

# REBECCA TUCKER CPA

1105 Wooded Acres, Suite 250 • Waco, Texas 76710  
Phone: 254.772.5750 • Fax: 254.776.3949  
rebeccatuckercpa.com

We are pleased to provide you with the professional services described below. This letter, and any other attachments incorporated herein (collectively, "Agreement"), confirm our understanding of the terms and objectives of our engagement and the nature and limitations of the services we will provide. The engagement between you and our firm will be governed by the terms of this Agreement.

## **Engagement Objective and Scope**

We will prepare the following federal tax return:

2023 Form 1041

U.S. Income Tax Return for Estates and Trusts

We will not prepare any tax return except those identified above, without your written request, and our written consent to do so. We will rely on the completeness and accuracy of the information and representations that you provide to us to prepare your tax return. We will not prepare financial statements or perform valuations of any kind. We will not audit or otherwise verify the data you submit to us, although we may ask you to clarify certain information.

We will prepare the above-referenced tax return solely for filing with the Internal Revenue Service ("IRS") and applicable state and local tax authorities. Our work is not intended to benefit or influence any third party, including any entity or investment which may seek to evaluate your creditworthiness or financial strength.

You agree to indemnify and hold us harmless with respect to any and all claims arising from the use of the tax returns for any purpose other than complying with your tax filing obligations regardless of the nature of the claim, excepting claims arising from our gross negligence or intentional wrongful acts.

Our engagement does not include any procedures designed to detect errors, fraud, theft, or other wrong doing. Therefore, our engagement cannot be relied upon to disclose such matters. In addition, we are not responsible for identifying or communicating deficiencies in your internal controls. You are responsible for developing and implementing internal controls applicable to your operations.

Assisting you with your compliance with the Corporate Transparency Act ("CTA"), including beneficial ownership information ("BOI") reporting, is not within the scope of this engagement. You have sole responsibility for your compliance with the CTA, including its BOI reporting requirements and the collection of relevant ownership information. We shall have no liability resulting from your failure to comply with CTA. Information regarding the BOI reporting requirements can be found at <https://www.fincen.gov/boi>. Consider consulting with legal counsel if you have questions regarding the applicability of the CTA's reporting requirements and issues surrounding the collection of relevant ownership information.

You may request that we perform additional services not contemplated in this engagement letter. If this occurs, we will communicate with you regarding the scope and estimated cost of these additional services. Engagements for additional services may necessitate that we amend the Agreement or issue a separate agreement to reflect the obligations of all parties. In the absence of any other written communications from us documenting additional services, our services will be limited to and governed by the terms of this Agreement.

## **CPA Firm Responsibilities**

It is our duty to prepare your returns based on the same standard of care that a reasonable tax return preparer would exercise in this type of engagement. Unless otherwise noted, the applicable standard of care for a "reasonable tax return preparer" shall be based upon the following pronouncements:

- the Statements on Standards for Tax Services ("SSTS") issued by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants ("AICPA");

- U.S. Treasury Department Circular 230 (“Circular 230”); and
- the Internal Revenue Code, Treasury Regulations, and any applicable state/local corollaries (collectively, “the Code”).

As tax return preparers, these pronouncements also prohibit us from signing a tax return unless we have a reasonable belief that there is substantial authority for tax positions taken on the tax return, or we have a reasonable basis for tax return positions taken on the return which are disclosed as required by the Code. If you request that we report a tax position on your return which we feel is contrary to published guidance, frivolous, or a willful attempt to evade tax, we will be unable to proceed. If you are unwilling to disclose a position where required or we conclude that your failure to disclose does not permit us to sign your tax return, we will be unable to proceed.

Rebecca Tucker, CPA, will not make management decisions or perform management functions on your behalf.

#### Arguable Positions

If there are conflicting interpretations of tax law, or if tax law is unclear, we will explain the possible positions that may be taken in order for us to sign your return. We will follow the position you request, provided it is consistent with our understanding of tax reference materials and our professional standards. Tax reference materials include, but are not limited to, the Code, Revenue Rulings, Revenue Procedures, court cases, and similar state and local guidance. If the IRS, state or local tax authorities later contest the position you select, additional tax, penalties, and interest may be assessed. You will be responsible for these amounts, as well as any related professional fees you may incur, to respond to the tax authority.

#### Bookkeeping Assistance

We may deem it necessary to provide you with accounting and bookkeeping assistance solely for the purpose of preparing the tax returns. These services will be performed solely in accordance with the AICPA Code of Professional Conduct. In the event we conclude that such services are necessary to prepare your tax returns, we will advise you before services are performed and bill you for the required services. These services will be billed at our standard hourly rates, based on preparers, and will be subject to the terms of this Agreement.

#### Prior Year Review

Our review of the prior year’s tax return will necessarily be limited and may not find errors. We will, however, bring to your attention any errors that we find. Similarly, if you become aware of any information impacting prior year tax returns, please contact us. If an error or information impacting prior year tax returns is discovered by you or us, we will discuss resolution options with you. If you ask us to prepare amended tax returns, and we agree, we will confirm this engagement in a separate agreement. Additional fees will apply.

#### Tax Planning Services

Our engagement does not include tax advice which would impact future tax years. However, we may communicate potential tax strategies to you, and you may ask high-level questions of us. It is your responsibility to communicate to us, in writing, any interest in pursuing a tax strategy identified, or if you require more than a cursory response to your question. If we determine that assisting you with the implementation of any proposed tax strategy, or responding to your question requires additional research, analysis, discussion, or documentation, we will confirm our understanding with you in writing prior to proceeding.

We shall not be liable for any forgone tax or other benefits if you fail to advise us of your desire to investigate or pursue any tax strategy communicated to or by us. Any tax advice described in this paragraph and provided to you shall be governed by this Agreement and billed at our standard hourly rates.

#### Government Inquiries

This engagement does not include responding to inquiries by any governmental agency or tax authority. If you are contacted by a tax authority, either for an examination or other inquiry, you may request our assistance in responding.

### Reliance on Others

There may be times when you engage another advisor to assist you. If you wish to take a tax position based upon the advice of another advisor, before we are able to sign your tax return, we must comply with applicable provisions of the Code and the SSTS.

We will review the other advisor's work, including a written statement from the advisor describing the statutory basis for the position and the suggested disclosure standard to appropriately report the position. If additional research or disclosure is required, you agree to pay for the additional charges necessary to complete the disclosure or research.

Moreover, you understand that the IRS, state or local tax authority may disagree with the position taken on the return. If this occurs, you will be responsible for any additional tax, penalties and interest, as well as any related professional fees, you may incur.

If, after review of the work prepared by your other advisor, we determine that we are unable to sign the tax return, we will be unable to proceed.

### Aggressive Tax Strategies

Certain tax positions or strategies, while not currently identified as a reportable transaction by the IRS, may ultimately be determined to be so in the future. Consequently, you agree to advise us of any transaction you enter into that entitles you to disproportionate tax benefits (deductions, credits, or refunds), that generates significant income deferral or non-recognition, or that generates significant tax losses without corresponding cash impacts ("aggressive tax strategy"). If you fail to timely notify us, in writing, of any aggressive tax strategy you have entered into, you will be responsible for any liability, including but not limited to, additional tax, penalties, interest and related professional fees.

### Client Responsibilities

You acknowledge and agree that your failure to comply with the responsibilities enumerated in this section may result in economic or other loss to you, such as disallowance of tax deductions or credits claimed, additional tax, penalties or interest assessed against you, or loss of administrative rights. You agree to accept responsibility for any consequences of your failure to fulfill your responsibilities.

You agree to provide us with a copy of the most recent trust documents, a trial balance, and other supporting data that we may request, including any required trust accounting necessary to prepare your tax returns. You are responsible for providing us with accurate and complete information, including income and activities outside of the U.S. or your home state.

### On-line Access to Information

To the extent you provide our firm with access to electronic data via a local or online database from which we will download your trial balance or other information, you agree that the data is accurate as of the date and time you authorize it to be downloaded.

### Documentation

You are responsible for maintaining adequate documentation to substantiate the accuracy and completeness of your tax return. Our records are not a substitute for yours. You should retain all documents that provide evidence and support for reported income, credits, deductions, and other information on your return, as required under applicable tax laws and regulations. You represent that you have such documentation and can produce it, if necessary, to respond to any examination or inquiry by tax authorities. You will be responsible for any liability, including but not limited to, additional tax, penalties, interest and related professional fees, resulting from the disallowance of tax deductions due to inadequate documentation.

### Personal Expenses

You are responsible for ensuring that personal expenses, if any, are segregated from business expenses and that expenses such as meals, travel, vehicle use, gifts, and related expenses are supported by documentation and records required by the IRS and other tax authorities.

## State and Local Filing Obligations

You are responsible for determining your tax filing obligations with any state or local tax authorities, including, but not limited to, income, franchise, sales, use, and property taxes or abandoned and unclaimed property. The preparation of any state or local tax return not listed above is not within the scope of our engagement. If, upon review of the information you have provided to us, including information that comes to our attention, we believe that you may have additional filing obligations, we will notify you. You will be responsible for penalties associated with the failure to file or untimely filing of any form for which we were or were not engaged to prepare.

## U.S. Filing Obligations Related to Foreign Financial Assets

U.S. persons generally must report income and activities related to both domestic and foreign assets (worldwide income). You are responsible for fulfilling your filing obligations related to foreign activity where required. U.S. reporting requirements related to foreign activity are very complex. **Contact us immediately** if you have:

- Ownership of, investment in, or officer responsibilities for a corporation, partnership, or other business entity formed under the laws of another country;
- Fiduciary, grantor, or beneficiary relationships in connection with an entity formed under the laws of another country;
- Ownership of, signature authority over, or control over any financial account held in a financial institution located in another country;
- Citizenship or government-approved employment/visa status with a country other than the U.S. (including anyone in your immediate household, or your parents who live outside the U.S.);
- Transferred property, including cash, offshore either directly or through the purchase of or investment in an entity formed under the laws of another country;
- Received or have legally-recognizable rights to receive property, including cash, from a trust, business, or investment formed under the laws of another country or individual residing in another country;
- Conducted business with any entity or person physically located in another country, regardless of whether such business is for-profit, not for-profit, or informal/irregular;
- Received property, including cash, or income from a source outside of the U.S. which is not reported on a brokerage statement (such as a 1099-B or similar report); or
- Any other activity or economic arrangement which takes place outside of the U.S.

Based upon the information you provide, we will use this data to inform you of any additional filing requirements, which may include FinCEN Form 114, *Report of Foreign Bank and Financial Accounts* ("FBAR"). The FBAR is not a tax return and its preparation is not within the scope of this engagement.

Failure to timely file the required forms may result in substantial civil and/or criminal penalties. By your signature below, you agree to provide us with complete and accurate information regarding any foreign investments in which you have a direct or indirect interest, or over which you have signature authority, during the above referenced tax year.

If you have any questions regarding the application of the reporting requirements for your foreign interests or activities, please ask us and we will respond in writing. You will be responsible for tax due, penalties, and interest associated with the failure to file or untimely filing of any of these forms.

## Foreign Filing Obligations

You are responsible for complying with the tax filing requirements of any other country. You acknowledge and agree that we have no responsibility to raise these issues with you and that foreign filing obligations are not within the scope of this engagement.

## Digital Assets

There are specific tax implications of investing in digital assets (e.g., virtual currencies such as Bitcoin, non-fungible tokens, virtual real estate and similar assets). The IRS considers these to be property for U.S. federal income tax purposes. As such, any transactions in, or transactions that use, digital assets are subject to the same general tax principles that apply to other property transactions.

If you transacted in digital assets during the tax year, you may have tax consequences and/or additional reporting obligations associated with such transactions. Depending on the nature or volume of these transactions, a change to the scope of our services may be required. You are responsible for providing us with complete and accurate information regarding any transactions in, or transactions that have used, digital assets during the applicable tax year.

#### Ultimate Responsibility

You have final responsibility for the accuracy of your estate/trust's tax return. We will provide you with a copy of your electronic tax return and accompanying schedules and statements for review prior to filing with the IRS, state and local tax authorities, as applicable. You agree to review and examine them carefully for accuracy and completeness.

You will be required to verify and sign a completed Form 8879-F, *IRS e-file Signature Authorization for Form 1041*, and any similar state and local equivalent authorization form before your returns can be filed electronically. We shall not be liable for any penalties or interest resulting from your failure to timely sign and return Form 8879-F or state equivalents. We will not file an extension on your behalf if you fail to timely sign and return Form 8879 or state equivalents.

If we are unable to file your return(s) electronically, we will deliver to you a paper copy suitable for mailing to the taxing authorities. Once delivered to you, you bear full responsibility for reviewing the paper returns for accuracy, and either signing and timely filing them, along with any payments due, or notifying us of any issue which may need to be addressed prior to filing.

You have final responsibility for the payment of your taxes in whatever amount ultimately determined. If you choose, you may opt to have funds automatically withdrawn from a designated account and transmitted when your tax return is electronically filed. We will not transmit partial payments. It is your responsibility to provide us with correct account and routing numbers, to review this information for accuracy prior to submission of your return, and to ensure that sufficient funds are available at the time of payment. We shall have no liability for any tax due, penalties, interest, or overdraft charges which may result from your failure to ensure sufficient funds are available at the time of payment.

Once your return is complete (e-file acceptance or provision of a paper copy to you), we shall have no obligation to update your returns for subsequent legislative or administrative changes or future judicial interpretations under this Agreement.

#### ***Timing of the Engagement***

Our services will conclude:

- on the later of:
  - the latest date of electronic acceptance of your 2023 tax returns by the relevant tax authority;
  - the date we deliver the paper copy of your returns to you; or
  - December 31, 2024 if, and only if, the actual method is used to calculate estimated tax vouchers for tax year ended December 31, 2024 as noted in the *Engagement Objective and Scope* section of this Agreement
- upon written notification by either party that the Agreement is terminated; or
- one (1) year from the execution date of this Agreement, whichever comes first.

#### ***Extensions of Time to File Tax Returns***

It may become necessary to apply for an extension of the filing deadline if there are unresolved issues or delays in processing, or if we do not receive all of the necessary information from you on a timely basis. Applying for an extension of time to file may limit your ability to make certain elections, extend the time available for a government agency to undertake an examination of your return and/or extend the statute of limitations to file a legal action. If we apply for an extension of time to file because you have not provided us all of the information needed to prepare the tax returns by the original due date, you agree to hold our firm harmless from any consequences arising from any election waived. All taxes owed are due

by the original filing due date. Additionally, extensions may affect your liability for penalties and interest or compliance with governmental or other deadlines.

We will automatically file an extension of your returns, if prepared by our office in the prior year. If you **DO NOT** want us to file an extension, please notify us as soon as possible.

***Penalties and Interest Charges***

Federal, state, and local tax authorities impose various penalties and interest charges for non-compliance with tax laws and regulations, including failure to file or late filing of returns, and underpayment of taxes. You, will be responsible for the payment of any additional tax, penalties, and interest charges imposed by tax authorities.

We appreciate the opportunity to serve you. Please date and execute the enclosed copy of this Agreement and return it to us to acknowledge your acceptance.

Very truly yours,



Rebecca Tucker, CPA

ACCEPTED:

---

Executor or Trustee

---

Date