



HAINES, ISENBARGER & SKIBA, LLC
CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

TERMS AND CONDITIONS

Form 1065

CPA Firm Responsibilities

Unless otherwise noted, we will perform our services in accordance with the Statements on Standards for Tax Services (SSTSs) issued by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants (AICPA) and U.S. Treasury Department Circular 230 (Circular 230). It is our duty to perform services with the same standard of care that a reasonable tax return preparer would exercise in this type of engagement. It is your responsibility to safeguard your assets and maintain accurate records pertaining to transactions. We will not hold your property in trust for you, or otherwise accept fiduciary duties in the performance of the engagement.

We will not make management decisions or perform management functions on your behalf.

Arguable Positions

We will use our professional judgment to resolve questions in your favor where a tax law is unclear, provided that we have a reasonable belief that there is substantial authority for doing so. If there are conflicting interpretations of the law, we will explain the possible positions that may be taken on your return. We will follow the position you request, provided it is consistent with our understanding of tax reference materials. Tax reference materials include, but are not limited to, the Internal Revenue Code (IRC), tax regulations, Revenue Rulings, Revenue Procedures, Private Letter Rulings, 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 in writing before services are performed and bill you for the required services. These services will be billed at our standard hourly rates and will be subject to the terms of this Agreement.

Tax Planning Services

Tax planning services are not within the scope of this engagement. However, during the period covered by this Agreement, you may ask questions, or we may, at our sole discretion, bring to your attention potential tax planning opportunities for your consideration (collectively “additional services”). Prior to proceeding with any additional services beyond those in the *Engagement Objective and Scope* section of this Agreement, we will confirm our understanding of the scope of the additional services with you in writing. Additional services will be billed at our standard hourly rates and will be subject to the terms of this Agreement.

Government Inquiries

This engagement does not include responding to inquiries by any governmental agency or tax authority. If your tax return is selected for examination or audit, you may request our assistance in responding to such an inquiry. If you ask us to represent you, and we agree, we will confirm this engagement in a separate written agreement.

Third Party Requests

We will not respond to any request from banks, mortgage brokers, or others for verification of any information reported on these tax returns. We do not communicate with third parties or provide them with copies of tax returns.

Tax Advice

Any advice we may provide is based upon tax reference materials, facts, assumptions, and representations that are subject to change. We will not update our advice after the conclusion of the engagement for subsequent legislative or administrative changes or future judicial interpretations. To the extent we provide written advice concerning federal tax matters, we will follow the guidance contained in Circular 230, §10.37, Requirements for Written Advice.

Tax Return Preparer Standards, Reportable Transactions and Tax Shelters

Pursuant to the standards prescribed in Circular 230 and IRC §6694, we, as tax return preparers, are prohibited from signing a tax return unless we have a reasonable belief that there is substantial authority for a tax position taken on the tax return, or we have a reasonable basis for the tax return position taken on the return, and we disclose this tax position in a separate attachment to the tax return.

The law imposes substantial penalties on taxpayers and tax advisors for failure to disclose listed and other reportable transactions on Form 8886, Reportable Transaction Disclosure Statement. In general, reportable transactions are potentially abusive transactions identified by the IRS that have a primary purpose of tax avoidance, including but not limited to listed transactions, confidential transactions, transactions with contractual protection, loss transactions, and transactions of interest (a definition of “reportable transactions” is located at <https://www.irs.gov/instructions/i8886> and includes a link to a summary of listed transactions).

The law imposes substantial penalties on taxpayers and tax advisors for failure to disclose tax shelters on Form 8271, Investor Reporting of a Tax Shelter Registration Number. A tax shelter is defined in IRC §6662(d)(2)(C) as a partnership or other entity, investment plan or arrangement, or any other plan or arrangement if a significant purpose of such partnership, entity, plan or arrangement is the avoidance or evasion of federal income tax.

You agree to advise us of any tax shelters and/or reportable transactions identified in tax reference materials. Unless a reportable transaction is more likely than not to be sustained on its merits, IRC §6662A, Imposition of Accuracy-Related Penalty on Understatements with Respect to Reportable Transactions, requires us to disclose the reportable transaction in a separate attachment to the tax return. Similarly, unless a tax shelter is more likely than not to be sustained on its merits, IRC §6662(d)(2)(C)(ii), Imposition of Accuracy-Related Penalty on Underpayments, requires us to disclose tax shelters in a separate attachment to the tax return.

If you do not consent to a required disclosure, we may be unable to prepare your tax returns.

You will be responsible for any liability, including but not limited to, additional tax, penalties, interest and related professional fees resulting from your failure to timely notify us, in writing, of any tax shelters and/or reportable transactions identified in tax reference materials in order to facilitate the timely preparation and filing of your tax returns.

Client Responsibilities

You will provide us with a trial balance and other supporting data necessary to prepare your tax returns. You must provide us with accurate and complete information. Income from all sources, including those outside of the U.S., is required to be reported.

Transfer Pricing

Your transactions with related parties are subject to the transfer pricing rules of IRC §482, Allocation of Income and Deductions Among Taxpayers, which require that such transactions are conducted in an arm's length manner. Taxpayers who do not have the required documentation may be subject to significant penalties if transfer pricing adjustments are sustained upon examination by the IRS. You acknowledge and confirm that you are able to document your transfer pricing policies in accordance with IRC §482 and §6662, Imposition of Accuracy-Related Penalty on Underpayments, and the regulations thereunder in order to reduce this risk. If you ask us to conduct a transfer pricing study, and we agree, we will confirm this engagement in a separate written agreement.

Changes in Ownership

You are responsible for advising us of any changes in ownership, including the death of a partner, so that it may be properly reflected on the tax returns.

Partnership or Limited Liability Company (LLC) Agreement

You should review your partnership (or LLC) agreement with your attorney to ensure that it addresses the significant changes to the partnership audit regime that generally apply to partnership returns filed after 2018. These changes include, but are not limited to the following:

- Replacement of a “tax matters partner” with a “partnership representative,”
- Current partners being held responsible for tax liabilities of prior partners,
- The partnership being held responsible for remittance of additional tax, rather than individual partners being taxed, and
- Numerous elections or opt-outs that the “partnership representative” may direct us to make.

You should review your partnership or LLC agreement to ensure that it meets your goals for the transfer of ownership and distribution of income. Often, partnership agreements fail to address the transfer of ownership or may require updating as circumstances change. A review of your partnership or LLC agreement is not within the scope of this engagement.

Tax Basis Schedules

The tax return may be required to disclose the partner's capital account analysis as prepared on the tax basis method using the transactional approach. This analysis is necessary to determine the partner's ability to deduct losses, calculate the gain on the sale of a partnership interest, and for other calculations. As a result, properly calculating the partner's capital account is necessary for preparation of partner tax returns. Unless told otherwise, we will rely upon the historical balances disclosed on last year's tax return. If these balances cannot be relied upon and you ask us to prepare this analysis, and we agree, we will confirm this service in a separate written agreement.

Allocation of Partnership Income and Expenses

You are responsible for verifying the accuracy of both the allocation of partnership income in accordance with the terms of the partnership agreement and the partnership income calculations used in the preparation of the tax returns.

The Treasury Department has proposed regulations under IRC §752, Treatment of Certain Liabilities, concerning transactions between partners and the partnership, on the allocation among partners of partnership level debt, and disguised sales under IRC §707, Transactions Between Partner and Partnership. If you ask us to evaluate compliance with IRC §707 and/or §752, and we agree, we will confirm this evaluation in a separate written agreement.

Partner Salaries

A partner or LLC member receiving a guaranteed salary payment is not regarded as an employee of the entity for the purpose of withholding or Social Security taxes. Any additional fringe benefits a partner or LLC member receives are not subject to withholding. These fringe benefits may, however, be included in the income of the partner or LLC member. You are responsible for informing us of the total guaranteed payments, including fringe benefits, received by each partner or LLC member.

Schedule K-1 Distribution

You are responsible for distributing a copy of the partnership or LLC's Schedule K-1s to each partner or member.

Documentation

You are responsible for maintaining adequate documentation to substantiate the accuracy and completeness of your tax returns. 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 returns, 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 audit 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. At your written request, we are available to provide you with written answers to your questions on the types of supporting records required.

State and Local Filing Obligations

You are responsible for determining your 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. 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 acknowledge that the scope of our services under this Agreement does not include any services related to your compliance with filing obligations other than those identified in the *Engagement Objective and Scope* section of this Agreement. If you ask us to

prepare any other returns, and we agree, we will confirm this engagement in a separate written agreement. You will be responsible for penalties associated with the failure to file or untimely filing of any form for which we were not engaged to prepare.

U.S. Filing Obligations Related to Foreign Investments

Based on the information you provide, you may have additional filing obligations, including but not limited to:

- Ownership of or an officer relationship with respect to certain foreign corporations (Form 5471);
- Foreign-owned U.S. corporation or domestic disregarded entity (Form 5472);
- Foreign corporation engaged in a U.S. trade or business (Form 5472);
- U.S. transferor of property to a foreign corporation (Form 926);
- U.S. person with an interest in a foreign trust (Forms 3520 and 3520-A);
- U.S. person with interests in a foreign partnership (Form 8865);
- U.S. person with interests in a foreign disregarded entity (Form 8858); or
- Statement of specified foreign assets (Form 8938).

You are responsible for informing us of all foreign assets owned directly or indirectly, including but not limited to financial accounts with foreign institutions, other foreign non-account investments, and ownership of any foreign entities, regardless of amount. 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 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 filing with the IRS, state and local tax authorities regardless of the nature of the claim, including the negligence of any party, excepting claims arising from the gross negligence or intentional wrongful acts of Haines, Isenbarger & Skiba.

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.

The foreign reporting requirements are very complex. 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 penalties 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. You agree to provide us with complete and accurate information regarding any transactions in, or transactions that have used, digital assets during the applicable tax year. If you have any questions regarding your digital assets and/or transactions, please ask us, and we will respond in writing.

Employment Records

You are responsible for obtaining Form I-9, Employment Eligibility Verification, from each new employee at the time of employment. In addition, Form W-4, Employee's Withholding Allowance Certificate, and the applicable state equivalent, should be retained for all employees. Failure to obtain these forms may subject an employer to penalties. Additional state requirements related to employment records may exist. At your written request, we are available to provide written answers to your questions on required documentation.

Worker Classification

You acknowledge and confirm that you, in consultation with other professional advisors, as needed, are responsible for determining the correctness of any worker classification. Payroll tax withholding and related employer payroll tax implications result from this determination. We cannot advise you with respect to worker classification and will rely upon your determination of same.

We recommend obtaining a signed contract and signed Form W-9, Request for Taxpayer Identification Number and Certification, or Form W-8BEN, Certificate of Foreign Status of Beneficial Owner for United States Tax Withholding and Reporting (Individuals,) from all independent contractors. You should provide all independent contractors with both forms and let them determine the form (W-9 or W-8BEN) that reflects their status.

You should also issue a Form 1099-NEC, Nonemployee Compensation, to all unincorporated independent domestic contractors to whom you pay \$600 or more for services. For those who provided a completed Form W-8BEN, a Form 1042-S must be issued to individuals if any payment is made from U.S. sources that would be deemed to be fixed or determinable annual or periodical income or other types of income included in the instructions, even if these payments are subject to a reduced income tax withholding rate or are exempt from income tax withholding due to an income tax treaty. In addition, state rules should also be reviewed to determine if state taxes are required to be withheld and separate returns completed for any independent contractor. At your written request, we are available to provide written answers to your questions on required documentation.

Some of these filings are due as early as January 31, 2023, with significant penalties assessed for late filing, non-filing, and filing of incorrect information. Preparation of these forms is not within the scope of this Agreement. If you ask us to prepare these forms, and we agree, we will confirm

this engagement in a separate written agreement. If you fail to adhere to the filing deadlines, you will be responsible for any penalties, interest and related professional fees for the improper filing.

Ultimate Responsibility

You have final responsibility for the accuracy of your tax returns. We will provide you with a copy of your electronic tax returns 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-PE, *IRS e-file Signature Authorization for Form 1065*, and any similar state and local equivalent authorization form before your returns can be filed electronically.

In the event that you do not wish to have your tax returns filed electronically, please contact our firm. You will be responsible for reviewing the paper returns for accuracy, signing them, and filing them timely with the tax authorities.