



Cecil County Public Schools 457(b) Deferred Compensation Plan

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

PREAMBLE 1

SECTION I DEFINITIONS 2

1.1 Plan Definitions2

SECTION II PARTICIPATION AND CONTRIBUTIONS 6

2.1 Eligibility.....6

2.2 Election.....6

2.3 Commencement of Participation7

2.4 Amendment of Annual Deferral Election, Investment Direction, or Beneficiary Designation7

2.5 Information Provided by the Participant7

2.6 Contributions Made Promptly.....7

2.7 Employer Contributions.....7

2.8 Leave of Absence.....8

2.9 Disability8

2.10 Protection of Persons Who Serve in a Uniformed Service.....8

2.11 Corrective Measures.....8

2.12 Vesting of Account Balance.....8

SECTION III LIMITATIONS ON AMOUNTS DEFERRED 9

3.1 Basic Annual Limitation9

3.2 Age 50 Catch-up Annual Deferral Contributions.....9

3.3 Special Section 457 Catch-up Limitation.....9

3.4 Special Rules.....10

3.5 Correction of Excess Deferrals11

SECTION IV INVESTMENT RESPONSIBILITIES..... 12

4.1 Investment of Deferred Amount.....12

4.2 Investment Election for Future Contributions.....12

4.3 Investment Changes for an Existing Account Balance.....12

4.4 Investment Responsibility12

4.5 Default Investment Fund.....12

4.6 Statements.....12

SECTION V LOANS..... 13

5.1 Loans13

SECTION VI DISTRIBUTIONS 14

6.1 Distributions from the Plan.....14

6.2 Benefit Distributions Upon Severance from Employment.....14

6.3 Distributions on Account of Participant's Death15

6.4 Distribution of Small Account Balances Without Participant's Consent15

6.5 Forms of Distribution16

6.6 Minimum Distribution Requirements.....16

6.7	Payments to Minors and Incompetents.....	22
6.8	Procedure When Distributee Cannot Be Located.....	22
6.9	Direct Rollover	23
6.10	Inservice Distributions.....	24
6.11	Qualified Distributions for Retired Public Safety Officers.....	26
SECTION VII ROLLOVERS		27
7.1	Eligible Rollover Contributions to the Plan	27
7.2	Permissive Service Credit Transfers	27
7.3	In-Plan Roth Conversion.....	28
SECTION VIII BENEFICIARY		29
8.1	Beneficiary Designation.....	29
SECTION IX ADMINISTRATION AND ACCOUNTING		30
9.1	Administrator	30
9.2	Administrative Costs	30
9.3	Paperless Administration	30
SECTION X AMENDMENTS		32
10.1	Amendment	32
10.2	Conformation	32
10.3	Plan Termination	32
SECTION XI TRUST FUND.....		33
11.1	Trust Fund.....	33
SECTION XII MISCELLANEOUS		34
12.1	Non-Assignability	34
12.2	Domestic Relation Orders	34
12.3	IRS Levy	34
12.4	Mistaken Contributions.....	34
12.5	Employment.....	35
12.6	Successors and Assigns.....	35
12.7	Written Notice	35
12.8	Total Agreement.....	35
12.9	Gender.....	35
12.10	Controlling Law	35

457(b) PLAN DOCUMENT
DEFERRED COMPENSATION PLAN

PREAMBLE

Adoption of Plan

The Cecil County Public Schools 457(b) Deferred Compensation Plan (hereinafter "the Plan"), an eligible deferred compensation plan within the meaning of Section 457(b) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (hereinafter the "Code"), of a State or local government as described in Code Section 457(e)(1)(A), that meets the requirements of Code Section 401(a)(37), originally adopted by The Board of Education of Cecil County d/b/a Cecil County Public Schools (hereinafter the "Employer") effective June 10, 2006 and hereby amended effective as of January 1, 2026.

Purpose of Plan

The primary purpose of this Plan is to permit Employees of the Employer to enter into an agreement which will provide for deferral of payment of a portion of his or her current compensation until death, retirement, Severance from Employment, or other event, in accordance with the provisions of the Code Section 457(b), with other applicable provisions of the Code, and in accordance with the General Statutes of the State.

Status of Plan

It is intended that the Plan shall qualify as an eligible deferred compensation plan within the meaning of Code Section 457(b) sponsored by an eligible employer within the meaning of Code Section 457(e)(1)(A), i.e., a State, political subdivision of a State, or agency or instrumentality of a State or political subdivision of a State.

Tax Consequences of Plan

The Employer does not and cannot represent or guarantee that any particular federal or State income, payroll, or other tax consequence will occur by reason of participation in this Plan. A Participant should consult with his or her own counsel or other representative regarding all tax or other consequences of participation in this Plan.

SECTION I DEFINITIONS

1.1 Plan Definitions

For purposes of this Plan, the following words and phrases have the meaning set forth below, unless a different meaning is plainly required by the context:

An "**Account Balance**" means the bookkeeping account maintained with respect to each Participant which reflects the value of the deferred Compensation credited to the Participant, including the Participant's Annual Deferrals, the earnings or loss of the Trust Fund (net of Trust Fund expenses) allocable to the Participant, any transfers for the Participant's benefit, and any distribution made to the Participant or the Participant's Beneficiary. If a Participant has more than one Beneficiary at the time of the Participant's death, then a separate Account Balance shall be maintained for each Beneficiary. The Account Balance includes any account established under Section VII for rollover contributions made for a Participant, the account established for a Beneficiary after a Participant's death, and any account or accounts established for an alternate payee (as defined in Code Section 414(p)(8)).

The "**Administrator**" means the Employer. The term Administrator includes any person or persons, committee, or organization appointed by the Employer to administer the Plan.

An "**Annual Deferral**" means the amount of Compensation deferred in any calendar year.

The "**Beneficiary**" of a Participant means the person or persons (or, if none, the Participant's surviving spouse, or if the Participant has no surviving spouse, the Participant's surviving children in equal shares, or if there are no surviving children, the Participant's estate) who is entitled under the provisions of the Plan to receive a distribution in the event the Participant dies before receiving distribution of his or her entire interest under the Plan. If a married Participant designates his or her spouse as Beneficiary under the Plan, such designation shall automatically become null and void as of the date of any final divorce or similar decree or order; except that the Participant may re-designate such former spouse as his or her Beneficiary after the date of the final decree or order.

The "**Code**" means the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as now in effect or as hereafter amended from time to time. Reference to a Code Section includes such section and any comparable section or sections of any future legislation that amends, supplements, or supersedes such section.

The "**Compensation**" of a Participant means all cash compensation for services to the Employer that is includible in the Employee's gross income for the calendar year, including, as applicable, compensation attributable to services as an independent contractor, plus amounts that would be cash compensation for services to the Employer includible in the Employee's gross income for the calendar year but for a compensation reduction election under Code Section 125, 132(f), 401(k), 403(b), or 457(b) (including an election to defer compensation under Section II). Notwithstanding the foregoing, Compensation shall not include non-taxable fringe benefits.

Any payments described below made to a Participant after a Severance from Employment shall qualify as Compensation for purposes of the Plan, but only if the payments are made by the later of (a) the end of the calendar year in which the Severance from Employment occurred or (b) within 2 ½ months of such Severance from Employment:

- (a) Compensation that, absent a Severance from Employment, would have been paid to the Participant while the Participant continued in employment with the Employer, but only if such payments constitute regular compensation for services during the Participant's regular working hours, compensation for services outside the Participant's regular working hours (such as overtime or a shift differential), commissions, bonuses or other similar payments that would otherwise be included in determining Compensation under the Plan.
- (b) Payments for accrued bona fide sick, vacation or other leave, but only if the Participant would have been able to use the leave if employment had continued.

Any payment that is not described above shall not be considered Compensation if it is paid after the date of the Participant's Severance from Employment, even if it is paid within 2 ½ months of such date. Thus, for example, Compensation does not include severance pay.

For years beginning after December 31, 2008, (a) a Participant receiving a differential wage payment, as defined by Code Section 3401(h)(2), by reason of qualified military service (within the meaning of Code Section 414(u)), is treated as an Employee of the Employer making the payment and (b) the differential wage payment is treated as Compensation.

An "**Employee**" means each natural person who is employed by the Employer as a common law employee on a full time basis or on a part-time basis provided, however, that the term Employee shall not include a leased employee.

Any individual who is not treated by the Employer as a common law employee of the Employer shall be excluded from Plan participation even if a court or administrative agency determines that such individual is a common law employee of the Employer, unless the Employer has included the individual in Plan participation as an independent contractor.

An "**Employer**" means the eligible employer (within the meaning of Code Section 457(e)(1)) that has adopted the Plan. In the case of an eligible employer that is an agency or instrumentality of a political subdivision of a State within the meaning of Code Section 457(e)(1)(A), the term Employer shall include any other agency or instrumentality of the same political subdivision that has adopted the Plan.

An "**Employer Contribution**" means Annual Deferrals made to the Account Balance of a Participant by the Employer on a non-elective basis.

"**Includible Compensation**" means, with respect to a taxable year, the Participant's compensation as defined in Code Section 415(c)(3) and the regulations thereunder, for services

performed for the Employer. The amount of Includible Compensation is determined without regard to any community property laws.

"Normal Retirement Age" means age 70 ½, unless the Participant has elected an alternate Normal Retirement Age and delivered such election to the Administrator. Such date shall be no earlier than the earliest date that the Participant will become eligible to retire and receive, under the basic defined benefit pension plan of the Employer (or a money purchase plan in which the Participant also participates if the Participant is not eligible to participate in a defined benefit plan) immediate retirement benefits without actuarial or similar reduction because of retirement before some later specified age, but not greater than age 70 ½. If a Participant continues employment after attaining age 70 ½, not having previously elected an alternate Normal Retirement Age, the Participant's alternate Normal Retirement Age shall not be later than the mandatory retirement age, if any, established by the Employer, or any age at which the Participant actually has a Severance from Employment if the Employer has no mandatory retirement age. If the Participant will not become eligible to receive benefits under a basic defined benefit pension plan (or money purchase pension plan, if applicable) maintained by the Employer, the Participant's alternate Normal Retirement Age may not be earlier than age 65 and may not be later than age 70 ½.

A Participant's Normal Retirement Age must be the same as his or her Normal Retirement Age under any other eligible deferred compensation plan or plans sponsored by the Employer. The designation of a Normal Retirement Age under the Plan does not compel retirement with the Employer.

The **"Participant"** means an individual who is currently deferring Compensation, or who has previously deferred Compensation under the Plan by salary reduction and who has not received a distribution of his or her entire benefit under the Plan. Only individuals who perform services for the Employer as an Employee may defer Compensation under the Plan.

A **"Plan Year"** means the calendar year.

"Roth Contributions" means the amount of any Annual Deferral elected by a Participant that is irrevocably designated by the Participant as being made pursuant to, and intended to comply with, Code Section 402A. Roth Contributions are includable in the Participant's taxable gross income at the time they are contributed to the Plan and have been irrevocably designated as Roth Annual Deferrals by the Participant in their deferral agreement. The Administrator shall establish and maintain for the Employee a separate account for any Roth Contributions made to the Plan, to which only Roth Contributions and the income attributable thereto shall be allocated. Roth Contributions also include any contributions made to another eligible retirement plan that are rolled over to the Plan in accordance with the provisions of Section 7.1 and that the Participant designated as Roth contributions at the time they were contributed to such other plan.

"Severance from Employment" means the date that the Employee dies, retires, or otherwise has a severance from employment with the Employer, as determined by the Administrator (and taking into account guidance issued under the Code). Solely for the purpose of determining whether the Participant is entitled to receive a distribution of his or her Account Balance

pursuant to Section 6.2, a Participant shall be treated as having incurred a Severance from Employment during any period the Participant is performing service in the uniformed services (as defined in chapter 43 of title 38, United States Code) while on active duty for a period of more than 30 days.

The "**State**" means the State that is the Employer or of which the Employer is a political subdivision, agency, or instrumentality, including any agency or instrumentality of a political subdivision of the State, or the State in which the Employer is located.

The "**Trust Fund**" means the trust fund created under and subject to a trust agreement or a custodial account or contract described in Code Section 401(f) held on behalf of the Plan.

The "**Valuation Date**" means each business day.

SECTION II PARTICIPATION AND CONTRIBUTIONS

2.1 Eligibility

Each Employee shall be eligible to participate in the Plan and defer Compensation hereunder immediately upon becoming employed by the Employer.

2.2 Election

An Employee may elect to become a Participant by executing an election to defer a portion of his or her Compensation (and to have that amount contributed as an Annual Deferral on his or her behalf) and filing such election with the Administrator. This participation election shall be made on the deferral agreement provided by the Administrator under which the Employee agrees to be bound by all the terms and conditions of the Plan. Any such election shall remain in effect until a new election is filed. The Administrator may establish a minimum deferral amount, and may change such minimums from time to time. The deferral agreement shall also include designation of investment funds and a designation of Beneficiary. The deferral agreement may also include a Participant's designation that all or a portion of the Annual Deferral elected by the Participant shall be treated as Roth Contributions.

- (a) **Special Deferral Election of Sick, Vacation, or Back Pay:** A Participant who has not had a Severance from Employment may authorize a special election to defer accumulated sick pay, accumulated vacation pay, and back pay for any calendar month if an election to defer is entered into before the beginning of the month in which the amounts would otherwise be paid or made available and the Participant is an Employee on the date the amounts would otherwise be paid or made available. For this purpose, Compensation that would otherwise be paid for a payroll period that begins before Severance from Employment is treated as an amount that would otherwise be paid or made available before an Employee has a Severance from Employment. In addition, a Participant who is a former Employee may elect to defer accumulated sick pay, accumulated vacation pay, and back pay that is paid by the later of 2 ½ months following the date of the Participant's Severance from Employment or the end of the calendar year in which the Severance from Employment occurred, provided that the special election to defer is entered into before the amount is currently available.
- (b) **Special Deferral Election of Bonuses:** A Participant who has not had a Severance from Employment may authorize a special election to defer that portion of his or her Compensation attributable to Employer paid cash bonuses up to 100% of such bonuses if an election to defer is entered into before the beginning of the month in which the amounts would otherwise be paid or made available and the Participant is an Employee on the date the bonus would otherwise be paid or made available.

2.3 Commencement of Participation

An Employee shall become a Participant as soon as administratively practicable following the date the Employee files an election pursuant to Section 2.2. Such election shall become effective no earlier than the calendar month following the month in which the election is made. A new Employee may defer Compensation payable in the calendar month during which the Participant first becomes an Employee if an agreement providing for the deferral is entered into on or before the first day on which the Participant performs services for the Employer.

2.4 Amendment of Annual Deferral Election, Investment Direction, or Beneficiary Designation

Subject to other provisions of the Plan, a Participant may at any time revise his or her participation election, including a change of the amount of his or her Annual Deferrals, his or her investment direction and his or her designated Beneficiary. The revised participation election may also include a change in the Participant's designation of the amount of the Annual Deferral elected by the Participant that is to be treated as Roth Contributions. Unless the election specifies a later effective date, a change in the amount of the Annual Deferrals shall take effect as of the first day of the next following month or as soon as administratively practicable if later. A change in the investment direction shall take effect as of the date provided by the Administrator on a uniform basis for all Employees. A change in the Beneficiary designation shall take effect when the election is accepted by the Administrator.

2.5 Information Provided by the Participant

Each Employee enrolling in the Plan should provide to the Administrator at the time of initial enrollment, and later if there are any changes, any information necessary or advisable for the Administrator to administer the Plan, including, without limitation, whether the Employee is a participant in any other eligible plan under Code Section 457(b).

2.6 Contributions Made Promptly

Annual Deferrals by the Participant under the Plan shall be transferred to the Trust Fund within a period that is not longer than is reasonable for the proper administration of the Participant's Account Balance. For this purpose, Annual Deferrals shall be treated as contributed within a period that is not longer than is reasonable for the proper administration if the contribution is made to the Trust Fund within 15 business days following the end of the month in which the amount would otherwise have been paid to the Participant, or earlier if required by law.

2.7 Employer Contributions

Nothing in this Plan prohibits the Employer from making Employer Contributions to the Account Balance of a Participant on a non-elective basis, including but not limited to Employer matching contributions, subject to the Participant's contribution limits in Section III.

2.8 Leave of Absence

Unless an election is otherwise revised, if a Participant is absent from work by leave of absence, Annual Deferrals under the Plan shall continue to the extent that Compensation continues.

2.9 Disability

A disabled Participant (as determined by the Administrator) may elect Annual Deferrals during any portion of the period of his or her disability to the extent that he or she has actual Compensation (not imputed Compensation and not disability benefits) from which to make contributions to the Plan and has not had a Severance from Employment.

2.10 Protection of Persons Who Serve in a Uniformed Service

An Employee whose employment is interrupted by qualified military service under Code Section 414(u) or who is on a leave of absence for qualified military service under Code Section 414(u) may elect to make additional Annual Deferrals upon resumption of employment with the Employer equal to the maximum Annual Deferrals that the Employee could have elected during that period if the Employee's employment with the Employer had continued (at the same level of Compensation) without the interruption or leave, reduced by the Annual Deferrals, if any, actually made for the Employee during the period of the interruption or leave. This right applies for five years following the resumption of employment (or, if sooner, for a period equal to three times the period of the interruption or leave).

A reemployed Employee shall also be entitled to an allocation of any additional Employer Contributions, if applicable, that such Employee would have received under the Plan had the Employee continued to be employed as an eligible Employee during the period of qualified military service. Such restorative Employer Contributions (without interest), if applicable, shall be remitted by the Employer to the Plan on behalf of the Employee within 90 days after the date of the Employee's reemployment or, if later, as of the date the contributions are otherwise due for the year in which the applicable qualified military service was performed.

2.11 Corrective Measures

In the event that an otherwise eligible Employee is erroneously omitted from Plan participation, or an otherwise ineligible individual is erroneously included in the Plan, the Employer shall take such corrective measures as may be permitted by applicable law. Such measures may include, in the case of an erroneously omitted Employee, contributions made by the Employer to the Plan on behalf of such Employee equal to the missed deferral opportunity, subject to the Participant's contribution limits in Section III, and, in the case of an erroneously included individual, a payment by the Employer to such individual of additional Compensation in an amount equal to the amount of the individual's elective deferrals under the Plan.

2.12 Vesting of Account Balance

A Participant's vested interest in his Account Balance shall be at all times 100%.

SECTION III LIMITATIONS ON AMOUNTS DEFERRED

3.1 Basic Annual Limitation

- (a) The maximum amount of the Annual Deferral and, if applicable, Employer Contributions under the Plan for any calendar year shall not exceed the lesser of:
 - (i) The "applicable dollar amount" (as defined in paragraph (b) below); or
 - (ii) The Participant's Includible Compensation (as defined in Code Section 415(c)(3)) for the calendar year.
- (b) The "applicable dollar amount" means the amount established under Code Section 457(e)(15), as indexed.
- (c) Rollover amounts received by the Plan under Treasury Regulation Section 1.457-10(e) and any plan-to-plan transfer into the Plan made pursuant to Section 7.2 shall not be applied against the Annual Deferral limit.

3.2 Age 50 Catch-up Annual Deferral Contributions

A Participant who will attain age 50 or more by the end of a calendar year is permitted to elect an additional amount of Annual Deferral for the calendar year, up to the maximum age 50 catch-up Annual Deferral limit under §414(v)(2), as indexed.

The amount of the age 50 catch-up Annual Deferral for any calendar year cannot exceed the amount of the Participant's Compensation, reduced by the amount of the elective deferred compensation, or other elective deferrals, made by the Participant under the Plan.

The age 50 catch-up Annual Deferral limit is not available to a Participant for any calendar year for which the Special Section 457 Catch-up Limitation described in Section 3.3 is available and applied.

3.3 Special Section 457 Catch-up Limitation

Notwithstanding the provisions of Sections 3.1 and 3.2, with respect to a year that is one of a Participant's last three (3) calendar years ending before the year in which the Participant attains Normal Retirement Age and the amount determined under this Section 3.3 exceeds the amount computed under Sections 3.1 and 3.2, then the Annual Deferral limit under this Section 3.3 shall be the lesser of:

- (a) An amount equal to two (2) times the Section 3.1 Applicable Dollar Amount for such year; or
- (b) The sum of:

- (i) An amount equal to (A) the aggregate Section 3.1 limit for the current year plus each prior calendar year beginning after December 31, 2001, during which the Participant was an Employee under the Plan, minus (B) the aggregate amount of Compensation that the Participant deferred under the Plan during such years, plus
- (ii) An amount equal to (A) the aggregate limit referred to in Code Section 457(b)(2) for each prior calendar year beginning after December 31, 1978, and before January 1, 2002, during which the Participant was an Employee (determined without regard to Sections 3.2 and 3.3, minus (B) the aggregate contributions to Pre-2002 Coordination Plans (as defined in Section 3.4(c)) made by or on behalf of the Participant for such years.

However, in no event can the deferred amount be more than the Participant's Compensation for the year.

3.4 Special Rules

For purposes of this Section III, the following rules shall apply:

- (a) Participant Covered By More Than One Eligible Plan. If the Participant is or has been a participant in one or more other eligible plans within the meaning of Code Section 457(b), then this Plan and all such other plans shall be considered as one plan for purposes of applying the foregoing limitations of this Section III. For this purpose, the Administrator shall take into account any other such eligible plan maintained by the Employer and shall also take into account any other such eligible plan for which the Administrator receives from the Participant sufficient information concerning his or her participation in such other plan.
- (b) Pre-Participation Years. In applying Section 3.3, a year shall be taken into account only if (i) the Participant was eligible to participate in the Plan during all or a portion of the year and (ii) Compensation deferred, if any, under the Plan during the year was subject to the Basic Annual Limitation described in Section 3.1 or any other plan ceiling required by Code Section 457(b).
- (c) Pre-2002 Coordination Years. For purposes of Section 3.3(b)(ii)(B), "contributions to Pre-2002 Coordination Plans" means any employer contribution, salary reduction or elective contribution under any other eligible Code Section 457(b) plan, or a salary reduction or elective contribution under any Code Section 401(k) qualified cash or deferred arrangement, Code Section 402(h)(1)(B) simplified employee pension (SARSEP), Code Section 403(b) annuity contract, and Code Section 408(p) simple retirement account, or under any plan for which a deduction is allowed because of a contribution to an organization described in Code Section 501(c)(18), including plans, arrangements or accounts maintained by the Employer or any employer for whom the Participant performed services. However, the contributions for any calendar year are only taken into account for purposes of Section 3.3(b)(ii)(B) to the extent that the total of such contributions does not exceed the aggregate limit referred to in Code Section 457(b)(2) for that year.

- (d) Disregard Excess Deferral. For purposes of Sections 3.1, 3.2, and 3.3, an individual is treated as not having deferred compensation under a plan for a prior taxable year if excess deferrals under the plan are distributed, as described in Section 3.5. To the extent that the combined deferrals for pre-2002 years exceeded the maximum deferral limitations, the amount is treated as an excess deferral for those prior years.

3.5 Correction of Excess Deferrals

If the Annual Deferral on behalf of a Participant for any calendar year exceeds the limitations described above, or the Annual Deferral on behalf of a Participant for any calendar year exceeds the limitations described above when combined with other amounts deferred by the Participant under another eligible deferred compensation plan under Code Section 457(b) for which the Participant provides information that is accepted by the Administrator, then the Annual Deferral, to the extent in excess of the applicable limitation (adjusted for any income or loss in value, if any, allocable thereto), shall be distributed to the Participant as soon as administratively practicable after the Administrator determines that the amount is an excess deferral. If a Participant to whom distribution must be made in accordance with the preceding sentence has made Roth Contributions for the year, the amount distributed as an excess deferral shall be made first from pre-tax Annual Deferrals, then from Roth Contributions for the year unless otherwise specified.

SECTION IV INVESTMENT RESPONSIBILITIES

4.1 Investment of Deferred Amount

Each Participant or Beneficiary shall direct the investment of amounts held in his or her Account Balance under the Plan among the investment options of the Trust Fund. The investment of amounts segregated on behalf of an alternate payee pursuant to a Plan qualified domestic relations order (as defined under Code Section 414(p)) may be directed by such alternate payee to the extent provided in such order. In the absence of such direction, such amounts shall be invested in the same manner as they were immediately before such segregation was made on account of such order. Each Account Balance shall share in any gains or losses of the investment(s) in which such account is invested.

4.2 Investment Election for Future Contributions

A Participant may amend his or her investment election at such times and by such manner and form as prescribed by the Administrator. Such election will, unless specifically stated otherwise, apply only to future amounts contributed under the Plan.

4.3 Investment Changes for an Existing Account Balance

The Participant, Beneficiary, alternate payee, or Administrator may elect to transfer amounts in his Account Balance among and between those investments available under the Trust Fund at such times and by such manner and form prescribed by the Administrator, subject further to any restrictions or limitations placed on any investment by the Administrator to be uniformly applied to all Participants.

4.4 Investment Responsibility

To the extent that a Participant, Beneficiary, or alternate payee exercises control over the investment of amounts credited to his Account Balance, the Employer, the Administrator, and any other fiduciary of the Plan shall not be liable for any losses that are the direct and necessary result of investment instructions given by a Participant, Beneficiary or an alternate payee.

4.5 Default Investment Fund

The Employer may designate a default investment fund. Any Participant who does not make an investment election on the deferral agreement provided by the Administrator will have his contributions invested in the default investment fund until such time he provides investment direction under Sections 4.2 and 4.3.

4.6 Statements

The Administrator will cause statements to be issued periodically to reflect the contributions and actual earnings posted to the Account Balances.

SECTION V LOANS

5.1 Loans

The Employer may elect to make loans available to Participants who are Employees. If the Employer has elected to make loans available to Participants who are Employees, the Employer shall establish written guidelines governing the granting and administration of loans.

SECTION VI DISTRIBUTIONS

6.1 Distributions from the Plan

- (a) Earliest Distribution Date. Payments from a Participant's Account Balance shall not be made earlier than:
- (i) the Participant's Severance from Employment pursuant to Section 6.2
 - (ii) the Participant's death pursuant to Section 6.3
 - (iii) Plan termination under Section 10.3
 - (iv) an unforeseeable emergency withdrawal pursuant to Section 6.10(a), if permitted under the Plan
 - (v) a de minimis Account Balance distribution pursuant to Section 6.10(b), if permitted under the Plan
 - (vi) a rollover account withdrawal pursuant to Section 6.10(c), if permitted under the Plan
 - (vii) attainment of age 70 ½ withdrawal pursuant to Section 6.10(d), if permitted under the Plan
 - (viii) Qualified Military Service Deemed Severance withdrawal pursuant to Section 6.10(e), if permitted under the Plan
 - (ix) Qualified Distributions for Retired Public Safety Officers pursuant to Section 6.11, if permitted under the Plan
- (b) Latest Distribution Date. In no event shall any distribution under this Section VI begin later than the Participant's "required beginning date". Such required minimum distributions must be made in accordance with Section 6.6.
- (c) Amount of Account Balance. Except as provided in Section 6.3, the amount of any payment under this Section VI shall be based on the amount of the Account Balance as of the Valuation Date.

6.2 Benefit Distributions Upon Severance from Employment

Distributions required to commence under this section shall be made in the form of benefit provided under Section 6.5. Distributions postponed until the Participant's "required beginning date" will be made in a manner that meets the requirements of Section 6.6.

6.3 Distributions on Account of Participant's Death

Upon receipt of satisfactory proof of the Participant's death, the designated Beneficiary may file a request with the Administrator to elect a form of benefit provided under Section 6.5 and made in a manner that meets the requirements of Section 6.6.

- (a) Death of Participant Before Distributions Begin. If the Participant dies before his or her distributions begin, the designated Beneficiary may elect to have distributions to be made (i) in full within 5 years of the Participant's death (5-year rule) or (ii) in installments over the designated Beneficiary's "life expectancy" (life expectancy rule).

If the designated Beneficiary does not make an election by September 30 of the year following the year of the Participant's death, the Participant's Account Balance will be distributed in a lump sum payment by December 31 of the calendar year containing the fifth anniversary of the Participant's death or if the Participant's spouse is the sole designated Beneficiary by December 31 of the year the Participant would have attained age 70 ½.

- (b) Death of Participant On or After Date Distributions Begin. If the Participant dies on or after his or her distributions began, the Participant's Account Balance shall be paid to the Beneficiary at least as rapidly as under the payment option used before the Participant's death.

For purposes of this Section, a Participant who dies on or after January 1, 2007, while performing qualified military service (as defined in Code Section 414(u)) will be deemed to have resumed employment in accordance with the Participant's reemployment rights under chapter 43 of title 38, United States Code, on the day preceding death and to have terminated employment on the actual date of death for purposes of determining the entitlement of the Participant's survivors to any additional benefits (other than benefit accruals relating to the period of qualified military service) provided under the Plan, in accordance with the provisions of Code Sections 401(a)(37), 414(u)(9), and 457(g)(4).

6.4 Distribution of Small Account Balances Without Participant's Consent

Notwithstanding any other provision of the Plan to the contrary, if the amount of a Participant's or Beneficiary's Account Balance is not in excess of the amount specified below on the date that payments commence under Section 6.2 or on the date the Administrator is notified of the Participant's death, the Administrator may direct payment without the Participant's or Beneficiary's consent as soon as practicable following the Participant's retirement, death, or other Severance from Employment.

- (a) If the Participant's or Beneficiary's Account Balance (including the rollover contribution separate account) is \$1,000 or less, distribution shall be made in a lump sum payment, unless the Participant or Beneficiary affirmatively elects distribution through a direct rollover to the "eligible retirement plan" (as defined under Section 6.9(b)) selected by the Participant or Beneficiary.

6.5 Forms of Distribution

In an election to commence benefits under Section 6.2, a Participant entitled to a distribution of benefits under this Section VI may elect to receive payment in any of the forms of distribution offered under the Plan. Such election may be made or modified by the date 30 days prior to commencement of payment. If the Participant fails to elect a distribution option then the benefit shall be paid in the form of a lump sum payment to the Participant or Beneficiary. The forms of distribution available under the Plan are as follows:

- (a) a lump sum payment of the Participant's total Account Balance.
- (b) partial distribution of the Participant's Account Balance in a lump sum payment. The minimum partial distribution that a Participant may make shall be \$1,000.
- (c) in a series of installments over a period of years (payable on a monthly, quarterly, semi-annual or annual basis) which extends no longer than the life expectancy of the Participant as permitted under Code Section 401(a)(9).
- (d) a purchase of a single premium nontransferable annuity contract for such term and in such form as the Participant selects that provides for payments in the form of an irrevocable annuity each calendar year of amounts not less than the amount required under Code Section 401(a)(9); including any annuity distribution options under a guaranteed income product, that are consistent with the Code and Regulations.

6.6 Minimum Distribution Requirements

- (a) General Rules.

Notwithstanding anything in this Plan to the contrary, distributions from this Plan shall commence and be made in accordance with Code Section 401(a)(9) and the regulations promulgated thereunder. Additionally, the requirements of this Section 6.6 will take precedence over any inconsistent provisions of the Plan.

- (b) Time and Manner of Distribution.
 - (i) Required Beginning Date. The Participant's entire interest will be distributed, or begin to be distributed, to the Participant no later than the Participant's "required beginning date".
 - (ii) Death of Participant Before Distributions Begin. If the Participant dies before distributions begin, the Participant's entire interest will be distributed, or begin to be distributed, no later than as follows:
 - (A) If the Participant's surviving spouse is the Participant's sole "designated Beneficiary", then distributions to the surviving spouse will begin by December 31 of the calendar year immediately following the calendar year

in which the Participant dies, or by December 31 of the calendar year in which the Participant would have attained age 70 ½, if later.

- (B) If the Participant's surviving spouse is not the Participant's sole "designated Beneficiary" (i.e., multiple beneficiaries), then distributions to the "designated Beneficiaries" will begin by December 31 of the calendar year immediately following the calendar year in which the Participant died.
- (C) If the Participant's sole "designated Beneficiary" is not the Participant's spouse, then distributions to the "designated Beneficiary" will begin by December 31 of the calendar year immediately following the calendar year in which the Participant died.
- (D) If there is no "designated Beneficiary" as of September 30 of the year following the year of the Participant's death, the Participant's Account Balance will be distributed in a lump sum payment by December 31 of the calendar year containing the fifth anniversary of the Participant's death.
- (E) If the Participant's surviving spouse is the Participant's sole "designated Beneficiary" and the surviving spouse dies after the Participant but before distributions to the surviving spouse begin, this subparagraph (b)(ii), other than subsection (b)(ii)(A), will apply as if the surviving spouse were the Participant.

For purposes of this subparagraph (ii) and paragraph (d), unless subsection (b)(ii)(D) applies, distributions are considered to begin on the Participant's "required beginning date". If subsection (b)(ii)(E) applies, distributions are considered to begin on the date distributions are required to begin to the surviving spouse under subsection (b)(ii)(A). If distributions under an annuity purchased from an insurance company irrevocably commence to the Participant before the Participant's "required beginning date" (or to the Participant's surviving spouse before the date distributions are required to begin to the surviving spouse under subsection (b)(ii)(A)), the date distributions are considered to begin is the date distributions actually commence.

- (iii) Death of Participant On or After Distributions Begin. If the Participant dies on or after distributions begin and before depleting his or her Account Balance, distributions must commence to the "designated Beneficiary" by December 31 of the calendar year immediately following the calendar year in which the Participant died.
- (iv) Forms of Distribution. Unless the Participant's Account Balance is distributed in the form of an annuity contract or in a lump sum on or before the Participant's "required beginning date", as of the first distribution calendar year, distributions will be made in accordance with paragraphs (c) and (d). If the Participant's

interest is distributed in the form of an annuity contract, distributions thereunder will be made in accordance with the requirements of Code Section 401(a)(9).

(c) Required Minimum Distributions During the Participant's Lifetime.

(i) Amount of Required Minimum Distribution For Each "Distribution Calendar Year". During the Participant's lifetime, the minimum amount that will be distributed for each distribution calendar year is the lesser of:

- (A) The quotient obtained by dividing the "Participant's Account Balance" by the distribution period in the Uniform Lifetime Table set forth in Treasury Regulation Section 1.401(a)(9)-9, Q&A-2 using the Participant's age as of the Participant's birthday in the "distribution calendar year"; or
- (B) if the Participant's sole "designated Beneficiary" for the "distribution calendar year" is the Participant's spouse and the spouse is more than 10 years younger than the Participant, the quotient obtained by dividing the "Participant's Account Balance" by the distribution period in the Joint and Last Survivor Table set forth in Treasury Regulation Section 1.401(a)(9)-9, Q&A-3 using the Participant's and spouse's attained ages as of the Participant's and spouse's birthdays in the "distribution calendar year".

(ii) Lifetime Required Minimum Distributions Continue Through Year of Participant's Death. Required minimum distributions will be determined under this paragraph (c) beginning with the first "distribution calendar year" and up to and including the "distribution calendar year" that includes the Participant's date of death.

(d) Required Minimum Distributions After Participant's Death.

For purposes of this Section 6.6(d), the Participant's and Beneficiary's "life expectancy" determination will use the Single Life Table set forth in Treasury Regulation Section 1.401(a)(9)-9, Q&A-1.

(i) Death On or After Date Distributions Begin.

(A) Participant Survived by Designated Beneficiary.

If the Participant dies on or after the date distributions begin and there is a "designated Beneficiary", the minimum amount that will be distributed for each "distribution calendar year" after the year of the Participant's death is the quotient obtained by dividing the "Participant's Account Balance" by the longer of the remaining "life expectancy" of the Participant or the remaining "life expectancy" of the Participant's "designated Beneficiary", determined as follows:

- (1) The Participant's remaining "life expectancy" is calculated using the age of the Participant in the year of death, reduced by one for each subsequent year.
- (2) If the Participant's surviving spouse is the Participant's sole "designated Beneficiary", the remaining "life expectancy" of the surviving spouse is calculated for each "distribution calendar year" after the year of the Participant's death using the surviving spouse's age as of the spouse's birthday in that year. For "distribution calendar years" after the year of the surviving spouse's death, the remaining "life expectancy" of the surviving spouse is calculated using the age of the surviving spouse as of the spouse's birthday in the calendar year of the spouse's death, reduced by one for each subsequent calendar year.
- (3) If the Participant's surviving spouse is not the Participant's sole "designated Beneficiary" (i.e., multiple beneficiaries), the "designated Beneficiary's" remaining "life expectancy" is calculated using the age of the oldest Beneficiary in the year following the year of the Participant's death, reduced by one for each subsequent year.
- (4) If the Participant's sole "designated Beneficiary" is not the Participant's spouse, the "designated Beneficiary's" remaining "life expectancy" is calculated using the age of the Beneficiary in the year following the year of the Participant's death, reduced by one for each subsequent year.

(B) No Designated Beneficiary.

If the Participant dies on or after the date distributions begin and there is no "designated Beneficiary" as of September 30 of the year after the year of the Participant's death, the minimum amount that will be distributed for each "distribution calendar year" after the year of the Participant's death is the quotient obtained by dividing the "Participant's Account Balance" by the Participant's remaining "life expectancy" calculated using the age of the Participant in the year of death, reduced by one for each subsequent year.

(ii) Death Before Date Distributions Begin.

(A) Participant Survived by Designated Beneficiary.

Except as provided in this Section, if the Participant dies before the date distributions begin and there is a "designated Beneficiary", the minimum amount that will be distributed for each "distribution calendar year" after the year of the Participant's death is the quotient obtained by dividing the

"Participant's Account Balance" by the remaining "life expectancy" of the Participant's "designated Beneficiary", determined as follows:

- (1) If the Participant's surviving spouse is the Participant's sole "designated Beneficiary", the remaining "life expectancy" of the surviving spouse is calculated for each "distribution calendar year" after the year of the Participant's death using the surviving spouse's age as of the spouse's birthday in that year.
- (2) If the Participant's surviving spouse is not the Participant's sole "designated Beneficiary" (i.e., multiple beneficiaries), the "designated Beneficiary's" remaining "life expectancy" is calculated using the age of the oldest Beneficiary in the year following the year of the Participant's death, reduced by one for each subsequent year.
- (3) If the Participant's sole "designated beneficiary" is not the Participant's spouse, the "designated Beneficiary's" remaining "life expectancy" is calculated using the age of the Beneficiary in the year following the year of the Participant's death, reduced by one for each subsequent year.

(B) No Designated Beneficiary.

If the Participant dies before the date distributions begin and there is no "designated Beneficiary" as of September 30 of the year following the year of the Participant's death, distribution of the Participant's entire interest will be distributed by December 31 of the calendar year containing the fifth anniversary of the Participant's death.

(C) Death of Surviving Spouse Before Distributions to Surviving Spouse Are Required to Begin.

If the Participant dies before the date distributions begin, the Participant's surviving spouse is the Participant's sole "designated Beneficiary", and the surviving spouse dies before distributions are required to begin to the surviving spouse under subsection (b)(ii)(A), this subparagraph (d)(ii) will apply as if the surviving spouse were the Participant.

(e) Definitions.

- (i) A Participant's "required beginning date" is April 1 of the year that follows the later of (1) the calendar year the Participant attains age 70 ½ or (2) retires due to Severance from Employment. If the Participant postpones the required distribution due in calendar year he or she attains age 70 ½ or severs employment, to the "required beginning date", the second required minimum distribution must be taken by the end of that year.

- (ii) Participant's "designated Beneficiary" means the individual who is designated as the Beneficiary under Section 8.1 and is the designated Beneficiary under Code Section 401(a)(9) and Treasury Regulation Section 1.401(a)(9)-4.
- (iii) A "distribution calendar year" means a calendar year for which a minimum distribution is required. For distributions beginning before the Participant's death, the first "distribution calendar year" is the calendar year the Participant attains age 70 ½ or retires, if later. For distributions beginning after the Participant's death, the first "distribution calendar year" is the calendar year in which distributions are required to begin under subparagraph (b)(ii).

The required minimum distribution for the Participant's first "distribution calendar year" will be made on or before the Participant's "required beginning date". The required minimum distribution for other "distribution calendar years", including the required minimum distribution for the "distribution calendar year" in which the Participant's "required beginning date" occurs, will be made on or before December 31 of that "distribution calendar year".

- (iv) A married Participant's "life expectancy", whose spouse is the sole Beneficiary and is more than 10 years younger than the Participant, means the Participant's and spouse Beneficiary's life expectancy as computed by use of the Joint and Last Survivor Life Table under Treasury Regulation Section 1.401(a)(9)-9, Q&A 3. All other Participants will have his or her life expectancy computed by use of the Uniform Lifetime Table under Treasury Regulation Section 1.401(a)(9)-9, Q&A 2. A deceased Participant's or Beneficiary's "life expectancy" means his or her life expectancy as computed by use of the Single Life Table under Treasury Regulation Section 1.401(a)(9)-9, Q&A 1.
 - (v) A "Participant's Account Balance" means the Account Balance as of the last Valuation Date in the calendar year immediately preceding the "distribution calendar year" (valuation calendar year) increased by the amount of any contributions made and allocated or forfeitures allocated to the Account Balance as of dates in the valuation calendar year after the Valuation Date and decreased by distributions made in the valuation calendar year after the Valuation Date. The Account Balance for the valuation calendar year includes any amounts rolled over or transferred to the Plan either in the valuation calendar year or in the "distribution calendar year" if distributed or transferred in the valuation calendar year.
- (f) Special Provision Applicable to 2009 Required Minimum Distributions.

A Participant who would otherwise be required to receive a minimum distribution from the Plan in accordance with Code Section 401(a)(9) for the 2009 "distribution calendar year" will not receive any such distribution that is payable with respect to the 2009 "distribution calendar year" unless the Participant elects otherwise.

Notwithstanding the provisions of Section 6.9(b)(iii), the Administrator may permit a Participant who receives a minimum distribution from the Plan for the 2009 "distribution calendar year" to make a direct rollover of such distribution to an "eligible retirement plan" in accordance with the provisions of Section 6.9.

The Administrator may also permit a Participant or former Participant who has received a minimum distribution for the 2009 "distribution calendar year" to roll over such distribution back into the Plan, provided the requirements of Code Section 402(c), as modified by Notice 2009-82, extending the 60-day rollover deadline, and the requirements of Section 7.1 are otherwise satisfied. If the distribution received by the Participant included amounts in addition to the minimum required under Code Section 401(a)(9), the Administrator may allow the Participant to include a portion or all of the amount that was not a minimum distribution in the Rollover Contribution made to the Plan in accordance with this paragraph.

The provisions of this Section 6.6(f) are effective for minimum payments made for the 2009 "distribution calendar year" and do not include any minimum payment that is made in 2009, but is attributable to a different year (i.e., the Participant reached his required beginning date in 2008, but payment of the 2008 minimum is not made until 2009).

6.7 Payments to Minors and Incompetents

If a Participant or Beneficiary entitled to receive any benefits hereunder is a minor or is adjudged to be legally incapable of giving valid receipt and discharge for such benefits, or is deemed so by the Administrator, benefits will be paid to such person as the Administrator or a court of competent jurisdiction may designate for the benefit of such Participant or Beneficiary. Such payments shall be considered a payment to such Participant or Beneficiary and shall, to the extent made, be deemed a complete discharge of any liability for such payments under the Plan.

6.8 Procedure When Distributee Cannot Be Located

The Administrator shall make all reasonable attempts to determine the identity and address of a Participant or a Participant's Beneficiary entitled to benefits under the Plan. For this purpose, a reasonable attempt means (a) the mailing by certified mail of a notice to the last known address shown in the Administrator's records; (b) use of a commercial locator service, the internet or other general search method; (c) use such other methods as the Administrator believes prudent.

If the Participant or Beneficiary has not responded within 6 months, the Plan shall continue to hold the benefits due such person until, in the Administrator's discretion, the Plan is required to take other action under applicable law.

Notwithstanding the foregoing, if the Administrator is unable to locate a person entitled to benefits hereunder after applying the search methods set forth above, then the Administrator, in its sole discretion, may pay an amount that is immediately distributable to such person in a direct rollover to an individual retirement plan designated by the Administrator.

6.9 Direct Rollover

- (a) A Participant or spouse Beneficiary (or a Participant's spouse or former spouse who is the alternate payee under a domestic relations order, as defined in Code Section 414(p)) who is entitled to an "eligible rollover distribution" may elect, at the time and in the manner prescribed by the Administrator, to have all or any portion of the distribution paid directly to an "eligible retirement plan" specified by the Participant or spouse Beneficiary in a direct rollover.
- (b) For purposes of this Section 6.9, an "eligible rollover distribution" means any distribution of all or any portion of a Participant's Account Balance, except that an eligible rollover distribution does not include (i) any distribution that is one of a series of substantially equal periodic payment made not less frequently than annually for the life or life expectancy of the Participant or the joint lives or life expectancies of the Participant and the Participant's designated Beneficiary, or for a specified period of ten years or more (ii) any distribution made as a result of an unforeseeable emergency, or (iii) any distribution that is a required minimum distribution under Code Section 401(a)(9).

In addition, an "eligible retirement plan" with respect to the Participant, the Participant's spouse, or the Participant's spouse or former spouse who is an alternate payee under a domestic relations order as defined in Code Section 414(p) means any of the following: (i) an individual retirement account described in Code Section 408(a), (ii) an individual retirement annuity described in Code Section 408(b), (iii) an annuity plan described in Code Section 403(a), (iv) a qualified defined contribution plan described in Code Section 401(a), (v) an annuity contract described in Code Section 403(b), (vi) an eligible deferred compensation plan described in Code Section 457(b) that is maintained by a State, political subdivision of a State, or any agency or instrumentality of a State or political subdivision of a State, or (vii) effective for distributions made on or after January 1, 2008, a Roth IRA, as described in Code Section 408A, provided, that for distributions made before January 1, 2010, such rollover shall be subject to the limitations contained in Code Section 408A(c)(3)(B).

Notwithstanding any other provision of this Section 6.9(b), a plan or contract described in clause (iii), (iv), (v), or (vi) above shall not constitute an "eligible retirement plan" with respect to a distribution of Roth Contributions unless such plan or contract separately accounts for such distribution, including separately accounting for the portion of such distribution which is includible in gross income and the portion of such distribution which is not so includible.

- (c) A Beneficiary who is not the spouse of the deceased Participant may elect a direct rollover of a distribution to an individual retirement account described in Code Section 408(b) or to a Roth individual retirement account described in Code Section 408A(b) ("IRA"), provided that the distributed amount satisfies all the requirements to be an eligible rollover distribution. The direct rollover must be made to an IRA established on behalf of the designated nonspouse Beneficiary that will be treated as an inherited IRA pursuant to the provisions of Code Section 402(c)(11). The IRA must be established in a

manner that identifies it as an IRA with respect to a deceased Participant and also identifies the deceased Participant and the nonspouse Beneficiary. This Section applies to distributions made after the last day of the 2009 Plan Year.

6.10 Inservice Distributions

- (a) Unforeseeable Emergency Distributions. If the Participant who has not incurred a Severance from Employment or Beneficiary has an unforeseeable emergency, the Administrator may approve a single sum distribution of the amount requested or, if less, the maximum amount determined by the Administrator to be permitted to be distributed under this Section 6.10(a), Treasury Regulation Section 1.457-6(c) or other regulatory guidance. The Administrator shall determine whether an unforeseeable emergency exists based on relevant facts and circumstances, and Treasury Regulation Section 1.457-6(c) or other regulatory guidance.
- (i) An unforeseeable emergency is defined as a severe financial hardship resulting from the following:
- (A) an illness or accident of the Participant or Beneficiary, the Participant's or Beneficiary's spouse, or the Participant's or Beneficiary's dependent or the Participant's "primary Beneficiary";
 - (B) loss of the Participant's or Beneficiary's property due to casualty (including the need to rebuild a home following damage to a home not otherwise covered by homeowner's insurance, e.g., as a result of a natural disaster);
 - (C) the need to pay for the funeral expenses of a Participant's or Beneficiary's spouse, Participant's or Beneficiary's dependent or "primary Beneficiary" of the Participant;
 - (D) the need to pay for medical expenses of the Participant or Beneficiary, the Participant's or Beneficiary's spouse, Participant's or Beneficiary's dependent or the Participant's "primary Beneficiary" which are not reimbursed or compensated by insurance or otherwise, including non-refundable deductibles, as well as for the cost of prescription drug medication;
 - (E) the imminent foreclosure of or eviction from the Participant's or Beneficiary's primary residence; or
 - (F) other similar extraordinary and unforeseeable circumstances arising as a result of events beyond the control of the Participant or Beneficiary. However, except as otherwise specifically provided in this Section 6.10(a), certain circumstances are not considered an unforeseen emergency such as the purchase of a home or the payment of college tuition or credit card debt.

For purposes of this paragraph, if the Participant is not deceased, a "primary Beneficiary" shall be limited to a primary Beneficiary under the Plan, which is an individual who is named as a Beneficiary pursuant to Section 8.1 and has an unconditional right to all or a portion of the Participant's Account Balance upon the death of the Participant, and which shall not include a contingent Beneficiary. Additionally, dependent shall be limited to the definition under Code Section 152(a), and, for taxable years beginning on or after January 1, 2005, without regard to Code Sections 152(b)(1), (b)(2) and (d)(1)(B).

- (ii) Unforeseeable emergency distribution standard. A distribution on account of unforeseeable emergency may not be made to the extent that such emergency is or may be relieved through reimbursement or compensation from insurance or otherwise; by liquidation of the Participant's assets, to the extent the liquidation of such assets would not itself cause severe financial hardship; or by cessation of deferrals under the Plan if the cessation of deferrals would alleviate the financial need.
 - (iii) Distribution necessary to satisfy emergency need. Distributions because of an unforeseeable emergency may not exceed the amount reasonably necessary to satisfy the emergency need (which may include any amounts necessary to pay any federal, State, or local income taxes or penalties reasonably anticipated to result from the distribution).
- (b) De minimis Account Balance Distributions. A Participant may request a distribution of his or her total Account Balance before Severance of Employment if all of the following requirements are satisfied:
- (i) the Participant's total Account Balance (including the rollover contribution separate account) does not exceed \$5,000 (or the dollar limit under Code Section 411(a)(11), if greater);
 - (ii) the Participant has not previously received a distribution of his or her total Account Balance in accordance with the provisions of this Section 6.10(b); and
 - (iii) no Annual Deferral has been made with respect to the Participant during the two-year period ending immediately before the date of the distribution.

Distribution shall be made as soon as practical following the request in a lump sum payment or through a direct rollover to the "eligible retirement plan" (as defined under Section 6.9(b)) selected by the Participant or Beneficiary.

- (c) Rollover Account Distributions. If a Participant has a separate account attributable to rollover contributions under the Plan, the Participant before Severance of Employment may at any time elect to receive an inservice distribution of all or any portion of the amount held in the rollover separate account. Any designated Roth contributions rolled over to the Plan are treated as Roth Contributions and not rollover contributions for Plan purposes.

- (d) Age 70 ½ Distributions. Prior to Severance from Employment, a Participant may withdraw all or a portion of his or her Account Balance on or after the first day of the calendar year in which the Participant shall attain age 70½.
- (e) Qualified Military Service Deemed Severance Distributions. Notwithstanding any other provision of the Plan to the contrary, a Participant before Severance of Employment who is absent from employment because of service with the uniformed services (as described in United States Code, Title 38, Chapter 43) for more than 30 days shall be treated as if he or she had incurred a Severance from Employment for purposes of receiving a distribution. A Participant who is deemed to have incurred a Severance from Employment hereunder may elect to receive a withdrawal from his or her Annual Deferrals.

If a Participant receives a distribution in accordance with this Section 6.10(e) and would not otherwise be entitled to receive a distribution under the Plan other than pursuant to this section, his or her Annual Deferrals shall be suspended for at least 6 months after receipt of the withdrawal.

- (f) Inservice Distribution of Roth Contributions. Roth Contributions are eligible only for the following inservice distributions and withdrawals:
- Unforeseeable emergency distributions
 - De minimis Account Balance distributions
 - Age 70-1/2 distributions

6.11 Qualified Distributions for Retired Public Safety Officers

The Plan does not permit qualified distributions for retired public safety officers.

SECTION VII ROLLOVERS

7.1 Eligible Rollover Contributions to the Plan

- (a) A Participant who is an Employee and who is entitled to receive an eligible rollover distribution from another "eligible retirement plan", as defined in 6.9(b) excluding the direct rollover of after-tax contributions, may request to have all or a portion of the eligible rollover distribution paid to the Plan. The Administrator may require such documentation from the distributing plan as it deems necessary to effectuate the rollover in accordance with Code Section 402 and to confirm that such plan is an "eligible retirement plan" within the meaning of Code Section 402(c)(8)(B).
- (b) If an Employee makes a rollover contribution to the Plan of amounts that have previously been distributed to him or her, the Employee must deliver to the Administrator the cash that constitutes his or her rollover contribution within 60 days of receipt of the distribution from the distributing "eligible retirement plan". Such delivery must be made in the manner prescribed by the Administrator.
- (c) The Plan shall establish and maintain for the Participant a separate account for any eligible rollover distribution paid to the Plan from any "eligible retirement plan" that is an eligible governmental plan under Code Section 457(b). In addition, the Plan shall establish and maintain for the Participant a separate account for any eligible rollover distribution paid to the Plan from any "eligible retirement plan" that is not an eligible governmental plan under Code Section 457(b).
- (d) To the extent that the Plan accepts rollover contributions attributable to Roth Contributions, the Administrator shall account for such contributions separately from other rollover contributions. In administering rollover contributions attributable to Roth Contributions, the Administrator shall be entitled to rely on a statement from the distributing plan's administrator identifying (i) the Participant's basis in the rolled over amounts and (ii) the date on which the Participant's 5-taxable-year period of participation (as required under Code Section 402A(d)(2) for a qualified distribution of Roth Contributions) started under the distributing plan. If the 5-taxable-year period of participation under the distributing plan would end sooner than the Participant's 5-taxable-year period of participation under the Plan, the 5-taxable-year period of participation applicable under the distributing plan shall continue to apply with respect to the Roth Contributions included in the rollover contribution. Roth Contributions that are rolled over to the Plan shall be subject to the provisions of the Plan applicable to Roth Contributions rather than the provisions of the Plan applicable to rollover contributions.

7.2 Permissive Service Credit Transfers

- (a) If a Participant is also a participant in a tax-qualified defined benefit governmental plan (as defined in Code Section 414(d)) that provides for the acceptance of plan-to-plan transfers with respect to the Participant, then the Participant may elect to have any

portion of the Participant's Account Balance transferred to the defined benefit governmental plan. A transfer under this Section 7.2(a) may be made before the Participant has had a Severance from Employment and without regard to whether the defined benefit governmental plan is maintained by the Employer. The distribution rules applicable to the defined benefit governmental plan to which any amounts are transferred under this Section 7.2(a) shall apply to the transferred amounts and any benefits attributable to the transferred amounts.

- (b) A transfer may be made under Section 7.2(a) only if the transfer is either for the purchase of permissive service credit (as defined in Code Section 415(n)(3)(A)) under the receiving defined benefit governmental plan, including service credit for periods for which there is no performance of services, service credited in order to provide an increased benefit for service credit which a participant is receiving under the plan, and service (including parental, medical, sabbatical, and similar leave) as an employee (other than as an employee described in Code Section 415(n)(3)(C)(i)) of an educational organization described in Code Section 170(b)(1)(A)(ii) which is a public, private, or sectarian school which provides elementary or secondary education (through grade 12) or a comparable level of education, as determined under the applicable law of the jurisdiction in which the service was performed, without application of the limitations of Code Section 415(n)(3)(B) in determining whether the transfer is for the purchase of permissive service credit, or a repayment to which Code Section 415 does not apply by reason of Code Section 415(k)(3).

7.3 In-Plan Roth Conversion

A Participant, the Participant's surviving spouse Beneficiary, or spouse or former spouse who is an alternate payee under a qualified domestic relations order (as defined under Code Section 414(p)), may request an eligible rollover distribution as defined in Section 6.9(b) to be rolled into the Roth Contribution account under the Plan, pursuant to Code Section 402A(c)(4), by filing an irrevocable election with the Administrator. The amount of the "in-plan Roth conversion" shall be included in the Participant's (surviving spouse Beneficiary's, or spouse or former spouse who is an alternate payee's) gross income, as though it were not part of a qualified rollover contribution. Notwithstanding any other provision of the Plan to the contrary, an amount is not eligible for an "in-plan Roth conversion" unless it is distributable under the terms of the Plan and such distribution is an eligible rollover distribution within the meaning of Code Section 402(c)(4). Outstanding Plan loans shall be excluded from "in-plan Roth conversions". Notwithstanding any other provision of the Plan to the contrary, an "in-plan Roth conversion" shall not accelerate or otherwise cause a Participant to default on an outstanding Plan loan.

SECTION VIII BENEFICIARY

8.1 Beneficiary Designation

A Participant has the right, by written notice filed with the Administrator, to designate one or more Beneficiaries to receive any benefits payable under the Plan in the event of the Participant's death prior to the complete distribution of benefits. The Participant accepts and acknowledges that he or she has the burden for executing and filing, with the Administrator, a proper Beneficiary designation form.

The form for this purpose shall be provided by the Administrator. The form is not valid until it is signed, filed with the Administrator by the Participant, and accepted by the Administrator. Upon the Participant filing the form and acceptance by the Administrator, the form revokes all Beneficiary designations filed prior to that date by the Participant. If a married Participant designates his or her spouse a Beneficiary under the Plan, such designation shall automatically become null and void as of the date of any final divorce or similar decree or order; except that the Participant may re-designate such former spouse or his or her Beneficiary after the date of the final decree or order.

If no such designation is in effect upon the Participant's death, or if no designated Beneficiary survives the Participant, the Beneficiary shall be the Participant's surviving spouse, or if the Participant has no surviving spouse, the Participant's surviving children in equal shares, or if there are no surviving children, the Participant's estate. If a Beneficiary dies after becoming entitled to receive a distribution under the Plan but before distribution is made to him or her in full, the estate of the deceased Beneficiary shall be the Beneficiary as to the balance of the distribution.

SECTION IX ADMINISTRATION AND ACCOUNTING

9.1 Administrator

The Administrator shall have the responsibility and authority to control the operation and administration of the Plan in accordance with the terms of the Plan, the Code and regulations thereunder, and any State law as applicable.

The Administrator may contract with a financially responsible independent contractor to administer and coordinate the Plan under the direction of the Administrator. The Administrator shall have the right to designate a plan coordinator or other party of its choice to perform such services under this agreement as may be mutually agreed to between the Administrator and the plan coordinator or other party.

The Administrator has full and complete discretionary authority to determine all questions of Plan interpretation, policy, participation, or benefit eligibility in a manner consistent with the Plan's documents; such determinations shall be conclusive and binding on all persons except as otherwise provided by law.

9.2 Administrative Costs

All reasonable expenses of administration may be paid out of the Plan assets unless paid (or reimbursed) by the Employer. Such expenses shall include any expenses incident to the functioning of the Administrator, or any person or persons retained or appointed by the Administrator or the Employer incident to the exercise of his or her duties under the Plan, including, but not limited to, fees of accountants, counsel, investment managers, agents (including nonfiduciary agents) appointed for the purpose of assisting the Administrator in carrying out the instructions of Participants as to the directed investment of his or her accounts and other specialists and his or her agents, and other costs of administering the Plan. In addition, unless specifically prohibited under statute, regulation or other guidance of general applicability, the Administrator may charge to the Account Balance of an individual a reasonable charge to offset the cost of making a distribution to the Participant, Beneficiary, or alternate payee or to the Participant for Plan loans. If liquid assets of the Plan are insufficient to cover the fees of the Administrator, then Plan assets shall be liquidated to the extent necessary for such fees. In the event any part of the Plan assets becomes subject to tax, all taxes incurred will be paid from the Plan assets. Until paid, the expenses shall constitute a liability of the Trust Fund described in Section 11.1.

9.3 Paperless Administration

The Administrator may use telephonic or electronic media to satisfy any notice requirements required by this Plan, to the extent permissible under regulations (or other generally applicable guidance). In addition, a Participant's consent to immediate distribution may be provided through telephonic or electronic means, to the extent permissible under regulations (or other generally applicable guidance). The Administrator also may use telephonic or electronic media to conduct

plan transactions such as enrolling Participants, making (and changing) salary reduction elections, electing (and changing) investment allocations, applying for Participant Plan loans, and other transactions, to the extent permissible under regulations (or other generally applicable guidance).

SECTION X AMENDMENTS

10.1 Amendment

The Employer may at any time either prospectively or retroactively amend the Plan. The Employer shall not have the right to reduce or affect the value of any Participant's Account Balance or any rights accrued under the Plan prior to amendment.

10.2 Conformation

The Employer shall amend and interpret the Plan to the extent necessary to conform to the requirements of Code Section 457 and any other applicable law, regulation or ruling, including amendments that are retroactive. In the event the Plan is deemed by the Internal Revenue Service to be administered in a manner inconsistent with Code Section 457, the Employer shall correct such inconsistency within the period provided in Code Section 457(b).

10.3 Plan Termination

In the event of the termination of the Plan, all Account Balances shall be disposed to or for the benefit of each Participant or Beneficiary in accordance with the provisions of Section VI or Section VII as soon as reasonably practicable following the Plan's termination. The Employer shall not have the right to reduce or affect the value of any Participant's account or any rights accrued under the Plan prior to termination of the Plan. The Participant's or Beneficiary's written consent to the commencement of distribution shall not be required regardless of the value of his or her Account Balance.

The distribution in the event of termination of the Plan may, at the discretion of the Employer, be made in the form of a lump sum payment of the Participant's total Account Balance, without regard to the form of distribution elected by the Participant.

SECTION XI TRUST FUND

11.1 Trust Fund

All amounts in a Participant's or Beneficiary's Account Balance, all property and rights purchased with such amounts, and all income attributable to such amounts, property, or rights shall be held and invested in the Trust Fund in accordance with this Plan. The Trust Fund, and any subtrust established under the Plan, shall be established pursuant to a written agreement that constitutes a valid trust, custodial agreement, annuity contract, or similar agreement under the laws of the State of residence of the Employer, to the extent not superseded by federal law,. All investments, amounts, property, and rights held under the Trust Fund shall be held in trust for the exclusive benefit of Participants and their Beneficiaries and defraying reasonable expenses of the Plan and of the Trust Fund. Prior to the satisfaction of all liabilities with respect to Participants and their Beneficiaries, no part of the assets and income of the Trust Fund may be used for, or diverted to, for purposes other than for the exclusive benefit of Participants and their Beneficiaries. The Employer has no beneficial interest in the Trust Fund and no part of the Trust Fund shall ever revert to the Employer, directly or indirectly, provided, however, that a contribution or any portion thereof made by the Employer through a mistake of fact under Section 12.4 shall upon written request of the Employer, reduced by losses attributable thereto, shall be returned to the Employer.

SECTION XII MISCELLANEOUS

12.1 Non-Assignability

Except as provided in Sections 12.2 and 12.3, no benefit under the Plan at any time shall be subject in any manner to anticipation, alienation, assignment (either at law or in equity), encumbrance, garnishment, levy, execution, or other legal or equitable process; and no person shall have power in any manner to anticipate, transfer, assign (either law or in equity), alienate or subject to attachment, garnishment, levy, execution, or other legal or equitable process, or in any way encumber his or her benefits under the Plan, or any part thereof, and any attempt to do so shall be void except to such extent as may be required by law.

12.2 Domestic Relation Orders

The Employer shall establish reasonable procedures to determine the status of domestic relations orders and to administer distributions under domestic relations orders which are deemed to be qualified orders. Such procedures shall be in writing and shall comply with the provisions of Code Section 414(p) and regulations issued thereunder.

Notwithstanding Section 12.1, the Administrator may affect a Participant's Account Balance for a "qualified domestic relations order" as defined in Code Section 414(p), and those other domestic relations orders permitted to be so treated by the Administrator under the provisions of the Retirement Equity Act of 1984. The amount of the Participant's Account Balance shall be paid in the manner and to the person or persons so directed in the qualified domestic relations order. Such payment shall be made without regard to whether the Participant is eligible for a distribution of benefits under the Plan.

12.3 IRS Levy

Notwithstanding Section 12.1, the Administrator may pay from a Participant's or Beneficiary's Account Balance the amount that the Administrator finds is lawfully demanded under a levy issued by the Internal Revenue Service to the Plan with respect to that Participant or Beneficiary or is sought to be collected by the United States Government under a judgment resulting from an unpaid tax assessment against the Participant or Beneficiary.

12.4 Mistaken Contributions

Notwithstanding any other provision of the Plan or the Trust Fund to the contrary, in the event any contribution of an Employer is made under a mistake of fact (and not a Plan operational error), such contribution may be returned to the Employer within one year after the payment of the contribution. Earnings attributable to the excess contribution may not be returned to the Employer (and instead shall be applied otherwise as determined by the Administrator), but losses attributable thereto must reduce the amount to be so returned.

12.5 Employment

Neither the establishment of the Plan nor any modification thereof, nor the establishment of any account, nor the payment of any benefits, shall be construed as giving to any Participant or other person any legal or equitable right against the Employer except as herein provided; and, in no event, shall the terms or employment of any Employee be modified or in any way affected hereby.

12.6 Successors and Assigns

The Plan shall be binding upon and shall inure to the benefit of the Employer, its successors and assigns, all Participants and Beneficiaries and their heirs and legal representatives.

12.7 Written Notice

Any notice or other communication required or permitted under the Plan shall be in writing, and if directed to the Administrator shall be sent to the designated office of the Administrator, and, if directed to a Participant or to a Beneficiary, shall be sent to such Participant or Beneficiary at his or her last known address as it appears on the Administrator's record. To the extent permitted by law, regulation or other guidance from an appropriate regulatory agency, the Administrator, Employer or any other party may provide any notice or disclosure, obtain any authorization or consent, or satisfy any other obligation under the Plan through the use of any other medium acceptable to the Administrator. Such other medium may include, but is not necessarily limited to, electronic or telephonic medium. In addition, any communication or disclosure to or from Participants or Beneficiaries that is required under the terms of the Plan to be made in writing may be provided in any other medium (electronic, telephonic, or otherwise) that is acceptable to the Administrator and permitted under applicable law. The Administrator shall be entitled to reliance on any such communication from a Participant or Beneficiary, including any data or consent included in such communication, provided in any such manner.

12.8 Total Agreement

This Plan and Participant deferral election, and any subsequently adopted Plan amendment thereof, shall constitute the total agreement or contract between the Employer and the Participant regarding the Plan. No oral statement regarding the Plan may be relied upon by the Participant.

12.9 Gender

As used herein the masculine shall include the neuter and the feminine where appropriate.

12.10 Controlling Law

This Plan is created and shall be construed, administered and interpreted in accordance with Code Section 457 and the regulations thereunder, and under laws of the State of residence of the Employer, to the extent not superseded by federal law, as the same shall be at the time any dispute or issue is raised. If any portion of this Plan is held illegal, invalid or unenforceable, the legality, validity and enforceability of the remainder shall be unaffected.

The Employer has executed this Plan document this _____ day of
9/22/2025 | 11:11 AM EDT

DATE HERE

The Board of Education of Cecil County d/b/a Cecil
County Public Schools

Signed by:
By Denise Sopa
F27B16B8D979489...
Name Denise Sopa
Title Chief Financial Officer

SIGN HERE

Employer Address: 201 Booth Street
Elkton, MD 21921-5618

Employer EIN: 52-6000923

Contract Number: CCBE-002

This plan document is a specimen plan document only. Unlike 401(a)/(k) and 403(b) plans, the Internal Revenue Service does not offer a preapproved program for 457(b) plan documents and does not generally provide any determination or advisory letter regarding a 457(b) plan's compliance in form with applicable rules. As such, this plan document has not been reviewed by the Internal Revenue Service for compliance with applicable sections of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended. Lincoln Retirement Services Company LLC and its affiliates (Lincoln) make no guarantees or warranties, expressed or implied, regarding the tax effects of the specimen plan document. Employers are strongly encouraged to consult with their legal and/or tax advisor regarding the adoption of this plan document.

SUPERSEDING PROVISIONS ADDENDUM

The following provisions supersede other provisions in this Plan in the manner described below:

A Participant, the Participant's surviving spouse Beneficiary, or spouse or former spouse who is an alternate payee under a qualified domestic relations order (as defined under Code Section 414(p)), may request to convert all or any portion of the Participant's non-Roth vested Account Balance to an "In-Plan Roth Conversion" account, pursuant to Code Section 402A(c)(4), by filing an irrevocable election with the Administrator. The taxable amount of the "In-Plan Roth Conversion" shall be included in the Participant's (surviving spouse Beneficiary's, or spouse or former spouse who is an alternate payee's) gross income. For a Participant to convert eligible contributions to Roth Contributions through an "In-Plan Roth Conversion", the Participant need not be eligible to take a distribution from the Plan. Outstanding Plan loans shall be excluded from "In-Plan Roth Conversions". Notwithstanding any other provision of the Plan to the contrary, an "In-Plan Roth Conversion" shall not accelerate or otherwise cause a Participant to default on an outstanding Plan loan.