This HIPAA Business Associate Agreement, ("Agreement") is entered into on the date(s) set forth below by and between Hospital Sisters Health System on its own behalf and on behalf of all its affiliated hospitals and entities, the "Covered Entity") and __________________ (the "Business Associate") (each a "Party" and collectively the “Parties”). This Agreement shall be effective as of the date on which the last of the Parties has executed this Agreement ("Effective Date").

BACKGROUND AND RECITALS

The purpose of this Agreement is to enable the Parties to comply with the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 (42 U.S.C. 1320d-1329d-8), as amended by the Health Information Technology for Economic and Clinical Health Act, as incorporated in the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 ("HITECH"), and all applicable implementing regulations, including, without limitation, the Privacy Rule, the Security Rule and the Breach Notification Rule (as those terms are defined below) (all such laws and regulations shall be collectively referred to herein as "HIPAA").

WHEREAS, Covered Entity and Business Associate entered into one or more contracts and relationships between, written or unwritten, formal or informal, (each an "Arrangement" and collectively the "Arrangements") pursuant to which Business Associate agrees to perform certain services on behalf of Covered Entity (the "Services").

WHEREAS, Business Associate may create, access, receive, maintain or transmit Covered Entity's Protected Health Information (as defined below) in its performance of the Services; and

WHEREAS, both Parties are committed to complying with HIPAA.

NOW THEREFORE, the Parties agree as follows:

Section 1. Definitions. Capitalized terms used herein but not otherwise defined shall have the meanings ascribed to them in HIPAA.


1.2 Business Associate. "Business Associate" shall generally have the same meaning as the term "business associate" at 45 C.F.R § 160.103, and in reference to the party to this Agreement shall mean the Party set forth in the opening paragraph of this Agreement.

1.3 Covered Entity. "Covered Entity" shall generally have the same meaning as the term "covered entity" at 45 C.F.R § 160.103, and in reference to the party to this Agreement shall mean the Party set forth in the opening paragraph of this Agreement.

1.4 ePHI. "ePHI" shall mean Electronic Protected Health Information, as defined in 45 C.F.R. § 160.103, limited to the information that Business Associate creates, accesses, receives, maintains, or transmits on behalf of Covered Entity, in connection with the applicable Arrangement.

1.5 HIPAA Rules. "HIPAA Rules" shall mean the Privacy, Security, Breach Notification, and Enforcement Rules at 45 C.F.R Parts 160 and 164.

1.6 PHI. "Protected Health Information" or "PHI" shall mean Protected Health Information, as defined in 45 C.F.R. § 160.103, limited to the information that Business Associate creates, accesses, receives, maintains, or transmits on behalf of Covered Entity in connection with the applicable Arrangement. PHI includes ePHI.

1.7 Privacy Rule. "Privacy Rule" shall mean the Standards for Privacy of Individually Identifiable Health Information, codified at 45 C.F.R. Parts 160 and 164, Subparts A and E, as currently in effect.

Section 2.  General Obligations.

2.1 As of the Effective Date, this Agreement applies to all past, present, and future Arrangements, in any form whatsoever. This Agreement amends all existing Arrangements between Covered Entity and Business Associate relating to the Use or Disclosure of PHI, whether or not specifically referenced therein. In the event of any conflict or inconsistency between the provisions of this Agreement and the terms of any other Arrangement between Covered Entity and Business Associate relating to PHI, the provisions of this Agreement shall govern unless the Parties specifically agree to the contrary in writing.

Section 3.  Scope of Permitted Uses and Disclosures.

3.1 Business Associate agrees that it will not use and/or disclose PHI other than as permitted or required by this Agreement, as required to perform the Services, or as otherwise Required by Law. Business Associate is permitted to use or disclose PHI as set forth below:

(a) Use PHI for the proper management and administration of Business Associate or to carry out the legal responsibilities of Business Associate;

(b) Disclose PHI for the proper management and administration of Business Associate, provided that such Disclosures are Required by Law or Business Associate obtains a written confidentiality agreement from the person to whom the information is disclosed, obligating such person to (i) keep the information confidential, (ii) use or further disclose the information only as Required by Law or for the purpose for which it was disclosed to the person and (iii) notify Business Associate of any instances of which it is aware in which the confidentiality of the information may have been breached within a time frame that permits Business Associate to comply with its reporting obligations set forth in Section 6 below;

(c) Use PHI to provide Data Aggregation services relating to the Health Care Operations of Covered Entity if required or permitted under an Arrangement; and

(d) De-identify PHI in accordance with 45 C.F.R § 164.514(a)-(c), if permitted by an Arrangement.

3.2 Business Associate may disclose PHI to, and permit the use of PHI by, its workforce including employees, contractors, Subcontractors, agents, or other representatives only if and to the extent directly related to, and necessary for, the performance of the Services. Disclosure of PHI to, and the use of PHI by, contractors, Subcontractors, agents and other representatives is also subject to Section 4 below.

3.4 Business Associate represents and warrants that it shall comply with the minimum necessary requirements of the Privacy Rule in requesting, using or disclosing PHI to perform the Services, or when doing so in accordance with the Privacy Rule for Business Associate's proper management and administration or to carry out its legal obligations.

3.5 Business Associate shall not use or disclose PHI in a manner (i) that is inconsistent with Covered Entity's obligations under HIPAA or (ii) that would violate HIPAA if disclosed or used in such a manner by Covered Entity.

3.6 Business Associate shall not receive direct or indirect payment in exchange for PHI.

3.7 To the extent this Agreement or the Arrangements requires Business Associate to carry out any of Covered Entity’s obligations under the Privacy Rule, Business Associate agrees to comply with the requirements of the Privacy Rule that apply to Covered Entity in the performance of such obligations.

Section 4.  Use by and Disclosure to Business Associate’s Contractors, Subcontractors, Agents, and Representatives.

4.1 In accordance with 45 C.F.R §§ 164.502(e)(1)(ii) and 164.308(b)(2), Business Associate shall require each contractor, Subcontractor, agent, or other representative to whom it provides PHI in connection with the Services, or who create, access, receive, maintain or transmit PHI on behalf of Business Associate to enter into a written agreement with Business Associate, prior to the receipt of PHI, obligating them to adhere to at least the same restrictions and conditions on the Use and/or Disclosure of PHI that apply to Business
Reporting and Mitigating the Effect of Unauthorized Uses and Disclosures.

6.1 Business Associate will report to the Privacy Officer of Covered Entity, in writing, any acquisition, access, Use or Disclosure of PHI that is not permitted or required by this Agreement, without unreasonable delay, but in no event more than five (5) calendar days after discovery by Business Associate of such unauthorized acquisition, access, Use or Disclosure. This reporting obligation shall include acquisitions, access, Uses or Disclosures by Business Associate, its employees, contractors, Subcontractors, agents, representatives or any third party to which Business Associate disclosed PHI. Without limiting the foregoing, Business Associate shall report the acquisition, access, Use or Disclosure even if it determines that there is a low probability that the PHI has been compromised.

6.2 Business Associate, in accordance with 45 C.F.R § 164.410, shall report, in writing, to the Privacy Officer of Covered Entity any Security Incident involving ePHI of which it becomes aware, without unreasonable delay, but in no event more than five (5) calendar days after Business Associate becomes aware of the Security Incident that: (i) results in unauthorized access, Use, Disclosure, modification or destruction of ePHI or interference with system operations; or (ii) does not result in unauthorized access, Use, Disclosure, modification or destruction of ePHI or interference with system operations ("Unsuccessful Security Incident") but that Business Associate reasonably determines is of a type or pattern that warrants further action. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the Parties acknowledge and agree that this Section 6.2 of the Agreement constitutes notice by Business Associate to Covered Entity of the ongoing existence of a Security Incident. If Business Associate reasonably determines that there is a low probability that the Security Incident is of a type or pattern that warrants further action, the Parties may consult with each other about such Security Incident and the need for any further action. Business Associate shall keep Covered Entity reasonably informed of the status of any Security Incident that Business Associate determines is of a type or pattern that warrants further action. If the HIPAA regulations are amended to remove the requirement to report Successful Security Incidents, the requirement hereunder to report such Unsuccessful Security Incidents will no longer apply as of the effective date of the amendment.

6.3 Business Associate will report to the Privacy Officer of Covered Entity, in writing, any Breach of Unsecured PHI, without unreasonable delay, but in no event no more than five (5) calendar days after discovery by Business Associate of such Breach.
required under applicable state law) after discovery by Business Associate of such Breach. This reporting obligation shall include Breaches by Business Associate, its employees, contractors, Subcontractors, agents and/or representatives.

(a) Each report of a Breach will contain all available information, including: (i) the nature of the non-permitted or violating Use or Disclosure; (ii) the PHI used or disclosed; (iii) who made the non-permitted or violating Use or Disclosure; (iv) who received the non-permitted or violating Use or Disclosure; (v) what corrective action Business Associate took or will take to prevent further non-permitted or violating Uses or Disclosures; and (vi) what Business Associate did or will do to mitigate any harmful effect of the non-permitted or violating Use or Disclosure; and (vii) such other information as Covered Entity may request. In the event all information concerning a Breach cannot be obtained within the time frames described in this Section 6.3, Business Associate shall supplement its previous report as soon as information becomes available.

(b) Covered Entity shall have primary responsibility for notifying individuals in the event of a Breach. However, at Covered Entity's option, Business Associate will be responsible for notifying individuals of the occurrence when Covered Entity requires notification and to pay any cost of such notifications. In such event, Business Associate must obtain Covered Entity's approval of the time, manner and content of any such notifications, provide Covered Entity with copies of the notification and provide the notification without unreasonable delay, but in no event more than sixty (60) calendar days after discovery of the Breach by Covered Entity or Business Associate. Business Associate shall have the burden of demonstrating to Covered Entity that all notifications were made as required, including any evidence demonstrating the necessity of any delay beyond the sixty (60) day notification requirement to affected individuals after the discovery of the Breach. Regardless of whether Covered Entity or Business Associate notifies the individuals, Business Associate shall be responsible for any and all costs associated with the Breach, including, but not limited to, credit monitoring and attorneys' fees.

6.4 Business Associate will work diligently and cooperatively with Covered Entity to establish procedures and to take appropriate steps to mitigate, to the extent reasonably possible, any harmful effects that are known to Business Associate of any Breach or unauthorized acquisition, access, Use and/or Disclosure of PHI by Business Associate in violation of the requirements of this Agreement. Business Associate shall be reasonably cooperative with Covered Entity’s efforts to seek appropriate injunctive relief or otherwise prevent or curtail such threatened or actual breach, or to recover its PHI, including complying with reasonable corrective action plans.

Section 7. Additional Responsibilities of Business Associate with Respect to PHI.

7.1 Business Associate agrees to make its internal practices, books, and records, including policies and procedures, relating to the Use and Disclosure of PHI received from or created or received by Business Associate on behalf of Covered Entity available to Covered Entity (upon Covered Entity's written request) and/or to the Secretary, within five (5) business days of receiving such request, or as designated by the Secretary, for purposes of determining Covered Entity's compliance with HIPAA and this Agreement. Upon request, Business Associate shall also give Covered Entity access to Business Associate's facilities used for maintenance or processing of PHI for the same purpose. Business Associate shall promptly notify Covered Entity of communications with HHS regarding PHI and shall provide Covered Entity with copies of any information Business Associate has made available to the Secretary or HHS under this provision.

7.2 Business Associate shall make available to Covered Entity the information in Business Associate's possession required for Covered Entity to make an accounting of Disclosures required by 45 C.F.R. § 164.528 within five (5) business days of notice by Covered Entity to Business Associate that it has received a request for an accounting of Disclosures of PHI. At a minimum, Business Associate shall provide Covered Entity with the following information: (i) the date of the Disclosure, (ii) the name of the entity or person who received the PHI, and, if known, the address of such entity or person, (iii) a brief description of the PHI disclosed, and (iv) a brief statement of the purpose of such Disclosure that includes an explanation of the basis for such Disclosure. In the event the request for an accounting is delivered directly to Business Associate, Business Associate shall within five (5) business days, forward such request to Covered Entity.
7.3 Business Associate agrees, within five (5) business days of receiving a request from Covered Entity, to provide access, at the request of Covered Entity, to PHI in a Designated Record Set, to Covered Entity or, as directed by Covered Entity, to an Individual in order to meet the requirements under 45 C.F.R. § 164.524.

7.4 Business Associate agrees, within five (5) business days of receiving a request from Covered Entity, to make any amendment(s) to PHI in a Designated Record Set that Covered Entity directs or agrees to pursuant to 45 C.F.R § 164.526.

7.5 Business Associate shall retain all information required to be retained under this Agreement, including PHI, throughout the term of this Agreement, shall continue to maintain such information, and shall make it available to Covered Entity upon request, for a period of six (6) years after the termination of this Agreement, unless Covered Entity and Business Associate agree otherwise.

7.6 In the event Business Associate receives a subpoena or similar notice or request from any judicial, administrative or other party which would require the production of PHI received from, or created for, Covered Entity, Business Associate shall promptly forward a copy of such subpoena, notice or request to Covered Entity to afford Covered Entity the opportunity to timely respond to the demand for its PHI as Covered Entity determines appropriate.

Section 8. Term and Termination.

8.1 This Agreement shall remain in effect from the Effective Date until terminated pursuant to Section 8.2 or without cause upon either party providing thirty (30) calendar days' advance written notice of its intent to terminate this Agreement.

8.2 Covered Entity may immediately terminate this Agreement (and any then-existing Arrangement(s) with Covered Entity) if Covered Entity makes the determination that Business Associate has failed to adhere to a material term of this Agreement. Alternatively, Covered Entity may, in its sole discretion: (i) exercise any of its rights to reports, access and inspections under this Agreement; (ii) require Business Associate to submit to a plan of monitoring and report as Covered Entity may determine necessary to maintain compliance with this Agreement; and/or (iii) provide Business Associate with thirty (30) calendar days to cure or end the violation. In the event Business Associate fails to cure the material deficiency or end the violation within such time period, Covered Entity may immediately terminate this Agreement and any then-existing Arrangement(s). Covered Entity may also provide notice of infractions to the Secretary or Office of Civil Rights and may be required to follow notice requirements prescribed by 45 C.F.R. §164.404.

8.3 Upon termination of this Agreement, for any reason, Business Associate shall recover any PHI in the possession of its permitted Subcontractors, agents, or representatives and shall, at Business Associate’s expense, return to Covered Entity or destroy all PHI within thirty (30) calendar days of conclusion of this Agreement. If it is not feasible for Business Associate to return or destroy the PHI as described above, Business Associate shall notify Covered Entity in writing. The notification shall include (i) a statement that Business Associate has determined that it is infeasible to return or destroy the PHI in its possession, and (ii) the specific reasons for such determination. If Covered Entity agrees, in its reasonable discretion, that Business Associate cannot feasibly return or destroy the PHI, Business Associate shall extend the protections, limitations and restrictions contained in this Agreement to such PHI and limit further Uses or Disclosures of such PHI to the purposes that makes the return or destruction of the PHI infeasible for so long as Business Associate maintains such PHI. If Covered Entity does not agree, in its reasonable discretion, that Business Associate cannot feasibly return or destroy the PHI, Business Associate shall, at Business Associate’s expense, return or destroy the PHI within thirty (30) calendar days of receiving notice of such determination by Covered Entity.

8.4 Business Associate’s obligation to protect the privacy of PHI is continuous and survives any termination, cancellation, expiration, or any other conclusion of this Agreement or all Arrangements.


9.1 All notices and other communications under this Agreement must be given in writing and shall be deemed received: (i) when delivered personally; (ii) 72 hours after being deposited in the U.S. mail, postage prepaid, sent registered or certified mail, return receipt requested; (iii) when delivered by a nationally-recognized and
receipted overnight courier service; or (iv) when delivered via facsimile transmission, to the Party at its respective principal business location. No notice of a change of address shall be effective until received by the other Party. Any notices required under this Agreement shall be provided as follows:

**To Covered Entity:**

HSHS

Attention: Privacy Officer

____________________________

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**To Business Associate:**

Aviacode Inc

515 East 100 South, Suite 700

Salt Lake City, Utah 84102

Section 10. **Indemnification and Injunctive Relief.**

10.1 Business Associate shall indemnify and hold harmless Covered Entity and its officers, trustees, employees, and agents from any and all claims, penalties, fines, costs, liabilities or damages, including, but not limited to, reasonable attorneys' fees incurred by Covered Entity arising from a violation by Business Associate of its obligations under this Agreement.

10.2 To the extent that Business Associate has limited its liability under the terms of an Arrangement or some other document, whether with a maximum recovery for direct damages or a disclaimer against any consequential, indirect or punitive damages, or other such limitations, all limitations shall exclude any damages to Covered Entity arising from Business Associate's breach of its obligations under this Agreement.

10.3 Business Associate acknowledges and stipulates that its unauthorized Use or Disclosure of PHI while performing the Services pursuant to this Agreement would cause irreparable harm to Covered Entity and, in such event, Covered Entity shall be entitled to institute and prosecute proceedings in any court of competent jurisdiction, either in law or in equity, to obtain damages and injunctive relief, together with the right to recover from Business Associate costs, including reasonable attorneys' fees, for any such breach of the terms and conditions of this Agreement.

Section 11. **Amendment to this Agreement.**

11.1 This Agreement shall be automatically amended to implement the requirements of any amendment to HIPAA or other applicable state or federal laws and ensure that the Parties remain in compliance with the law, effective upon the effective date of any such amendment.

Section 12. **Miscellaneous.**

12.1 **Independent Contractor Status.** The Parties agree that in performing the Services and satisfying the obligations of this Agreement, Business Associate shall at all times be an independent contractor for Covered Entity and nothing in this Agreement shall be construed as creating an agency, employment, joint venture, partnership or other relationship. Covered Entity shall neither have nor exercise any control or direction over Business Associate. Business Associate shall avoid taking any action or making any representation or warranty whatsoever with respect to its relationship with Covered Entity that is inconsistent with this independent contractor status.

12.2 **Regulatory References.** A reference in this Agreement to a section in HIPAA means the section as in effect or as amended.
12.3 **No Third-Party Beneficiaries.** The Parties have not created and do not intend to create by this Agreement any third-party rights, including, but not limited to, third party rights for patients.

12.4 **Interpretation.** Any ambiguity in this Agreement shall be resolved in favor of a meaning that permits Covered Entity to comply with HIPAA.

12.5 **Owner of PHI:** Business Associate acknowledges that Covered Entity is the owner of all PHI that Business Associate creates, accesses, maintains or transmits on behalf of Covered Entity. Under no circumstances shall Business Associate be deemed in any respect to be the owner of any PHI.

12.6 **Conflicts.** If there is any direct conflict between an Arrangement and this Agreement with respect to PHI or ePHI, the terms and conditions of this Agreement shall control.

12.7 **Counterparts; Facsimile and pdf Signatures.** The Parties agree that this Agreement may be executed in multiple originals, each of which shall be considered an original for all purposes and, collectively, shall be considered to constitute this Agreement. The Parties further agree that signatures transmitted by facsimile or in Portable Document Format (pdf) may be considered an original for all purposes, including, without limitation, the execution of this Agreement and enforcement of this Agreement.

12.8 **Governing Law.** This Agreement shall be governed by and construed in accordance with the laws of the State of Illinois. The Parties agree that any action or proceeding seeking to enforce any provision of, or based on any right arising out of, this Agreement may be brought against either Party in the courts of the State of Illinois, Sangamon County or, if it has or can acquire jurisdiction, in the United States District Court for the Central District of Illinois and each Party consents to the jurisdiction of such courts (and of the appropriate appellate courts) in any such action or proceeding and waives any objection to venue laid therein. Process in any action or proceeding referring to in the preceding sentence may be served on either Party anywhere in the world.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, each of the undersigned has caused this Agreement to be executed by duly authorized officers in its name and on its behalf.

**COVERED ENTITY: HSHS**

By: ________________________________  
Print Name: _________________________  
Print Title: _________________________  
Date: ______________________________

**BUSINESS ASSOCIATE: __________**

By: ________________________________  
Print Name: _________________________  
Print Title: _________________________  
Date: ______________________________