, fire protection and emergency rescue services, and emergency medical services (“Emergency Services”) in Echols County;

NOW THEREFORE, in consideration of the mutual obligations, promises, and covenants set forth herein, the Parties agree as follows:

1. Echols County shall cause 9-1-1 telephone calls made from within Echols County to be routed to the 9-1-1 Center.
2. Lowndes County will answer 9-1-1 telephone calls made from within Echols County routed to the 9-1-1 Center and provide emergency dispatch services to the Agencies related to Emergency Services the Agencies provide in Echols County (collectively the “Services”).
3. Lowndes County will provide the Services from the 9-1-1 Center.
4. Lowndes County will provide the Services in accordance with all applicable laws, rules, and regulations.
5. Lowndes County will provide the Services twenty-four (24) hours a day, seven (7) days a week, all days each year.
6. Lowndes County will provide the Services in the same manner that Lowndes County provides other 9-1-1 call-answering and emergency dispatching services from the 9-1-1 Center.
7. Lowndes County will integrate the provision of emergency dispatching services pursuant to this Agreement with the provision of other emergency dispatching services Lowndes County provides from the 9-1-1 Center.
8. Lowndes County will prioritize all emergency dispatching services it provides from the 9-1-1 Center based on the severity of the emergencies and the availability of applicable emergency service providers.
9. Lowndes County will give emergency dispatching services provided pursuant to this Agreement no less but no more priority than other emergency dispatching services Lowndes County provides from the 9-1-1 Center.