Memorandum of Understanding TOM GREEN COUNTY SHERIFF'S CRISIS INTERVENTION UNIT and OPEN ARMS RAPE CRISIS CENTER AND LGBT SERVICES

I. Purpose:

To establish a cooperative and mutually beneficial relationship between Tom Green County Sheriff's Crisis Intervention Unit (CIU) and Open Arms Rape Crisis Center and LGBT Services of San Angelo(OA) and set forth the relative responsibilities of the parties to disseminate information and make appropriate referrals.

II. Duration of Agreement:

The Agreement becomes effective on the date signed and shall remain in full force and effect until the Agreement is canceled by the parties in accordance with the terms set forth herein.

III. General Provisions:

This Memorandum of Understanding does not create additional jurisdiction or limit or modify existing jurisdiction vested in the parties. It is understood by both parties that each should fulfill its responsibilities under this Agreement in accordance with the provisions of law and regulations that govern their activities. Nothing in this Agreement is intended to negate or otherwise render ineffective any such provisions or operating procedures. If at any time either party is unable to perform its functions under this Agreement consistent with such party's statutory and regulatory mandates, the affected party shall immediately provide written notice to the others to establish a date for mutual resolution of the conflict.

IV. Responsibilities:

In consideration of the mutual aims and desires of the parties of this Agreement and in recognition of the public benefit derived from effective implementation of the programs involved, the parties agree that their responsibilities under this Agreement shall be as follows:

- A. CIU shall provide referrals to OA and emergency transportation for sexual assault victims.
- B. OA shall provide referrals to CIU.
- C. All parties shall work together to provide information and assistance to victims of violent crimes.

V. Confidentiality:

The CIU abides by strict confidentiality regulations that govern the release of information. The CIU shall not disclose the identity of a victim and/or specifics regarding the victim's circumstance unless required to do so by state or federal law, to OA, without the written consent of the victim. After the victim has signed

a consent form for the release of information, the CIU may release information for the purpose of referral, treatment and intervention planning, and coordination efforts.

VI. Effective Administration and Execution of this MOU:

- A. This MOU shall be reviewed annually and remain in full force and effect until specifically abrogated by one of the parties to this Agreement with sixty (60) days notice of the other party.
- B. Effective execution of the Agreement can only be achieved through continuing communication and dialogue between parties. It is the intent of this MOU that channel of communication will be used to resolve questions, misunderstandings, or complaints that may arise that are not specifically addressed in the MOU.
- C. After receiving the signed "Release of Information" forms, personnel from CIU and OA shall meet, as necessary and appropriate, to share information regarding individual cases and review the quality of services provided to the victims.

Tom Green County

Authorized Official Stephen Floyd, County Judge Signature Authorized Official

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Open Arms Rape Crisis
Center and LGBT Services

Authorized Official

Karla Payne, Executive Director

Signature Authorized Official

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