

COMPREHENSIVE MASTER AGREEMENT
BETWEEN
COUNTY OF DAKOTA COUNTY, NEBRASKA
AND
FRATERNAL ORDER OF POLICE,
DAKOTA COUNTY LODGE #49

(Sheriff's Deputies)

July 1, 2025, to June 30, 2026

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ARTICLE 1: DEFINITIONS AND REGULATIONS

Section 1: Definitions

A. Regular Full-Time Employee

"Regular full-time employee" means an employee who is scheduled to work forty (40) hours or more per week year-round.

B. Regular Part-Time Employee

"Regular part-time employee" means an employee who is scheduled to work at least thirty (30) hours per week year-round but less than forty (40) hours per week year-round. Regular part-time employees shall receive benefits in a ratio proportionate to their part-time service.

C. Temporary Employee

"Temporary employee" means an employee who is engaged for a specific project or assignment, or for a period not to exceed one (1) year. Temporary employees are not eligible for benefits.

D. Supervisor

"Supervisor" means any individual having authority in the interest of the Employer to hire, transfer, suspend, lay-off, recall, promote, discharge, assign, reward, or discipline other employees, or responsibly direct them, evaluate their performance, adjust their grievances, or effectively to recommend such action if in connection with the foregoing the exercise of such authority is not of a merely routine or clerical nature but requires the use of independent judgment.

E. Office

"Office" means the duly elected or appointed Sheriff of Dakota County, Nebraska.

F. Office Head

"Office Head" means the duly elected or appointed Sheriff of Dakota County, Nebraska.

G. County

"County" means Dakota County, Nebraska.

H. Union

"Union" means the Fraternal Order of Police, Dakota County Lodge #49.

Section 2: Union Recognition

The County recognizes the Fraternal Order of Police, Dakota County Lodge #49, ~~as the sole and exclusive~~ and their designated negotiating entity as the bargaining agent(s) for the purpose of collective bargaining for all Sheriff's Office employees, excluding the Sheriff, the Chief Deputy, the Sheriff's Secretary, the Clerical Receptionist, the VIN Inspector, and any temporary employees.

ARTICLE 2: UNION BUSINESS

Section 1: Leave for Negotiations

Members of the bargaining committee, not to exceed three (3) in number, will be granted leave with pay for time spent in negotiations.

Section 2: Leave for Union Meetings and Union Business

Union officials, not exceeding two (2) in number, will be granted leave from duty without pay to attend Union meetings, conventions, education conferences, or conduct Union business. Such leave is contingent upon the Union's written request and the Sheriff's approval not less than one week in advance of the requested leave dates, provided that leave from duty without pay does not exceed a total of seventy (70) hours for both representatives combined.

Section 3: Solicitation

The Union agrees that its members will not solicit membership in the Union or otherwise carry on Union activities during working hours.

Section 4: Union Access

An accredited Union representative must have access to the Sheriff's Office offices and work areas at reasonable times during working hours, provided they obtain prior approval from the Sheriff or the Sheriff's designated representative. Such approval must not be unreasonably withheld.

ARTICLE 3: DUES CHECK-OFF

Section 1 : Deduction Authorized

In accordance with this Article, the Employer will deduct certified regular monthly Union dues from each employee's pay, provided that at the time of such deduction, the Employer has in its possession each employee's written authorization using the form attached as Appendix "A."

Section 2: Effective Date

The effective date of the written authorization, cancellation, or revocation will be the first day of the check of the payroll period immediately following the Employer and the Union's receipt of the form attached as Appendix "A."

Section 3: Remitting of Dues

Within fifteen (15) days from the pay date of each payroll deduction, the Employer will remit the deduction amounts showing the employee's names to the Union treasurer.

Section 4: Indemnification

The Union agrees to indemnify and hold the Employer harmless against any and all claims, suits, orders, or judgments, including expenses and attorney's fees, incurred in connection therewith, brought or issued against the Employer as a result of any action taken or not taken by the employee or Union under the provisions of this Article.

Section 5: Application to Prior Authorizations

Notwithstanding the terminology of any written authorization that an employee executed before the date of this Agreement and in the Employer's possession, it is effective and revocable in accordance with the terms of this Article.

Section 6: Payment Problems

The Employer will check off only certified monthly dues for the payroll period involved. If the employee's pay is insufficient to permit such check-off, such dues will not be deducted from subsequent pay periods. In such event, it is the Union's responsibility to collect these dues from the employee.

If the Employer deducts dues pursuant to the provisions of this Agreement and the employee has made duplicate payment to the Union directly, it is the employee's responsibility to collect such duplicate payment from the Union.

ARTICLE 4: MANAGEMENT RIGHTS

Section 1: Enumeration of Rights

In addition to all of the Employer's powers, duties, and rights established by constitutional provision, statute, ordinance, charter, or special act, the Union recognizes the powers, duties, and rights which belong solely, exclusively, and without limitation to the Employer, to-wit:

- A. The right to manage the Employer's operations and to direct the working force;
- B. The right to hire employees;
- C. The right to maintain order and efficiency;
- D. The right to extend, maintain, curtail, or terminate the Employer's operations;
- E. The right to determine the size and location of the Employer's operations and to determine the type and amount of equipment to be used;
- F. The right to assign work, the right to determine methods and material to be used, including the right to introduce new and improved methods or facilities and to change existing methods and facilities;
- G. The right at any time to determine, create, modify, and terminate jobs, job vacancies, departments, job classifications, and job duties;
- H. The right to transfer, promote, and demote employees;
- I. The right to discipline, suspend, and discharge employees;
- J. The right to layoff at any time;
- K. The right to enforce and require employees to observe rules and regulations that the Employer sets forth;
- L. The right to determine when and whether a position or job classification is vacant and when it will be filled;
- M. The right to determine how many employees will be in each classification and whether any employees will be in any classification; and
- N. The right to determine the individual and relative qualifications, ability, ability to perform, and physical fitness of all employees.

ARTICLE 5: HOURS OF WORK AND OVERTIME

Section 1: Workday, Work Week, Arrival, and Dismissal Times

The regular workday for full-time employees will be eight (8), ten (10), or twelve (12) hour shifts by mutual agreement between the Union and the Sheriff. The regular work period for full-time employees will be forty (40) hours per week for 8-hour shifts or eighty-four (84) hours in a 14-day period for 12-hour shifts. Arrival and dismissal times for all employees and the regular workday and regular work week for part-time employees will be set by the Sheriff at his discretion.

Section 2: Scheduling of Hours

Depending on the hours of shift worked, employees will normally be scheduled for two (2) or three (3) consecutive days off with the understanding that scheduled days off may be changed to meet the operational needs of the Office. Except in cases of emergency, employees must be given notice, verbally and in writing, of any change in work schedules. Employees shall be required to work the hours the Sheriff schedules, including all hours scheduled during any emergency.

Every three (3) or six (6) months, employees may submit requests to the Sheriff for a specific work hour shift. The Sheriff will attempt to honor employees' requests for a specific shift and will take seniority into account in making shift assignments. All requests for shift assignments are subject to the Office's operational needs and the Sheriff will determine what shift assignment requests will be granted based on the Office's operational needs. No more than 2 consecutive shifts will be allowed with the same days off, excluding Captains, Lieutenants, and courtroom detail.

Section 3: Emergencies

Only the Sheriff or his designee will determine the existence of any emergencies.

Section 4: Paydays

Employees will be paid every other Friday by 12 p.m., one week following the last day of the pay period. Pay checks will be electronically delivered to employees by direct deposit.

Section 5: Limitation

This Article is intended to be construed as a basis for establishing work hours and not a guarantee of hours.

Section 6: Overtime

Overtime will be paid to all employees at the rate of time and one-half (1½) the employee's straight time hourly rate for hours worked in excess of forty-three (43) hours in a seven-day work

period or 86 hours in a 14-day work period as provided by Section 7(k) of the Fair Labor Standards Act. All Highway Safety Office grants will be paid at the overtime rate.

Section 7: Hours Worked

All days on which an employee does not work will not be counted as hours worked in computing overtime. Employees who are scheduled to be at the courthouse on days when the courthouse is closed, whether due to weather, such as a snow day, or for any other reason, will not be entitled to pay if they are not actually required to work due to the courthouse's closure.

Section 8: Approval of Overtime

All overtime work is to be determined by the Sheriff or Chief Deputy and the Sheriff or Chief Deputy must authorize it before it will be paid.

Section 9: Overtime Pay and Compensatory Time

At the employee's discretion, an employee who works overtime may receive compensatory time off in lieu of overtime pay.

If overtime hours are compensated in cash, payment will be made in accordance with Section 7 of the Fair Labor Standards Act.

If overtime hours are compensated with time off, compensatory time will be provided at a rate of one-and one-half hours for each hour of overtime employment. Employees may accumulate and use a maximum of forty (40) hours of compensatory time in the six-month periods beginning January 1 and ending June 30, and beginning July 1 and ending December 31. The County will buy back all compensatory time accrued and unused as of June 15 and December 15.

Any employee who has accrued forty (40) hours of compensatory time off will be paid overtime compensation for additional overtime work hours. If compensation is paid to an employee for accrued compensatory time off, such compensation will be paid at the employee's regular rate earned at the time the employee receives said compensation.

Upon termination of employment, employees will be paid for unused compensatory time at a rate of compensation not less than: (1) the average regular rate the employee received during the last three years of his/her employment or (2) the final regular rate the employee received, whichever is higher.

Employees who have accrued compensatory time off may request the use of compensatory time and must be permitted to use such time within a reasonable time period after making the request if that use does not unduly disrupt the Office's operations.

Compensatory time must be used in one (1) hour increments.

ARTICLE 6: WORK BREAKS AND MEAL PERIODS

Section 1: Work Breaks

Employees will be granted a fifteen (15) minute rest period with pay_during the approximate middle of each one-half ($\frac{1}{2}$) shift. Said break will be taken at a time designated by the employee's supervisor.

Section 2: Meal Periods

Employees will be granted one-half ($\frac{1}{2}$) hour meal period with pay scheduled at the approximate middle of the shift.

ARTICLE 7: HOLIDAYS

Section 1: Holidays Recognized

The following days are recognized as paid holidays and observed on the dates the Employer establishes:

New Year's Day (January 1)
Martin Luther King Jr. 's Birthday (Third Monday in January)
President's Day (Third Monday in February)
Memorial Day (Last Monday in May)
Independence Day (July 4)
Labor Day (First Monday in September)
Veterans Day (November 11)
Thanksgiving Day (Fourth Thursday in November)
Thanksgiving Friday (day after Thanksgiving)
Christmas Day (December 25)
Seven (7) Personal Days

Employees will be dismissed with pay for the last one-half ($\frac{1}{2}$) of their workday (four (4) hours for an eight-hour shift and five (5) hours for a ten-hour shift) on December 24 whenever December 24 falls on a Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, or Friday. If an employee is on a regularly scheduled leave on Christmas Eve, the employee's leave will only be charged with one-half ($\frac{1}{2}$) of their workday (four (4) hours for an eight-hour shift and five (5) hours for a ten-hour shift) for that day.

Section 2: Observance of Holidays

Holidays shall be observed on the days set forth in Section 1.

Personal holidays will be scheduled by mutual agreement between the employee and the employee's supervisor. Requests for scheduling a personal holiday on a day designated for religious observation (Yom Kipper, etc.) will not be unreasonably denied. Personal holidays will not be carried over from contract year to contract year, nor will any unused personal holidays be granted to any employee upon retirement, termination, or discharge. During the first six (6) months of employment, an employee will not be granted holiday pay or a personal holiday. No employee will be permitted to work on his/her personal holiday. Personal leave may be used in increments of no less than one (1) hour.

Employees hired on or after July 1 but before September 1 of the applicable contract year will be authorized seven (7) personal holidays that must be taken within the period beginning with their hire date and ending June 30. Employees hired on or after September 1 but before December 1 of the applicable contract year will be authorized five (5) personal holidays that must be taken within the period beginning with their hire date and ending June 30. Employees hired on or after December 1 but before March 1 of the applicable contract year will be authorized three and one-

half (3½) personal holidays that must be taken within the period beginning with their hire date and ending June 30. (This paragraph applies only to employees hired after July 1, 2012.)

Section 3: Eligibility for Holiday Pay

In order to be eligible to receive holiday pay, an employee must report for work on the last scheduled workday before the holiday and the first scheduled workday after the holiday unless the employee is absent due to an illness that satisfies the conditions contained in Article 8, Section 3; due to a funeral leave granted in accordance with Article 10, Section 1; due to a leave for jury duty or court appearance granted in accordance with Article 10, Section 2; or due to a vacation. No employee who has been laid off, discharged, or who is under suspension is eligible for holiday pay.

Section 4: Pay for Holidays

Regular full-time employees eligible for holiday pay will receive as holiday pay their normal rate of pay at straight time up to a maximum of eight (8) or ten (10) hours, based on the employee's regularly scheduled workday, for any one holiday. Regular part-time employees eligible for holiday pay will receive as holiday pay their normal rate of pay at straight time prorated based upon their average daily hours of work.

Section 5: Holidays During Vacations

If an observed holiday falls during an employee's vacation period, such observed holiday will not be charged against the employee's vacation leave.

Section 6: Overtime Pay

Employees required to work on the day in which any holiday listed in Section 1 is observed will receive compensation at the rate of one-and one-half (1½) times their normal hourly pay rate for the actual number of hours worked and will receive holiday pay as set out in Section 4 in addition to such overtime pay.

ARTICLE 8: SICK LEAVE

Section 1: Allowance

Employees will be allowed twelve (12) days consisting of 10-hour shifts (one-hundred-and-twenty (120) hours), or twelve (12) days consisting of 8-hour shifts (ninety-six (96) hours) of sick leave per year. Sick leave must be used in not less than one (1) hour increments. Sick leave is earned on a twelve-month basis coincidental with the employee's employment anniversary date and will be available to an employee after it has been earned.

Employees have the right to accumulate unused sick leave up to a maximum of sixty (60) working days consisting of 10-hour shifts (six hundred (600) hours), or sixty (60) working days consisting of 8-hour shifts (four hundred eighty (480) hours).

Sick leave will not accumulate during periods when an employee is absent due to sickness, injury, or layoff, or during an extended leave of absence.

Section 2: Permissible Uses

Sick leave will be used for personal illnesses and injury, including on-the-job injury or disability, subject to the provisions set out hereinafter. Sick leave will not be allowed if an employee is injured while gainfully employed by a different Employer.

Three (3) sick days per year may be used for care of the employee's children, spouse, or parents.

Section 3: Holiday Limitations

Except in cases of serious confining illnesses that are certified by a physician, sick leave will not be paid on the working day immediately preceding or following a holiday. However, if an employee notifies his/her supervisor and the supervisor approves use of sick leave for a doctor or dental appointment on a working day immediately preceding or following a holiday, sick leave may be used on the working day immediately preceding or following a holiday.

Section 4: Physician's Statement

The Employer reserves the right to require a physician's statement for any absence due to sickness. If the Employer suspects sick leave is being abused, it may, in its discretion, require the employee to report to a County-designated physician for an examination and report. If the report indicates that the use of sick leave was appropriate, then the County will pay the expense of the examination and report. If the report indicates that the use of sick leave was not appropriate, then the employee will pay the expense of the examination and report.

Section 5: Notice to Employer

To be eligible for sick leave payment, an employee must notify the Employer as soon as possible, but in any event, no later than one hour prior to the starting time of the employee's workday.

Section 6: Leaves for On-the-Job Injuries

The Employer will grant a leave of absence to any employee for absence required as a result of on-the-job injury covered by Worker's Compensation Insurance. During such leave, the employee, at his/her option, may apply accumulated sick leave benefits to be prorated against the difference between his/her regular straight time wages and the compensation to which he/she is entitled under the Worker's Compensation Law.

Section 7: Payment for Death or Disabling Injury

In the case of death or disabling injury that occurs while on the job, all of the employee's accrued sick time will be paid to the employee's designated beneficiary.

ARTICLE 9: VACATION LEAVE

Section 1: Vacation Benefits

Subject to and in accordance with the provisions of this Article, paid vacations will be granted to employees after continuous service pursuant to the following schedules for employees working a regular 8-hour shift:

- A. An employee in the continuous active service of the Employer for one (1) year or more as of the anniversary of his/her most recent hire date will be given five (5) days (40 hours) vacation with pay at his/her regular hourly rate.
- B. An employee in the continuous active service of the Employer for two (2) years or more as of the anniversary of his/her most recent hire date will be given ten (10) days (80 hours) vacation with pay at his/her regular hourly rate.
- C. An employee in the continuous active service of the Employer for six (6) years or more as of the anniversary of his/her most recent hire date will be given eleven (11) days (88 hours) vacation with pay at his/her regular hourly rate.
- D. An employee in the continuous active service of the Employer for seven (7) years or more as of the anniversary of his/her most recent hire date will be given twelve (12) days (96 hours) vacation with pay at his/her regular hourly rate.
- E. An employee in the continuous active service of the Employer for eight (8) years or more as of the anniversary of his/her most recent hire date will be given thirteen (13) days (104 hours) vacation with pay at his/her regular hourly rate.
- F. An employee in the continuous active service of the Employer for nine (9) years or more as of the anniversary of his/her most recent hire date will be given fourteen (14) days (112 hours) vacation with pay at his/her regular hourly rate.
- G. An employee in the continuous active service of the Employer for ten (10) years or more as of the anniversary of his/her most recent hire date will be given fifteen (15) days (120 hours) vacation with pay at his/her regular hourly rate.
- H. An employee in the continuous active service of the Employer for eleven (11) years or more as of the anniversary of his/her most recent hire date will be given sixteen (16) days (128 hours) vacation with pay at his/her regular hourly rate.
- I. An employee in the continuous active service of the Employer for twelve (12) years or more as of the anniversary of his/her most recent hire date will be given seventeen (17) days (136 hours) vacation with pay at his/her regular hourly rate.

- J. An employee in the continuous active service of the Employer for thirteen (13) years or more as of the anniversary of his/her most recent hire date will be given eighteen (18) days (144 hours) vacation with pay at his/her regular hourly rate.
- K. An employee in the continuous active service of the Employer for fourteen (14) years or more as of the anniversary of his/her most recent hire date will be given nineteen (19) days (152 hours) vacation with pay at his/her regular hourly rate.
- L. An employee in the continuous active service of the Employer for fifteen (15) years or more as of the anniversary of his/her most recent hire date will be given twenty (20) days (160 hours) vacation with pay at his/her regular hourly rate.

Subject to and in accordance with the provisions of this Article, paid vacations will be granted to employees after continuous service pursuant to the following schedules for employees working a regular 10-hour shift:

- A. An employee in the continuous active service of the Employer for one (1) year or more as of the anniversary of his/her most recent hire date will be given four (4) days (40 hours) vacation with pay at his/her regular hourly rate.
- B. An employee in the continuous active service of the Employer for two (2) years or more as of the anniversary of his/her most recent hire date will be given eight (8) days (80 hours) vacation with pay at his/her regular hourly rate.
- C. An employee in the continuous active service of the Employer for six (6) years or more as of the anniversary of his/her most recent hire date will be given nine (9) days (90 hours) vacation with pay at his/her regular hourly rate.
- D. An employee in the continuous active service of the Employer for seven (7) years or more as of the anniversary of his/her most recent hire date will be given ten (10) days (100 hours) vacation with pay at his/her regular hourly rate.
- E. An employee in the continuous active service of the Employer for eight (8) years or more as of the anniversary of his/her most recent hire date will be given eleven (11) days (110 hours) vacation with pay at his/her regular hourly rate.
- F. An employee in the continuous active service of the Employer for nine (9) years or more as of the anniversary of his/her most recent hire date will be given twelve (12) days (120 hours) vacation with pay at his/her regular hourly rate.
- G. An employee in the continuous active service of the Employer for ten (10) years or more as of the anniversary of his/her most recent hire date will be given thirteen (13) days (130 hours) vacation with pay at his/her regular hourly rate.
- H. An employee in the continuous active service of the Employer for eleven (11) years or more as of the anniversary of his/her most recent hire date will be given fourteen (14)

days (140 hours) vacation with pay at his/her regular hourly rate.

- I. An employee in the continuous active service of the Employer for twelve (12) years or more as of the anniversary of his/her most recent hire date will be given fifteen (15) days (150 hours) vacation with pay at his/her regular hourly rate.
- J. An employee in the continuous active service of the Employer for thirteen (13) years or more as of the anniversary of his/her most recent hire date will be given sixteen (16) days (160 hours) vacation with pay at his/her regular hourly rate.

In determining years of continuous active service, the following absences that are in excess of six (6) months will be deducted: layoff or an extended leave of absence.

Regular part-time employees will receive vacation leave in a ratio proportionate to their part-time service.

Section 2: Limitations

The purpose of a vacation is to enable the employee to enjoy periodic rest from the employee's regular job so the employee may return to work refreshed. The vacation year will be the individual employee's anniversary date to anniversary date. Accordingly:

- A. Except that an employee may carry over up to forty (40) hours of earned, unused vacation from one vacation year to the next, the employee must take earned vacations before his/her next anniversary date and each employee entitled to do so must take at least forty (40) hours of vacation during each vacation year.
- B. An employee may, at his/her discretion, sell back to the County up to a maximum of forty (40) earned, unused vacation hours per year once the employee has used forty (40) hours of vacation in that same year.
- C. Vacation must be used in increments of no less than one (1) hour.
- D. An employee whose services are terminated, except by discharge, will be paid for any vacation earned and not previously taken. The employee will be paid for such vacation in his/her last paycheck. At the Sheriff's discretion, an employee will be paid vacation pay on a pro rata basis from his/her last anniversary date to his/her separation date from the County. However, no employee who was terminated for cause will receive this prorated vacation pay nor will any employee receive it during his/her first year of service.

Section 3: Notification of Accrual

Employees will be notified of their accrued vacation by December 1 of each year. The notification of accrued vacation will be final and binding upon each employee unless he/she objects in writing to the Sheriff by December 10 of the year in which the notification is received.

Section 4: Selection

No later than January 1 of each year, the Sheriff will post a vacation schedule of open periods for vacations along with a notice concerning the maximum number of employees who may be on vacation at any given time. All employees that have accumulated four (4) weeks of vacation must take at least one (1) week or 40 hours consecutively during the year pending your anniversary date. Employees will have fifteen (15) calendar days within which to designate their choice. In the case of a conflict between designated choices within the Office, seniority governs. At the end of said fifteen-calendar-day period, the Sheriff must designate on the posted schedule the approved vacation period selections.

All remaining employees entitled to a vacation will be granted their vacation at the time they select, as long as their selection does not conflict with a vacation period that another employee previously designated; exceed the maximum number of employees who may be on vacation at any given time; or conflict with the operation of the Sheriff's Office.

During the first year of employment, employees will earn, but will not be permitted to take, vacation subject, however, to the following: any employee serving an introductory period by virtue of a promotion will be entitled to take vacation in accordance with the provisions of this section. All other introductory employees may, at the Sheriff's sole discretion, be granted an opportunity to use vacation leave for emergency purposes. The Sheriff's decision will be final and binding and not subject to the grievance procedure.

Section 5: Holidays Within Vacations

When a holiday falls within an employee's vacation period, such day will not be counted as a vacation day.

ARTICLE 10: TEMPORARY LEAVES OF ABSENCE

Section 1: Bereavement Leave

A leave with pay of not more than four (4) consecutive workdays per occurrence will be granted in the event of a death in an employee's immediate family. For purposes of this section, "immediate family" means only the following: spouse, child (including step or foster child), parent (including step or foster parent), brother, sister, mother-in-law, and father-in-law.

A leave with pay of not more than two (2) consecutive workdays per occurrence will be granted in the event of a death of an employee's grandfather, grandmother, brother-in-law, sister-in-law, son-in-law, daughter-in-law, or grandchild.

Employees will be granted one (1) workday with pay for bereavement not covered by paragraph 1 and 2 of this section, and these days will be charged to their personal sick leave.

Employees may be granted additional bereavement leave days in excess of the days granted in paragraphs 1, 2, and 3 of this section, or may be granted bereavement leave for individuals not listed in paragraphs 1 and 2 of this section. Additional bereavement leave under this paragraph will be charged to vacation leave, sick leave, compensatory time, or granted on an unpaid basis.

The Sheriff or his designated representative must approve funeral leave and it must include the date of the funeral. Employees who are granted funeral leave are required to attend the funeral unless excused by the Sheriff.

Section 2: Jury Duty and Court Appearances

Any employee who is subpoenaed for jury duty during working hours by any person or party, or who is subpoenaed by any person or party to appear in any Court or Administrative proceedings to which he/she is not a party, will be provided leave with pay for such duty or appearance. However, employees who are subpoenaed to appear in their capacity as County employees will be provided leave with pay for their appearance, regardless of whether they are named parties.

Any fees an employee receives for such jury duty or appearance as a witness must be turned over to the Employer.

Section 3: Military Leave

Military leave will be granted to employees as provided by state and federal law. Employees must comply with all notice requirements contained in state or federal law to be entitled to leave.

ARTICLE 11: EXTENDED LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Section 1: Duration

In the Employer's discretion, an employee may be granted an extended leave of absence without pay not to exceed the introductory period set out in Article 15.

Section 2: Application

Application for such a leave of absence must be made in writing to the Employer not less than thirty (30) days, whenever possible, before the beginning date of the leave, setting forth in writing the length of leave desired and the reasons therefore. The Board may waive the thirty-day period in its discretion if it determines an emergency exists.

Section 3: Benefits During Leave

No vacation time, sick leave, seniority, or other benefits contained in this Agreement will accrue during the time an employee is on a leave of absence without pay.

Section 4: Return Rights

Employees returning from an extended leave of absence will return to the job classification they worked in before the leave. The Employer may consider an employee's failure to return from an extended leave of absence to be a voluntary resignation.

Section 5: Military Leave

Military leave for an extended period will be granted to employees to the extent and in the manner provided by state and federal law. Employees must comply with all notice requirements contained in state or federal law to be entitled to leave. The County will comply with all applicable provisions of state or federal law, including, but not limited to, provisions concerning benefits and return rights.

ARTICLE 12: FAMILY AND MEDICAL LEAVE

Section 1: General Provisions

In accordance with the Family and Medical Leave Act, the County will grant unpaid family and medical leave to eligible employees, whether male or female, for up to twelve (12) weeks per twelve (12) month period for any of the following reasons:

- A. The birth of a child and to care for and bond with such child within one year of birth; or
- B. The placement of a child with the employee for adoption or foster care and to care for and bond with the newly placed child within one year of placement; or
- C. To care for the employee's immediate family member (spouse, child, or parent) if such immediate family member has a serious health condition; or
- D. The employee's own serious health condition that makes the employee unable to perform the functions of his/her position; or
- E. Injured Servicemember Leave: An eligible employee who is the spouse, son, daughter, parent, or next of kin of a covered servicemember who is recovering from a serious illness or injury sustained in the line of duty on active duty is entitled to up to 26 weeks of leave in a single 12-month period to care for the servicemember. A covered servicemember is a current member of the Armed Forces, including a member of the National Guard or Reserves, who has a serious injury or illness incurred in the line of duty on active duty. This military caregiver leave is available during "a single 12-month period" during which an eligible employee is entitled to a combined total of 26 weeks for all types of FMLA qualifying reasons. The other types of FMLA leave also remain subject to the 12-week limit per rolling year. When care for a covered servicemember is involved, spouses employed by the same employer are jointly entitled to a combined total of 26 weeks of leave during a single 12-month period for the birth and care of a newborn child, placement of a child for adoption or foster care, to care for parent who has a serious health condition, and to care for the covered servicemember.
- F. Active Duty Family Leave (Exigency Leave): Eligible employees are entitled to up to 12 weeks of leave because of "any qualifying exigency" arising out of the fact that the employee's spouse, son, daughter, or parent is on active duty or has been notified of an impending call to active duty status in the National Guard or Reserves in support of a contingency operation. (Exigency leave only applies to service in the National Guard and Reserves and does not apply to active duty or call to active duty status in the Regular Armed Forces.) This leave is subject to the same aggregate 12 weeks of FMLA leave per rolling year as the "traditional" forms of FMLA leave.

Section 2: Eligibility

To be eligible for family/medical leave, an employee must have at least one year of service and have worked at least 1,250 hours over the previous twelve (12) month period. Employees applying for and granted a family leave of absence are required to meet notification and documentation requirements as outlined further in this policy. Failure to meet these requirements may result in the denial or revocation of a family leave.

Section 3: Definitions

- A. "Twelve Month Period" — will be the twelve (12) month period measured forward from this day of leave.
- B. "Spouse" — does not include unmarried domestic partners. If both spouses work for the County, their total leave in any twelve-month period may be limited to an aggregate of twelve weeks if the leave is taken for either the birth or placement for adoption or foster care of a child or for a sick parent.
- C. "Child" — means a biological, adopted, or foster child, a stepchild, a legal ward, or a child of a person standing *in loco parentis*, who is under 18 years of age or who is 18 years of age or older and incapable of self-care because of a mental or physical disability as defined by the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) at the time that FMLA leave is to commence.
- D. "Parent" — means a biological, adoptive, step or foster father or mother, or any other individual who stood *in loco parentis* to the employee when the employee was a child. This term does not include "parents-in-law."
- E. "Serious Health Condition" — means an illness, injury, impairment, or physical or mental condition that involves one or more of the following:
 - 1. Hospital Care

Inpatient care (i.e., an overnight stay) in a hospital, hospice, or residential medical care facility, including any period of incapacity or subsequent treatment in connection with such inpatient care. "Incapacity" means inability to work, attend school, or perform other regular daily activities due to the serious condition, treatment therefore, or recovery therefrom.
 - 2. Absence Plus Treatment

A period of incapacity of more than three consecutive, full calendar days (including any subsequent treatment or period of incapacity relating to the same condition), that also involves:
 - a. Treatment two or more times, within 30 days of the first day of incapacity,

unless extenuating circumstances exist, by a health care provider, by a nurse or physician's assistant under direct supervision of a health care provider, or by a provider of health care services (e.g., physical therapist) under orders of, or on referral by, a health care provider; or

- b. Treatment by a health care provider on at least one occasion, which results in a regimen of continuing treatment under the supervision of the health care provider.
- c. Treatment includes examinations to determine if a serious health condition exists and evaluations of the condition. Treatment does not include routine physical examinations, eye examinations, or dental examinations.

3. Pregnancy

Any period of incapacity due to pregnancy, or for prenatal care.

4. Chronic Conditions Requiring Treatments

Any period of incapacity or treatment for such incapacity due to a chronic serious health condition. A chronic serious health condition is one which:

- a. Requires periodic visits for treatment by a health care provider, or by a nurse or physician's assistant under direct supervision of a health care provider;
- b. Continues over an extended period (including recurring episodes of a single underlying condition); and
- c. May cause episodic rather than a continuing period of incapacity (e.g., asthma, diabetes, epilepsy, etc.).

5. Permanent/Long-term Conditions Requiring Supervision

A period of incapacity which is permanent or long-term due to a condition for which treatment may not be effective. The employee or family member must be under the continuing supervision of, but need not be receiving active treatment by a health provider. Examples include Alzheimer's, a severe stroke, or the terminal stages of a disease.

6. Multiple Treatments (Non-Chronic Conditions)

Any period of absence to receive multiple treatments (including any period of recovery therefrom) by a health care provider or by a provider of health care services under orders of, or on referral by, a health care provider, either for restorative surgery after an accident or other injury, or for a condition that would

likely result in a period of incapacity of more than three consecutive full calendar days in the absence of medical intervention or treatment, such as cancer (chemotherapy, radiation, etc.), severe arthritis (physical therapy), kidney disease (dialysis).

7. Absences attributable to incapacity under paragraphs 3 (pregnancy) or 4 (chronic conditions) of this definition qualify for FMLA leave even though the employee or covered family member does not receive treatment from a health care provider during the absence, and even if the absence does not last more than three consecutive full calendar days. For example, an employee with asthma due to the onset of an asthma attack or an employee who is pregnant and unable to report to work because of severe morning sickness.

Section 4: Coordination with Paid Leave

Employees shall use all paid leave to which they are entitled prior to the commencement of unpaid FMLA leave. Days of paid leave shall be treated as FMLA leave and shall be counted as FMLA leave days in the calculation of the number of days of leave for which the employee is eligible.

Section 5: Intermittent or Reduced Leave

Any employee may take leave intermittently (a few days or a few hours at a time) or on a reduced leave schedule when medically necessary to care for an immediate family member with a serious health condition or because of the employee's serious health condition. "Medically necessary" means that there must be a medical need for the leave and the leave may be required to transfer through an intermittent or reduced leave schedule. The employee may be required to transfer temporarily to a position with equivalent pay and benefits that better accommodates recurring periods of leave. The employee must make a reasonable effort to schedule treatments so as not to unduly disrupt the County's operations. If an employee requests reduced or intermittent leave, once the intermittent or reduced leave has been completed, the employee must be transferred back to the same position that the employee held prior to taking the FMLA leave or to an equivalent position. An employee may take leave intermittently or on a reduced leave schedule for birth or placement for adoption or foster care of a child only within the Sheriff's consent.

Section 6: Notice Requirement

An employee is required to give thirty (30) days notice in the event of a foreseeable leave. A "Request for Family/Medical Leave" form should be completed by the employee and returned to the Sheriff. In unexpected or unforeseeable situations, an employee should provide as much notice as possible.

An employee giving notice of the need for unpaid FMLA leave must explain the reasons for the needed leave to allow the employer to determine that the leave qualifies under the FMLA. Failure to provide notice as required in this paragraph may result in delay of leave.

Employees must also follow the County's usual and customary notice and procedural requirements for requesting leave and reporting absences from work. Failure to follow the employer's policies and procedures for requesting leave and reporting absences may result in delay or denial of leave and/or disciplinary action.

Section 7: Medical Certification

The employee must request an FMLA leave, and the County requires that the request be supported by a certificate of a doctor or practitioner at the time the request is made or no later than fifteen (15) calendar days after the request is made. A "Physician Certification Form" is available from the Sheriff. The Sheriff may also require a second or third medical opinion at County expense. Periodic reports on the employee's status, intent to return to work, and a fitness-for-duty report to return to work will be required.

Section 8: Effect on Benefits

Taking FMLA leave will not result in the loss of any employee benefits accrued prior to the date on which the leave began. Vacation, seniority, and other accrued benefits will not accrue during an FMLA leave.

Section 9: Continuation of Health Insurance

An employee on family/medical leave may remain a participant in the County's health insurance plan throughout the duration of the leave as if actively employed. She/he will be required to pay the same cost of coverage as if actively at work. Employee contributions will be required either through payroll deduction or by direct payment to the County. The employee will be informed of the amount and method of payment at the beginning of the leave. Loss of insurance coverage may result if the premium amount is paid more than thirty (30) days late. If the employee misses a premium payment and the County pays the employee's contribution, the employee will be required to reimburse the County for the delinquent payment upon return from leave.

Section 10: Return to Work

An employee returning from leave taken under this provision is entitled to return to the position held when the leave began, if that position is vacant. If the position is not vacant, the employee must be returned to an equivalent position with equivalent benefits, pay, and other conditions.

ARTICLE 13: WAGES AND SUPPLEMENTAL PAY

Section 1: Coverage

The pay rate for all employees covered by this Agreement is set forth in Section 3 of this Article. Employees will be paid only for hours actually worked unless otherwise provided herein.

Section 2: Placement

Employees employed by the Sheriff on the effective date of this Agreement will be placed on the salary schedule in accordance with their job classification. Employees hired after this Agreement's effective date will be placed on the salary schedule in accordance with their job rate specified in Section 3. However, in the Sheriff's discretion, newly hired employees may be paid at a rate for their job classification based on their years of experience performing comparable work.

Section 3: Pay Classification

Effective on the date that all necessary parties execute this Agreement, all employees will be placed in and paid in accordance with one of the following job classifications.

	FISCAL YEARS	
	2025-2026	
Deputy Sheriff	2024- 2025	2025- 2026 (10%)
Uncertified/Training	\$22.86	\$25.15
Certified/With Training	\$23.23	\$25.55
After 6 months service	\$24.15	\$26.57
After 12 months service	\$25.76	\$28.34
After 24 months service	\$27.31	\$30.04
After 36 months service	\$28.08	\$30.89
After 48 months service	\$29.62	\$32.58
Sergeants	\$30.71	\$33.78
Lieutenants	\$31.81	\$35.00
Certified Deputy working as a Jailer		\$23.83

Section 4: House Arrest Pay

Employees who are assigned house arrest duties will receive an additional three percent (3%) of their regular hourly wage for each hour that they perform house arrest duties.

Section 5: Dog-Handling Pay

Employees who are assigned dog-handling duties will be credited with two (2) hours per week for these duties and will receive an additional five percent (5%) of their regular hourly wage for these two (2) hours of dog-handling duty. The normal schedule for an officer with dog-handling duties will be thirty-eight (38) work hours per week.

Section 6: Court Appearance Pay

Employees who, as part of their official duties, report to court outside of their regularly scheduled work hours will be credited with two (2) hours minimum at the rate of one-and one-half ($1\frac{1}{2}$) the employee's straight time hourly rate for each court appearance. If a court appearance lasts longer than that two (2) hour minimum, that additional time spent in court will be paid at the one-and one-half ($1\frac{1}{2}$) times the employee's straight time hourly rate.

Section 7: Longevity Pay

In addition to their regular compensation, employees are eligible to receive longevity pay as follows: fifteen cents (\$0.15) per hour after 5 years of completed service; thirty cents (\$0.30) per hour after 10 years of completed service; forty-five cents (\$0.45) per hour after 15 years of completed service; sixty cents (\$0.60) per hour after twenty 20 years of completed service; and seventy-five cents (\$0.75) per hour after twenty-five 25 years of completed service.

Section 8: Stand-by Pay

Employees assigned to be on stand-by will be paid one-half ($\frac{1}{2}$) of their regular hourly pay rate for each hour of stand-by duty.

ARTICLE 14: INSURANCE

Section 1: Health and Dental Insurance

The Employer agrees to pay one hundred percent (100%) of the premium for group health insurance, including dental insurance, for individual employees with benefits equivalent to those in effect on the date of execution of this Agreement. The Employer has the discretion to select the carrier and determine the benefit level, provided the Employer and the Union mutually agree to the benefits determined.

Section 2: Life Insurance

The Employer agrees to pay one hundred percent (100%) of the premium for a group term life insurance program that provides a death benefit of \$15,000.00.

Section 3: Long-Term Disability Insurance

The Employer agrees to pay one hundred percent (100%) of the premium for a group long-term disability insurance program that provides employees with benefits at sixty percent (60%) of covered wages, up to a maximum of \$3,600 per month, and includes a ninety (90) calendar day waiting period.

Section 4: Secondary Employment (Moonlighting)

When employees perform law enforcement services outside of their normal scope of employment for Dakota County ("moonlight"), benefits such as Workers Compensation, health insurance, retirement, paid leave, or the like, will be provided by the third-party contracting for the employees' services, not Dakota County. All requests for outside employment or moonlighting must go through, and be approved by, the Sheriff.

ARTICLE 15: INTRODUCTORY AND TRIAL PERIODS

Section 1: New Hires

All newly hired employees must serve an introductory period of six (6) months. The Sheriff may extend introductory periods after consultation with the Union. If an employee's introductory period is extended, the Sheriff will place a written explanation of the reasons for the extension in the employee's personnel file.

Section 2: Transfers

Transferred employees shall serve a three (3) month trial period from the date of transfer. The purpose of the trial period is to determine the employee's ability and desire to perform the work. If the Sheriff is not satisfied with the employee's performance during the trial period or if the employee desires to return to his/her former position, such employee shall be reinstated to this former position without loss of seniority and at a salary not lower than that received by him/her in such former position at the time of transfer, provided a vacant position is available to which the employee can be transferred. If a vacant position is not available to which the employee can be transferred, the employee shall have the right to be recalled to any vacant position which occurs in his/her former position during the three-month period following his/her removal from the transferred position.

ARTICLE 16: SENIORITY

Section 1: Definition of Seniority

Seniority is defined as an employee's length of continuous service with the Sheriff from the employee's most recent hire date.

Section 2: Seniority Records

The Sheriff will: maintain the seniority records for employees, update them annually, and provide them to the Union upon request. Any protest as to the correctness of the list must be made in writing to the Sheriff.

Section 3: Termination of Seniority

Seniority and the employment relationship will be broken and terminated if an employee quits for any reason, is discharged, absent from work for three (3) consecutive working days without notification to and authorization from the Sheriff, laid off, fails to report for work at the termination of leave of absence, accepts other employment without Employer permission while on leave of absence for personal or health reasons, or is retired.

Section 4: Non-Bargaining Unit Employees

Where an employee holds a non-bargaining unit position, he/she will maintain bargaining unit seniority for a period of three (3) months after initial appointment. Thereafter, his/her seniority rights in the bargaining unit shall be terminated, except that he/she will not lose sick leave, vacations, and seniority, longevity, or wage rates.

ARTICLE 17: LAYOFF PROCEDURES

Section 1: Notice of Layoff

The Employer will give one (1) working day advance notice prior to the time of layoff.

Section 2: Layoff Procedure

When the working force is to be reduced, the employee with the least seniority in the job classification affected will be the first removed. The employee removed can then replace the junior employee in the bargaining unit, if he/she has the qualifications, ability to perform, and physical fitness to perform the work.

Section 3: Recall Procedures

If employees are recalled, they will be recalled in inverse order of layoff. It is the employee's responsibility to provide the Employer with his/her current address. If an employee fails to report for duty within fourteen (14) calendar days of the date on which notice of recall is postmarked, his/her recall rights will terminate. Laid-off employees will retain their recall rights for twelve (12) months after their last day of work prior to layoff.

ARTICLE 18: TRANSFER PROCEDURE

Section 1: Definition of Transfer

A "transfer" means a voluntary movement from one bargaining unit position to another bargaining unit position within the Sheriff's Office.

Section 2: Transfer Procedure

If the Sheriff decides to fill a vacancy, the Sheriff may advertise for applicants from outside the bargaining unit, post the vacancy and seek applicants from within the bargaining unit, or both. If the Sheriff advertises and fills the vacancy from outside the bargaining unit, this procedure does not apply. If the Sheriff seeks applicants from both within and outside the bargaining unit, the Sheriff may select any applicant.

Transfers made from within the bargaining unit must be made on the basis of ability to perform the work and qualifications.

If the Sheriff decides to fill a vacancy from within the bargaining unit, the vacancy must first be posted for five (5) working days, and employees who wish to apply for a transfer must make written application for transfer within said five-day period.

ARTICLE 19: EVALUATION PROCEDURES

Section 1: Required Evaluations

The Sheriff will evaluate employees at such frequency as the Sheriff may determine, but not less than annually. Evaluations concerning an employee's introductory period are not subject to the grievance procedure. After the introductory period, evaluations that result in a rating of "unsatisfactory" overall are subject to the grievance procedure. The evaluation will be sustained unless the employee establishes that it is arbitrary, capricious, or without basis or fact.

Section 2: Evaluation Conference

A conference regarding the evaluation will be held between the employee and the Sheriff following the completion of the written evaluation. A copy signed by both parties will be given to the employee.

Section 3: Employee Response

All evaluation reports will be placed in the employee's official personnel file, and the employee will be furnished with a copy of all reports. The employee has the right to respond in writing to his/her performance evaluation, and such response will become part of the evaluation report.

ARTICLE 20: GRIEVANCE PROCEDURE

Section 1: Definitions

A "grievance" is a claim that there has been a violation of a provision of this Agreement.

A "grievant" is the employee, group of employees, or the Union filing the grievance.

"Days" means calendar days.

Section 2: General Provisions

The number of days indicated at each step will be considered a maximum. The time limits specified may, however, be extended by mutual written agreement.

A grievant's failure to act on any grievance within the prescribed time limits will act as a bar to any further appeal, and the Employer's failure to give a decision within the time limits will permit the grievant to proceed to the next step.

Grievants may represent themselves at any step of the procedure and/or, at their option, be represented by a Union representative.

Section 3: First Step (Sheriff)

Within ten (10) days of the act that gives rise to a grievance, the grievant must complete, deliver, and file the written Grievance Report Form, set forth in attached Appendix "B," to the Sheriff. If either party requests a hearing within seven (7) days after the grievance is filed, such hearing must be held within fourteen (14) days after the grievance is filed.

The Sheriff must make a decision on the grievance, enter such decision on the Grievance Report Form, and communicate such decision in writing to the grievant. Such action will be taken within ten (10) days after the grievance is filed if neither party requests a hearing or within seven (7) days following the hearing.

Section 4: Second Step (Board of Commissioners)

In the event the grievance has not been satisfactorily resolved at the First Step, the grievant must file a copy of the grievance with the Board of Commissioners within ten (10) days of the Sheriff's decision. If either party requests a hearing within seven (7) days after the grievance is filed, such hearing will be heard within fourteen (14) days after the grievance is filed.

The Board must make a decision on the grievance, enter such decision on the Grievance Report Form, and communicate such decision in writing to the grievant. Such action must be taken within ten (10) days after the grievance is filed if neither party requests a hearing or within seven (7) days following the hearing.

Section 5: Third Step (Arbitration)

If the grievance is not settled at Step Two, within seven (7) calendar days after receipt of the Employer's Step Two answer, the Union may appeal to arbitration by submitting a written notice of a request for arbitration to the Sheriff. Said written notice must be signed by a Union representative, must state the facts and specific section of this Agreement that the arbitrator is to consider, and must state the remedy or relief sought. When a timely request has been made for arbitration, the parties will compile a list of five (5) arbitrators drawn by lot from the parties' permanent panel of arbitrators. The parties must determine by lot which party will be required to strike the first name from the list. The parties will strike four names from the list, with the first name stricken by the first party required to do so and the remaining names stricken by the parties in alternation. The person whose name remains will be the arbitrator.

The arbitrator so selected will schedule a hearing on the grievance and, after hearing such evidence as the parties' desire to present, will render a written opinion and award.

The arbitration hearing will be scheduled not later than sixty (60) days following the date on which the request for arbitration was submitted to the Sheriff. The arbitrator will be without power or authority to make any decision other than one that interprets the meaning of this contract. The arbitrator's decision will be final and binding on the parties.

If more than one grievance is pending arbitration, each grievance must be presented to a separate arbitrator unless the parties mutually agree otherwise.

Section 6: Expenses of Arbitration

The Employer and the Union will share equally any joint costs of the arbitration procedure, such as the fees and expenses of the arbitrator and the costs of the hearing room and transcript. Any other expenses will be paid by the party incurring them.

ARTICLE 21: SUBCONTRACTING

It is the Employer's general policy to utilize its employees to perform work they are qualified to perform. However, the Employer reserves the right to contract out any work it deems necessary in the interests of efficiency, economy, improved work product, or emergency.

Except in emergency cases, if the Employer wishes to change its policy involving subcontracting work, and such policy change amounts to a significant deviation from past practice and will result in any loss of work to any bargaining unit employees, the Employer must consult with the Union about its desire to subcontract such work. It is understood that the Employer retains the right to subcontract work.

ARTICLE 22: NON-DISCRIMINATION

Section 1: Prohibition Against Discrimination

The parties hereby agree not to discriminate against any individual because of age, race, religion, creed, color, sex, national origin, disability, or union or non-union membership.

Section 2: Rights of Employees

The parties hereby agree that no officers, agents, representatives, members, or anyone connected with either party will in any manner intimidate, coerce, restrain, or interfere with rights of employees to form, join, or assist labor organizations, or to refrain from any of these activities, including the right of employees to withdraw, revoke, or cancel union membership.

ARTICLE 23: BULLETIN BOARD

Section 1: Bulletin Board

The County will provide one bulletin board at the jail for the Union's exclusive use for posting Union meetings and elections, Union committees' reports, and other notices or announcements that would be of the employees' benefit or interest.

Section 2: Posted Materials

Posted material must not contain anything political or reflect adversely upon the County or any of its employees.

ARTICLE 24: STRIKES AND LOCKOUTS

Section 1: Lockouts

The Employer agrees that it will not engage in any lockout of its employees during the term of this Agreement.

Section 2: Employee Actions

No employee will engage in any strike, sit-down, sit-in, slowdown, sickout, cessation or stoppage or interruption of work, boycott, or picketing of any place where the Employer's activities are or may be carried out.

Section 3: Union Actions

The Union, its officers, agents, representatives, and members, will not in any way, directly or indirectly, authorize, assist, encourage, participate in, or sanction any strike, sit-down, sit-in, slowdown, sickout, cessation or stoppage or interruption of work, boycott, or picketing of any place where the Employer's activities are or may be carried out, or ratify, condone, or lend support to any such conduct or action.

Section 4: Remedies

In addition to all legal remedies provided for a violation of a section of this Article, the Employer has the right to discipline or discharge any employee who violates any section of this Article.

ARTICLE 25: MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS

Section 1: Construction of Terms

Whenever the context of this Agreement permits, the masculine gender includes the feminine, the singular number includes the plural, and the reference to any party includes its agents, officials, and representatives.

Section 2: Savings Clause

In the event any provision of this Agreement is held invalid by any court of competent jurisdiction, said provision will be considered separable and its invalidity will not in any way affect the remaining provisions of this Agreement.

ARTICLE 26: UNIFORM POLICY

The County agrees to provide each employee with \$800 each year of this contract for the employees to purchase uniforms and necessary accessories.

When a new employee is hired, the County will purchase all necessary uniforms and accessories for the employee; however, if this amount exceeds the \$800 per year limitation, the excess amount will be deducted from said employee's \$800 limit for future years until the excess has been recouped.

ARTICLE 27: DURATION AND SIGNATURE

Section 1: Duration

This Agreement is effective from July 1, 2025, through June 30, 2026.

Section 2: Procedure for Renegotiation or Modification

Any party seeking a continuation or modification of this Agreement following its expiration must serve written notice by ordinary mail on the other party, postmarked on or before March 15, 2026. If any party seeks to continue or modify this Agreement, then bargaining will begin no later than April 1, 2026.

The County and the Union also agree that, at any time during the lifetime of this Agreement, either party, upon written notice, may express their desire to modify portions of this Agreement. The parties further understand that negotiations may be reopened only by mutual agreement. The parties agree that negotiations may be reopened in the 2026-2027 term of this Agreement to discuss and amend the wage section.

Section 3: Signature Clause

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties have executed this Agreement by their duly authorized representatives on the dates indicated below.

THIS CONTRACT CONTAINS AN ARBITRATION PROVISION WHICH MAY BE ENFORCED BY THE PARTIES.

For the Employer

Dakota County Board of Commissioners

By: _____

Chairperson

Date: _____

5-11-2026

For the Union

Fraternal Order of Police, Dakota County
Lodge #49

By: _____

President

By: _____

Vice President

By: _____

Secretary/Treasurer

Date: _____

5-14-2026

APPENDIX "A"

DUES DEDUCTION AUTHORIZATION REQUEST FOR PAYROLL DEDUCTION OF LODGE DUES

Social Security Number

Initials and Last Name (PRINT)

Dakota County Sheriff's Office-Dakota City

Fraternal Order of Police Lodge #49

Work Location – City or Town

Local No.

Until cancelled by written notice from me or from the Secretary - Treasurer of the Dakota County Lodge #49 of the Fraternal Order of Police, I hereby authorize and request that the Dakota County Clerk:

- (1) deduct from my wages and payments for each calendar month, except during any payroll period that I do not receive sufficient wages or payments to cover deductions for dues,
 - (a) the sum of \$50.00 per month until the amount of my regular lodge membership dues is lawfully changed, and thereafter
 - (b) the amount of my regular monthly dues, as certified to Dakota County by the Secretary - Treasurer of the Dakota County Lodge #49 of the Fraternal Order of Police, and
- (2) remit the amount so deducted to the Secretary - Treasurer of the Dakota County Lodge #49 of the Fraternal Order of Police, P.O. Box 512, Dakota City, Nebraska 68731.

Signature of Employee

Date

Residence Address (No. and Street)

City or Town

State

Zip Code

Lodge Membership dues and agency fees are not deductible as charitable contributions for Federal Income Tax purposes. Dues and agency fees, however, may be deductible in limited circumstances subject to various restrictions imposed by the Internal Revenue Code.

APPENDIX "B" GRIEVANCE REPORT FORM

Dakota County Sheriff's Office

Name of Grievant

Grievance #

Date Filed: _____

First Step

A. Date Alleged Violation Occurred: _____

B. Section(s) of Contract Alleged to Have Been Violated: _____

C. Statement of Grievance: _____

D. Relief Sought: _____

Signature of Grievant

Date

Disposition of Grievance: _____

Signature of Sheriff or Representative

Date

Union: Accept _____

Reject _____

Signature of Union Representative

Date

Second Step

Date of Appeal to Board of Commissioners: _____

Signature of Grievant

Date

DISPOSITION OF GRIEVANCE

Signature of Chairperson of Board

Date

Union: Accept _____

Reject _____

Signature of Union Representative

Date

Third Step

A. Date of Appeal to Arbitration: _____

B. Section(s) of Contract to be Considered by Arbitrator: _____

C. Relief Sought: _____

Signature of Union Representative

Date