

**INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT  
BETWEEN  
S.E. THURSTON FIRE AUTHORITY  
AND  
THURSTON COUNTY FIRE DISTRICT #6 (EOFD6)**

**TRAINING PROGRAM COORDINATION**

**THIS INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT** (the "Agreement") is made and entered into by and between the S.E. Thurston Fire Authority (hereinafter referred to as "SETFA") and Thurston County Fire District #6 (EOFD6) (hereinafter referred to as "EOFD"), both municipal corporations and political subdivisions of the State of Washington, and hereinafter collectively referred to as the "Parties" and individually referred to as a "Party."

**RECITALS**

**A.** Pursuant to chapter 39.34 RCW local governments may jointly exercise their powers, privileges and authorities through interlocal agreements to efficiently use their powers and to cooperate with other localities on a basis of mutual advantage, thereby providing services and facilities in a manner that will best meet the geographical, economic, population, or other needs of their respective communities.

**B.** SETFA is a municipal corporation and political subdivision of the State of Washington, organized under Chapter 52.26 (RCW).

**C.** EOFD is a municipal corporation and political subdivision of the State of Washington, organized under Chapter 52.02 (RCW).

**D.** RCW 52.26.090 authorizes SETFA to exercise powers and perform duties as its board determines necessary to carry out the purposes, functions, and projects of the authority, and RCW 52.12.031 authorizes EOFD to contract with any governmental entity under RCW 39.34 or private person or entity to consolidate, provide, or cooperate for fire prevention protection, fire suppression, investigation, and emergency medical purposes.

**E.** It is desirable that general and special purpose governmental jurisdictions cooperate and assist their citizens and communities.

**F.** The Parties find it advantageous and desirable to work together toward program development, implementation, evaluation and utilization of a common training programs utilizing a shared training officer for the ongoing development of a joint training program.

**G.** This cooperative effort will be economically beneficial to the Parties and result in more efficient operations.

**H.** The Parties and their citizens will benefit from this cooperative effort.

I. It is the mutual desire of the Parties hereto that they enter into this Agreement.

**NOW, THEREFORE,** for and in consideration of the mutual covenants contained herein, and as authorized under Chapter 39.34 RCW, Chapter 52.26 RCW, and Chapter 52.02 RCW, the Parties, through their respective legislative bodies do hereby agree as follows:

1. **Recitals.** The foregoing recitals are true and correct and are made part of this Agreement by this reference.

2. **Purpose.** This Interlocal Agreement is entered into by SETFA and EOFD in order to establish a comprehensive program of enhanced training of firefighters, fire officers, and driver/operators, and to share in the cost of this program. To this end, the legislative bodies of SETFA and EOFD authorize their respective departments to establish procedures and processes that will provide the maximum cooperation and cost savings by utilizing a shared training officer

3. **Term.** This Interlocal Agreement shall commence on July 1, 2021 and shall continue until terminated as provided for hereinafter.

4. **Definitions.** The following definitions are provided to assist the parties in implementing this agreement.

a. **Training.** Refers to all aspects of training implementation and program management as required for public fire agencies in Washington State.

b. **Training Requirements.** Refers to all required training as identified by WAC, NFPA and each agencies specific needs.

c. **Annual Calendar.** Refers to a written document which lists the training topics to be covered within the upcoming calendar year.

d. **Monthly Calendar.** Refers to a written document which, specifies the topic, date, time, and place where training will take place within a given month.

e. **Manipulative Skills Evaluations.** Refers to physical activities which are part of a systematic training drill plan and related to expected performance on actual emergency scenes.

f. **On-line Training.** Refers to computer-based cognitive training classes designed to be completed independently by individuals.

g. **Fire Officer Training.** Refers to training specifically designed and used to enhance capabilities of fire officers on both the emergency scene and in the fire station.

5. **Position Functions.** The training officer will have oversight of the training for all members of both agencies as designated by the respective fire chiefs, including but not limited to

training, training requirements, maintenance of annual training calendar, maintenance of monthly training calendar, evaluation of manipulative skills, oversight of on-line training, and oversight of fire officer training. The training officer will provide regular reports regarding all training activities and any associated evaluations regarding the proficiency of individual crew members. They will ensure all training, as required under the Washington Administrative Code, is conducted and that both agencies do their best to meet all recommended NFPA training standards with the resources provided by each agency. The training officer will notify the respective chiefs of any training deficiency and provide an improvement plan for that department.

**6. Relationship of the Parties.** No separate legal entities shall be created to implement the terms of this Agreement. Each Party shall maintain ownership of its apparatus, emergency response equipment, training equipment, and all property. The fire chiefs of SETFA and EOFD shall provide the joint oversight, management, and administration of this Agreement.

**7. Contributions to Personnel and Consumables.**

**A. Personnel.** SETFA and EOFD shall each contribute one-half of all training costs, wages and benefits to fund the training personnel, currently one full-time fire Battalion Chief/Training Officer. For the purpose of administering pay and benefits, the Training Officer shall be recognized and identified as an employee of EOFD. Any change in the number of positions or rate of pay shall be agreed to by the designated representative for both Parties in advance.

It is anticipated that the Training Officer will spend one-half time on tasks associated with SETFA and one-half on tasks for EOFD, thus the equal sharing of costs. This division of cost shall be subject to review and re-allocation on a quarterly basis, beginning with the third quarter of 2021 for the purposes of reviewing the contributions to the wages and benefits and any adjustments appropriate based on the usage of the Training Officer's time for each party's training. Adjustments will be retroactive, to meet the requirements of the State Auditor.

**B. Payment for Personnel and Consumables.** EOFD shall initially pay all costs and wages associated with Personnel. SETFA shall reimburse EOFD on a quarterly basis for its share of all training costs, wages and benefits. SETFA shall reimburse EOFD on a quarterly basis for its share of all consumables or within (30) days after receipt of the invoice from EOFD, whichever is later.

**8. Modification, Review, Interpretation, and Termination.**

**A. Modification and Review.** This Agreement may be modified at any time by mutual agreement of the Parties. No modification or amendment to this agreement shall be valid unless evidenced in writing and properly agreed to and signed by the Parties.

**B. Interpretation.** This Agreement is and shall be deemed jointly drafted and written by both Parties and shall not be construed or interpreted against the other Party originating or preparing it.

**C. Termination.** Either party may terminate this agreement. The party desiring to terminate the agreement shall do so by providing a letter of intent to terminate with not less than a six-month written notice to the other party. The notice of termination shall be provided in writing to the Fire Chief and governing body of the effected party.

**9. Hold Harmless Indemnification.** Each party shall indemnify, defend and hold harmless the other Party, its officers, agents and employees and volunteers, from and against any and all claims, injuries, damages, losses suits or liability, including attorney fees, arising out of or in connection with the performance of this Agreement, except for injuries and damages caused by the sole negligence of the indemnifying Party. Should a court of competent jurisdiction determine that this Agreement is subject to RCW 4.24.115, then in the event of liability for damages arising out of bodily injury to persons or damages to property caused by or resulting from the concurrent negligence of both Parties, each Party's liability hereunder shall be only to the extent of each Party's negligence. It is further specifically and expressly understood that the indemnification provided herein constitutes each Party's waiver of immunity under Industrial Insurance, Title 51 RCW, solely for the purposes of this indemnification. This waiver has been mutually negotiated by the Parties. The provisions of this section shall survive the expiration or termination of this Agreement.

**10. Dispute Resolution.** Should a dispute arise between the Parties out of or related to this Agreement, a Party will notify the other Party in writing of any dispute that the respective Party believes should be resolved. The Parties will communicate regularly and commit to act in good faith to resolve the dispute. If the dispute cannot be remedied within thirty (30) days after written notice, the Parties shall submit the matter to a mutually agreed upon non-binding mediator within 30 days with a mediation scheduled not later than 60 days from that date. The Parties shall share equally in the cost of the mediator.

**11. Entire Agreement.** The Parties agree that this Agreement is the complete expression of the terms hereto and any oral representations or understandings not incorporated herein are excluded. This Agreement shall supersede all prior resolutions and agreements executed by the Parties with regard to the subject matter contained within this Agreement.

**12. Severability.** It is understood and agreed by the Parties that if any part, term or provision of this Agreement is held by the courts to be illegal, the validity of the remaining provisions shall not be affected, and the rights and obligations of the Parties shall be construed and enforced as if this Agreement did not contain the particular provision held to be invalid. If it should appear that any provision hereof is in conflict with any statute of the State of Washington, the provision that may conflict therewith shall be deemed modified to conform to such statutory provision.

**13. Waiver.** The failure by either Party to exercise its rights under this Agreement shall not preclude that Party from any subsequent exercise of such rights and shall not constitute a waiver of any rights under this Agreement unless stated to be such in a writing signed by an authorized representative of the party and attached to the Agreement.

14. **Mutual Aid Agreements.** Nothing in this Agreement shall limit the authority, responsibility or duties of either Party arising out of any mutual aid agreement or other agreements with other governmental entities. The Parties to this Agreement shall not be precluded from entering into similar agreements with other municipal corporations.

15. **Jurisdiction and Venue.** This Agreement has been and shall be construed as having been made and delivered within the State of Washington and it is mutually understood and agreed by each Party that this Agreement shall be governed by the laws of the State of Washington, both as to interpretation and performance. Any action at law, suit in equity or judicial proceeding for the enforcement of this Agreement, or any provision hereto, shall be instituted only in courts of competent jurisdiction within Thurston County, Washington.

16. **Counterparts.** This Agreement may be executed in duplicate signed originals, each of which, when so executed and delivered, shall be an original, but such counterparts shall together constitute but one and the same.

17. **Records.** Each agency shall be responsible for maintaining and retaining public records in accordance with applicable records disclosure and retention statutes for the Training Program Coordination. Each Party shall have access to such records at reasonable times. Unless delegated, each Party shall retain responsibility for responding to requests for inspection and copying of public records.

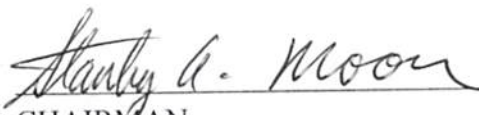
18. **Notices and Contact Persons.** All notices shall be in writing and served either personally or by certified mail, return receipt requested. For purposes of effectuating and further implementing this agreement, the Fire Chief shall contact both Board Chairs respective of each agency.

19. **Effective Date.** This Agreement shall be effective as to all Parties on the last date signed below ("Effective Date").

20. **Filing of Agreement.** Pursuant to RCW 39.34.040 this Agreement shall be listed by subject on either Party's website or other electronically-retrievable public source.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, this Agreement is executed by the Parties by their authorized officers indicated below.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
CHAIRMAN  
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS FOR S.E.  
THURSTON FIRE AUTHORITY

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
CHAIRMAN  
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS FOR  
EAST OLYMPIA FIRE DISTRICT #6

Date Signed: Jun 9, 2021

Date Signed: 6/10/2021