



**HAINES, ISENBARGER & SKIBA, LLC**  
CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

## **TERMS AND CONDITIONS**

Form 990

### **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.

Haines, Isenbarger & Skiba 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.

### *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.

### **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.

#### *Reasonable Compensation*

You are responsible for determining the appropriate salary or wage to pay employees. If the IRS determines that the organization failed to pay appropriate salaries or wages, the IRS may reclassify the payments. As a result of the reclassification, the organization may be responsible for tax, penalties and interest on the payments in addition to potential employment taxes on the reclassified amounts. You will be responsible for any liability, including but not limited to, additional tax, penalties, interest and related professional fees, resulting from any reclassification.

#### *Unrelated Business Taxable Income*

If your organization produces revenue from a trade or business activity not directly related to its tax-exempt purpose, it may have unrelated business taxable income that must be reported separately from other income. You are responsible for informing us of any potential unrelated business taxable income. At your written request, we are available to provide you with written answers to your questions on this matter.

#### *Other Responsibilities of Not-for-Profit Organizations*

As a non-profit organization, you are subject to additional obligations including but not limited to:

- Maintaining state registrations related to solicitations with state charitable divisions;
- Meeting the public support test; and
- Maintaining non-profit status by timely filing tax returns.

You acknowledge that these are solely your responsibilities. If you would like assistance in understanding your responsibilities, and we agree, we will confirm this engagement in a separate written agreement.

#### *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 domestic independent 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-EO, *IRS e-file Signature Authorization for an Exempt Organization*, 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.