

# ***AGREEMENT***

## ***CITY-COUNTY SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS UNIT (CCSIU)***

This Agreement establishes and governs the operation of the ***CITY-COUNTY SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS UNIT (CCSIU)***:

The undersigned public agencies are charged with enforcing the law and protecting their citizens from illegal activity. Recognizing that resources are limited and that such limitations are detrimental to combating crime within Yellowstone County and the City of Billings, and recognizing that the problem can be most effectively resolved by pooling of resources and the joint exercise of respective authorities, a joint CCSIU is established.

***PARTIES:*** This Agreement is between:

- (1) Billings Police Department
- (2) Yellowstone County Sheriff's Office

***DURATION:*** This Agreement is in effect from January 1, 2026 through December 31, 2026.

### **PROJECT DESCRIPTION:**

It is proposed that a joint City-County Special Investigations Unit be established. This Unit will be comprised of personnel assigned from the Yellowstone County Sheriff's Office and the Billings Police Department. It is agreed that full-time investigative personnel will be assigned to the Unit. The CCSIU will be a component of the Rocky Mountain High Intensity Drug Traffic Area (RMHIDTA). Either agency may withdraw from the Unit at any time with 30 days notice.

### **STRUCTURE AND ORGANIZATION:**

The Unit Supervisor and Unit members will be determined by mutual agreement between both agencies. The Unit Supervisor shall be responsible to keep both agencies informed on all matters relating to the operations, including expenditures, accomplishments, problems and all other issues involving the CCSIU.

All persons assigned to the Unit shall work under the immediate supervision and direction of the Unit Supervisor. City Detectives will be indirectly supervised and evaluated by the Captain of Investigations or his designee. All persons assigned to the Unit shall adhere to the rules and regulations as set forth in the Unit's Policy and Procedures Manual, as well as their individual departmental rules, policies and procedures.

For the purpose of indemnification of participating jurisdictions against losses, damages, or liabilities arising out of the services and activities of the Unit, the personnel so assigned by any

jurisdiction shall be deemed to be continuing under the employment of that jurisdiction and its police department.

Each agency contributing personnel to the Unit will continue that employee as an employee of the contributing agency and will be solely responsible for that employee, including wages and benefits.

Any duly sworn peace officer, while assigned to duty with the Unit as herein provided and working at the direction of the Unit Supervisor, shall have the same powers, duties, privileges, protections and immunities as are conferred upon him/her as a peace officer in his/her own jurisdiction. Billings Police Officers will be deputized as Yellowstone County Sheriff's Deputies while assigned, even on a temporary basis, to the CCSIU.

### **CONTEMPLATED UNIT TASKS:**

At the direction of the Unit Supervisor, the CCSIU will concentrate efforts on local cases. Investigations will center around narcotics trafficking and organized criminal activities. In circumstances where a determination of specific priorities of these investigations must be made, the Unit Supervisor will make the determination in consultation with the Sheriff and Police Chief, or their designees.

### **UNIT OBJECTIVES:**

This section identifies specific targeted objectives to be attained by the CCSIU during the program year.

- 1) Disrupt illegal drugs, drug/gang and organized criminal activities within the City, County and State.
- 2) Gather and report intelligence data relating to illegal drugs, drug/gang and organized criminal activities within the City, County and State.
- 3) Make arrests that will impact all levels of drug and organized criminal activities.
- 4) Effectively prosecute drug traffickers and organized criminal activity participants.
- 5) Promote law enforcement cooperation through joint investigations and close coordination with other police agencies and task forces.

### **PETTY CASH AND FORFEITURE FUND:**

Agencies involved in the City-County Special Investigations Unit will each place *NINE THOUSAND DOLLARS* (\$9,000.00) into the Petty Cash Fund. The monies will be utilized by the Unit for buys and informants. As financial transactions take place, an equal amount of monies will be deducted from each agency's monies. The Supervisor of the Unit will be responsible for administering the monies as needed and keeping a running log of all expenditures, to include incident numbers and reason for purchase(s). The money log will be

audited by the Yellowstone County Auditor or his/her representative, on a quarterly basis. A copy of the audit will be submitted to the Captain of Investigations or his designee.

Replacement of the Petty Cash Fund will be accomplished by the following procedures:

*CITY OF BILLINGS:*

The Unit Supervisor will make a written request through the Captain in charge of Investigations or his designee, who, in turn, will approve the request and submit it to the City Finance & Administrative Services Department. The City Financial Services Manager will direct monies to the Unit Supervisor, who will deposit the reimbursement back to the Petty Cash Fund.

*YELLOWSTONE COUNTY:*

The Unit Supervisor will make a written request to the Yellowstone County purchasing department to replenish their portion of the fund.

Forfeiture vehicles that are to be sold at auction will be sold at either the Yellowstone County Sheriff's Sale or at auction by the Billings Police Department. Any forfeiture monies acquired by the Unit from any source will be split equally between the agencies. Each entity is responsible for requesting their share. All forfeiture procedures will be handled by the Unit Supervisor and the Yellowstone County Attorney's Office, at no cost to the City.

**ASSET SHARING:**

Any non-signatory state or local law enforcement agency that directly participates in an investigation or prosecution that results in a federal forfeiture may request an equitable share of the net proceeds of the forfeiture.

**INDEMNITY CLAUSE:**

The City shall have the duty to defend Yellowstone County and shall indemnify and hold harmless Yellowstone County and its agents and employees from and against all claims, liabilities, damages, losses, judgments and expenses, including attorney's fees, arising out of or resulting from this contract provided that any such claims, liability, damage, loss, judgment or expense is caused in whole or in part, by a negligent act, error or omission of the City, its employees or agents.

Yellowstone County shall have the duty to defend the City and shall indemnify and hold harmless the City and its agents and employees from and against all claims, liabilities, damages, losses, judgments and expenses, including attorney's fees, arising out of or resulting from this contract provided that any such claim, liability, damage, loss or expense is caused in whole or in part by any negligent act, error, or omission of Yellowstone County, its employees, officials or agents.

**RESOURCES:**

All available resources that are currently available in the City of Billings Investigations Division and in the Yellowstone County Investigations Division will be made available to the CCSIU. Any specialized equipment that is not being kept at the location of the CCSIU office will need to be borrowed by an assigned CCSIU detective from that agency.

THIS AGREEMENT IS EXECUTED THIS \_\_\_\_ DAY OF \_\_\_\_\_, 25.

SIGNED:

\_\_\_\_\_  
*MAYOR, CITY OF BILLINGS*

DATE \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
*COUNTY COMMISSIONER CHAIR*

DATE \_\_\_\_\_

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
DENISE BOHLMAN, CITY CLERK  
CITY OF BILLINGS

\_\_\_\_\_  
JEFF MARTIN  
CLERK AND RECORDER  
YELLOWSTONE COUNTY

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

\_\_\_\_\_  
CITY ATTORNEY  
CITY OF BILLINGS