

AGREEMENT
(Second of Three Renewals)

THIS AGREEMENT, made and entered into on this 7th day of JUNE, 2024, by and between **JACKSON COUNTY, MISSOURI**, by and through its County Executive, hereinafter called "the County," and **ALLEN, GIBBS, HOULIK, L.C. (AGH), 10801 MASTIN ST., SUITE 250, OVERLAND PARK, KS, 66210**, hereinafter called "Auditor."

WITNESSETH:

WHEREAS, the County has determined that it is in the best interest of its citizens to hire independent public accountants to provide auditing services of Jackson County financial statements for the 2023 fiscal year end and future County fiscal years if mutually agreed upon; and,

WHEREAS, the County issued Request for Proposals (RFP) No. 80-21 and received five responses thereon; and,

WHEREAS, the evaluation committee interviewed and evaluated the respondents and recommended an award to Auditor as the best overall response; and,

WHEREAS, this Agreement was authorized by Resolution 20887, dated February 28, 2022; and,

WHEREAS, Auditor has agreed to perform consulting work in accordance with the terms, conditions, and covenants as set forth in this Agreement; and,

WHEREAS, Auditor and the County have agreed to be bound by the provisions hereof,

FILED

JUN 07 2024

MARY JO SPINO
COUNTY CLERK

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the foregoing and the terms and provisions herein contained, County and Auditor respectively agree as follows:

1. Professional Services. Auditor shall fulfill its contractual obligations by providing an Annual Comprehensive Financial Report and audit of the financial records of Jackson County, Missouri, as more fully set out in County's RFP 80-21, Auditor's response thereto, and in Auditor's arrangement letter attached hereto as Exhibit A, which are all incorporated herein and made a part of this Agreement, provided that, should there be any conflicts between the terms and conditions set forth therein with the terms of this Agreement, the terms of this Agreement shall govern.

2. Independent Contractor. Auditor shall work as an independent contractor and not as an employee of the County. Auditor shall be subject to the direction of the County only as to the result to be accomplished and not as to the means and methods for accomplishing the result. Auditor shall report all earnings received hereunder as its gross income, and be responsible for its own Federal, State, and City withholding taxes and all other taxes, and shall operate its business independent of the business of the County, except as required by this Agreement.

3. Terms for Payment. Auditor shall receive a flat fee of \$146,850.00 for its work under this Agreement in connection with the 2023 year-end audit. Auditor shall submit monthly statements to the County's Director of Finance and Purchasing, based on estimated percentage of work completed, and the County shall process such statements for payment promptly upon receipt.

4. Duration and Termination. This Agreement shall commence upon execution and continue until the services for the 2023 year-end audit have been completed, unless sooner terminated. Auditor or the County may terminate this Agreement for any reason by giving three (3) days' written notice to the other party. Termination of this Agreement shall not constitute a waiver of the rights or obligations which County or Auditor may be entitled to receive or be obligated to perform under this Agreement for services prior to the date of termination, but payment pursuant to paragraph 3 of this Agreement shall terminate as of the date of said notice, and shall be prorated through that date. Should this Agreement terminate, all County written materials of any kind must be delivered and returned by the Auditor to the County within ten (10) days of the termination of this Agreement. Upon mutual agreement of the parties, this Agreement may be renewed annually for audits through the year 2024. In the event of a renewal, the maximum compensation to be paid to Auditor for its services for each year shall be as set out in Auditor's response to RFP 80-21.

5. Assignment. Auditor agrees, in addition to all other provisions herein, that Auditor shall not assign any portion or the whole of this contract without the prior written consent of the County.

6. Time of the Essence. Timely performance of all duties provided herein is of the essence of this Agreement.

7. Remedies for Breach. Auditor agrees to faithfully observe and perform all of the terms and conditions of this Agreement, and Auditor's failure to do so shall represent and constitute a breach of this Agreement. In such event, Auditor consents and agrees as follows:

- (1) The County may without prior notice to Auditor immediately terminate this

Agreement; and,

(2) The County shall be entitled to seek any available legal remedy and to collect from Auditor all costs incurred by the County as a result of said breach including reasonable attorney's fees, costs, and expenses.

8. Severability. If any covenant or other provision of this Agreement is invalid, or incapable of being enforced, by reasons of any rule of law or public policy, all other conditions and provisions of this Agreement shall nevertheless remain in full force and effect and no covenant or provision shall be deemed dependent upon any other covenant or provision unless so expressed herein.

9. Appropriation of Funds. County promises and covenants to make its best efforts to appropriate funds in accordance with this Agreement. In the event that no funds or in the event that insufficient funds are appropriated and budgeted or are otherwise unavailable by any means whatsoever for payments due hereunder, County shall immediately notify Auditor of this occurrence and this Agreement shall terminate and be rendered null and void on the last day of the fiscal period for which appropriations were made without penalty, liability or expense to the County of any kind, except as to (i) the portions of the amounts due under this agreement for which funds shall have been appropriated and budgeted or are otherwise available and (ii) County's other obligations and liabilities under this agreement relating to, accruing or arising prior to such termination.

10. Conflict of Interest. Auditor warrants that no officer or employee of the County, whether elected or appointed, shall in any manner whatsoever be interested in or receive any benefit from the profits or emoluments of this contract.

11. Employment of Unauthorized Aliens Prohibited. Pursuant to §285.530.1, RSMo, Organization assures that it does not knowingly employ, hire for employment, or continue to employ an unauthorized alien to perform work within the State of Missouri and/or Jackson County, and shall affirm, by sworn affidavit and provision of documentation, its enrollment and participation in a federal work authorization program with respect to the employees working in connection with the contracted services. Further, Organization shall sign an affidavit, attached hereto and incorporated herein as Exhibit B, affirming that it does not knowingly employ any person who is an unauthorized alien in connection with the contracted services.

12. Incorporation. This Agreement incorporates the entire understanding and agreement of the parties.


IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties hereto have signed and executed this Agreement on the date first above written.

ALLEN, GIBBS, HOULIK, L.C. (AGH)

JACKSON COUNTY, MISSOURI

By 
Federal Tax I.D. No.: 48-1032601

By 
Frank White, Jr.
County Executive

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Bryan O. Covinsky
County Counselor

ATTEST:

Mary Jo Spino
Clerk of the Legislature

REVENUE CERTIFICATE

I hereby certify that there is a balance otherwise unencumbered to the credit of the appropriation to which this contract is chargeable, and a cash balance otherwise unencumbered in the treasury from which payment is to be made, each sufficient to meet the obligation of \$146,850.00 which is hereby authorized.

6-3-2024
Date



Director of Finance and Purchasing
Account No. 001-1404-56010
SCON-10000648 DM

WORK AUTHORIZATION AFFIDAVIT

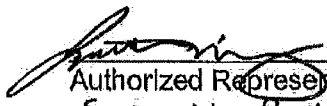
As a condition for any service provided to the County, a business entity shall, by sworn affidavit and provision of documentation, affirm its enrollment and participation in a federal work authorization program with respect to the employees working in connection with the contracted services.

Business entity, as defined in section 285.525, RSMo pertaining to section 285.530, RSMo, is any person or group of persons performing or engaging in any activity, enterprise, profession, or occupation for gain, benefit, advantage, or livelihood. The term "business entity" shall include but not be limited to self-employed individuals, partnerships, corporations, contractors, and subcontractors. The term "business entity" shall include any business entity that possesses a business permit, license, or tax certificate issued by the state, any business entity that is exempt by law from obtaining such a business permit, and any business entity that is operating unlawfully without such a business permit.

Every such business entity shall complete the following affidavit affirming that it does not knowingly employ any person who is an unauthorized alien in connection with the contracted services. The completed affidavit must be returned as a part of the contract documentation.

This affidavit affirms that **ALLEN, GIBBS, HOULIK, L.C. (AGH)** is enrolled in, and is currently participating in, E-verify or any other equivalent electronic verification of work authorization operated by the United States Department of Homeland Security under the Immigration Reform and Control Act of 1986 (IRCA); and, **ALLEN, GIBBS, HOULIK, L.C. (AGH)**, does not knowingly employ any person who is an unauthorized alien in conjunction with the contracted services.

In Affirmation thereof, the facts stated above are true and correct. (The undersigned understands that false statements made in this filing are subject to the penalties provided under section 575.040, RSMo.)



Authorized Representative's Signature
Senior Vice President

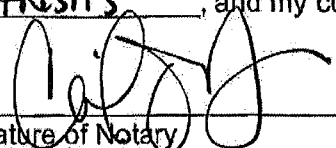
Title

Jonathan Nibarger

Printed Name
6/4/24

Date

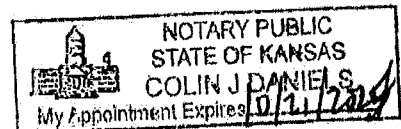
Subscribed and sworn before me this 4 day of JUNE, ~~2023~~ 2024. I am commissioned as a notary public within the County of JOHNSON, State of KANSAS, and my commission expires on 10/21/2025.



Signature of Notary

06/04/2024

Date





March 27, 2024

The Honorable County Executive
and Members of the County Legislature
Jackson County, Missouri
415 East 12th Street
Room 105
Kansas City, Missouri 64106

Attention: County Executive and Members of the County Legislature:

The Objective and Scope of the Audit of the Financial Statements

You have requested that Allen, Gibbs & Houlik, L.C. ("AGH", "we", "us", or "our"), audit Jackson County, Missouri's (County) governmental activities, business-type activities, each major fund, and aggregate remaining fund information as of and for the year ending December 31, 2023, which collectively comprise the basic financial statements. We will not audit the financial statements of the discretely presented component unit (Developmental Disability Services) or the pension trust fund. Those financial statements will be audited by component auditors. We will also a) report on whether supplementary information is fairly stated, in all material respects, in relation to the financial statements as a whole, and b) apply certain limited procedures to the required supplementary information in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America.

We are pleased to confirm our acceptance and our understanding of this audit engagement by means of this letter ("Engagement Letter").

The objectives of our audit are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not absolute assurance and therefore is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America ("GAAS") and *Government Auditing Standards* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States ("GAS") will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if there is a substantial likelihood that, individually or in the aggregate, they would influence the judgment made by a reasonable user based on the financial statements. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of controls.

You have also requested that AGH perform the audit of the County as of December 31, 2023 to satisfy the audit requirements imposed by the Single Audit Act and Subpart F of Title 2 U.S. Code of Federal Regulations ("CFR") Part 200, *Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards* ("Uniform Guidance").

The Responsibilities of the Auditor

We will conduct our audit in accordance with GAAS, GAS, the Uniform Guidance, and the U.S. Office of Management and Budget's ("OMB") Compliance Supplement. Those standards, regulations, or supplements require that we comply with applicable ethical requirements. As part of an audit in

accordance with GAAS, GAS, the Uniform Guidance, and the supplement, we exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, based on an understanding of the entity and its environment, the applicable financial reporting framework, and the entity's system of internal control, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.
- Consider the entity's system of internal control in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the County's internal control. However, we will communicate to you in writing concerning any significant deficiencies or material weaknesses in internal control relevant to the audit of the financial statements that we have identified during the audit.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluate the overall presentation of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.
- Conclude, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the County's ability to continue as a going concern for a reasonable period of time.

Because of the inherent limitations of an audit, together with the inherent limitations of controls, an unavoidable risk that some material misstatements may not be detected exists, even though the audit is properly planned and performed in accordance with GAAS and GAS. Because the determination of waste or abuse is subjective, GAS does not require auditors to perform specific procedures to detect waste or abuse in financial statement audits.

We will communicate to the County Executive and Members of the County Legislature of Jackson County, Missouri (a) any fraud involving senior management and fraud (whether caused by senior management or other employees) that causes a material misstatement of the financial statements that becomes known to us during the audit and (b) any instances of noncompliance with laws and regulations that we become aware of during the audit (unless they are clearly inconsequential).

We are responsible for the compliance audit of major programs under the Uniform Guidance, including the determination of major programs, the consideration of internal control over compliance, and reporting responsibilities.

Our report(s) on internal control over financial reporting and over compliance for major programs will include any significant deficiencies and material weaknesses in internal control over financial reporting and over compliance for major programs of which we become aware as a result of obtaining an understanding of internal control and performing tests of internal control over financial reporting and over compliance for major programs consistent with requirements of the standards and regulations identified above. Our report(s) on compliance matters will address material errors, fraud, violations of compliance obligations, and other responsibilities imposed by state and federal statutes and regulations or assumed by contracts; and any state or federal grant, entitlement or loan program questioned costs of which we become aware, consistent with requirements of the standards and regulations identified above.

We will maintain our independence in accordance with the standards of the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants ("AICPA")

The Responsibilities of Management and Identification of the Applicable Financial Reporting Framework

Management is responsible for:

1. Identifying and ensuring that the County complies with the laws and regulations applicable to its activities, and for informing us about all known violations of such laws or regulations, other than those that are clearly inconsequential;
2. The design and implementation of programs and controls to prevent and detect fraud, and for informing us about all known or suspected fraud affecting the entity involving management, employees who have significant roles in internal control, and others where the fraud could have a material effect on the financial statements; and
3. Informing us of its knowledge of any allegations of fraud or suspected fraud affecting the County received in communications from employees, former employees, analysts, regulators, short sellers, vendors, customers or others.

Management is responsible for the preparation of the required supplementary information ("RSI") which accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America ("U.S. GAAP") require to be presented to supplement the basic financial statements. Management is also responsible for the preparation of the supplementary information presented in relation to the financial statements as a whole in accordance with U.S. GAAP. Management agrees to include the auditor's report on the supplementary information in any document that contains the supplementary information and indicates that the auditor has reported on such supplementary information. Management also agrees to present the supplementary information with the audited financial statements or, if the supplementary information will not be presented with the audited financial statements, to make the audited financial statements readily available to the intended users of the supplementary information no later than the date of issuance of the supplementary information and the auditor's report thereon.

The County Executive and Members of the County Legislature are responsible for informing us of their views about the risks of fraud within the County, and their knowledge of any fraud or suspected fraud affecting the County.

Our audit will be conducted on the basis that management and, when appropriate, those charged with governance acknowledges and understands that they have responsibility:

1. For the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America ("U.S. GAAP");
2. To evaluate subsequent events through the date the financial statements are issued. Management also agrees that it will not conclude on subsequent events earlier than the date of the management representation letter referred to below;
3. For the design, implementation and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error;

4. For report distribution; and
5. To provide us with:
 - a. Access to all information of which management is aware that is relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements, including information relevant to disclosures;
 - b. Draft financial statements, including information relevant to their preparation and fair presentation, when needed, to allow for the completion of the audit in accordance with the proposed timeline;
 - c. Additional information that we may request from management for the purpose of the audit; and
 - d. Unrestricted access to persons within the County from whom we determine it necessary to obtain audit evidence.

As part of our audit process, we will request from management and, when appropriate, those charged with governance written confirmation concerning representations made to us in connection with the audit, including among other items:

1. That management has fulfilled its responsibilities as set out in the terms of this Engagement Letter; and
2. That it believes the effects of any uncorrected misstatements aggregated by us during the current engagement and pertaining to the latest period presented are immaterial, both individually and in the aggregate, to the financial statements taken as a whole.

Because the audit will be performed in accordance with the Single Audit Act and the Uniform Guidance, management is responsible for (a) identifying all federal awards received and expended; (b) preparing and the fair presentation of the schedule of expenditures of federal awards (including notes and noncash assistance received) in accordance with Uniform Guidance requirements; (c) internal control over compliance; (d) compliance with federal statutes, regulations, and the terms and conditions of federal awards; (e) making us aware of significant vendor relationships where the vendor is responsible for program compliance; (f) following up and taking corrective action on audit findings, including the preparation of a summary schedule of prior audit findings and a corrective action plan; (g) timely and accurate completion of the data collection form and (h) submitting the reporting package and data collection form.

Reporting

We will issue a written report upon completion of our audit of the County's financial statements. Our report will be addressed to the County Executive and Members of the County Legislature of the County. Circumstances may arise in which our report may differ from its expected form and content based on the results of our audit. Depending on the nature of these circumstances, it may be necessary for us to modify our opinion, or add an emphasis-of-matter paragraph or other-matter paragraph to our auditor's report.

If circumstances arise relating to the condition of the County's records, the availability of appropriate audit evidence or indications of a significant risk of material misstatement of the financial statements because of error, fraudulent financial reporting or misappropriation of assets which, in our professional judgment, prevent us from completing the audit or forming an opinion, we retain the unilateral right to

take any course of action permitted by professional standards, including, but not limited to, declining to express an opinion or issue a report, or withdrawing from the engagement.

In addition to our report on the County's financial statements, we will also issue the following reports:

1. A report on the fairness of the presentation of the County's schedule of expenditures of federal awards for the year ending December 31, 2023;
2. Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting and on Compliance and Other Matters Based on an Audit of Financial Statements Performed in Accordance with GAS;
3. Report on Compliance for Each Major Federal Program and Report on Internal Control Over Compliance Required by the Uniform Guidance; and
4. An accompanying schedule of findings and questioned costs.

We will prepare the County's Data Collection Form filing with the Federal Audit Clearinghouse, which the County will be required to file. You acknowledge that you have the final responsibility for the filing and, therefore, you should review them carefully before you certify and submit it.

You have informed us that you intend to prepare an annual comprehensive financial report ("ACFR") and submit it for evaluation by the Government Finance Officers Association's Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting. Our association with other information in the ACFR consists of reviewing the ACFR based on the GFOA's financial statement checklist.

Records and Assistance

During the course of our engagement, we may accumulate records containing data that should be reflected in the County's books and records. The County will determine that all such data, if necessary, will be so reflected. Accordingly, the County will not expect us to maintain copies of such records in our possession.

The assistance to be supplied by County personnel, including the preparation of schedules and analyses of accounts, has been discussed and coordinated with Bob Crutsinger, Director of Finance & Purchasing. The timely and accurate completion of this work is an essential condition to our completion of the audit and issuance of our audit report.

Nonaudit Services

In connection with our audit, you have requested us to perform the following nonaudit services:

1. Preparation of the Data Collection Form.

GAS independence standards require that the auditor maintain independence so that opinions, findings, conclusions, judgments and recommendations will be impartial and viewed as impartial by reasonable and informed third parties. Before we agree to provide a non-audit service to the County, we determine whether providing such a service would create a significant threat to our independence for GAS audit purposes, either by itself or in aggregate with other non-audit services provided. A critical component of our determination is consideration of management's ability to effectively oversee the non-audit services to be performed. The County has agreed that Bob Crutsinger, Director of Finance and Purchasing possesses suitable skill, knowledge or experience and that the individual understands the

nonaudit services to be performed and described above sufficiently to oversee them. Accordingly, the management of the County agrees to the following:

1. The County has designated Bob Crutsinger, Director of Finance and Purchasing as a senior member of management who possesses suitable skill, knowledge and experience to oversee the services;
2. Bob Crutsinger, Director of Finance and Purchasing will assume all management responsibilities for subject matter and scope of the preparation of the data collection form;
3. The County will evaluate the adequacy and results of the services performed; and
4. The County accepts responsibility for the results and ultimate use of the services.

GAS further requires that we establish an understanding with the County's management or those charged with governance of the objectives of the non-audit services, the services to be performed, the County's acceptance of its responsibilities, the auditor's responsibilities and any limitations of the non-audit services. We believe this Engagement Letter documents that understanding.

Parties' Understandings Concerning Situation Around COVID-19

To the extent any of the services described herein require a party to visit ("Visiting Party") the other party's facilities ("Host Party") in person, the Visiting Party agrees to comply with the Host Party's rules and regulations regarding COVID-19 safety protocols while on the Host Party's premises, provided the Visiting Party is made aware of such rules and regulations. Further, in the event any of the services described herein need to be suspended and/or rescheduled by a party due to the ongoing situation surrounding COVID-19, the party requesting the suspension or rescheduling of the services will provide the other party with prompt written notice of the foregoing. To the extent such suspension and/or rescheduling of the services impacts either the cost of the services or the ability of the County or AGH to meet any deadlines or timeframes set forth herein, or both, the parties will document this in a written agreement mutually agreed upon and executed by both parties.

Other Relevant Information

In accordance with GAS, a copy of our most recent peer review report is enclosed for your information.

Fees and Costs

Our fees for the services described above are based upon the value of the services performed and the time required by the individuals assigned to the engagement plus expenses, including report processing, travel, meals, fees for services from other professionals, if applicable, and technology, photocopying, postage and clerical assistance. The aggregate professional fees for the services discussed above, excluding out-of-pocket, will be \$146,850. Our fee estimate and completion of our work are based upon the following criteria:

1. Anticipated cooperation from County personnel
2. Timely responses to our inquiries
3. Timely completion and delivery of client assistance requests
4. Timely communication of all significant accounting and financial reporting matters
5. The assumption that unexpected circumstances will not be encountered during the engagement

If any of the aforementioned criteria are not met, then fees may increase. Interim billings will be submitted as work progresses and as expenses are incurred. Billings are due upon submission.

All matters related to the County's adoption of any new standard pursuant to accounting or auditing matters will be accounted for and billed separately.

Use of Subcontractors and Third-Party Products

We may, in our sole discretion, use qualified third-party service providers to assist us in providing professional services to you. In such circumstances, it may be necessary for us to disclose Confidential Information (as such term is defined below) to them. We may share your information, including Confidential Information, with these third-party service providers. You acknowledge and agree that our use of a third-party service provider may involve the processing, input, disclosure, movement, transfer, and storage of your information and data outside of our technology infrastructure. We will be responsible to you for the performance of our third-party service providers, solely as related to the services performed under this Engagement Letter, subject to all limitations and disclaimers set forth herein.

We also may provide services to you using certain third-party hardware, software, equipment, or products (collectively, "Third-Party Products" and each, individually, a "Third-Party Product"). You acknowledge that the use of a Third-Party Product may involve the processing, input, disclosure, movement, transfer, and storage of information provided by or on behalf of you to us, including Confidential Information and Personal Information, within the Third-Party Product's infrastructure and not ours. You further acknowledge that the terms of use and service, including, but not limited to, applicable laws, set forth in the end-user license, end-user subscription agreement, or other end-user agreement for such Third-Party Product (collectively, "EULA(s)") will govern all obligations of such licensor relating to data privacy, storage, recovery, security, and processing within such Third-Party Product's infrastructure, as well as, the service levels associated with such Third-Party Product. You hereby consent to the disclosure of your information, including your Confidential Information and Personal Information, to the licensors of such Third-Party Products for the purpose described herein.

To the extent AGH gives the County access to a Third-Party Product in connection with the services contemplated herein, the County agrees to comply with the terms of any applicable EULA for such Third-Party Product, and the County shall be solely responsible for the improper use of a Third-Party Product or a violation of the applicable EULA for such Third-Party Product, by the County, or any user to whom the County grants access to such Third-Party Product. The County agrees to indemnify and hold AGH harmless from and against any claims, actions, lawsuits, proceedings, judgments, liens, losses, damages, costs, expenses, fees (including reasonable legal fees, expenses, and costs), and other liabilities relating to, or arising from or out of, the improper use of a Third-Party Product, or a violation of the terms of the applicable EULA for such Third-Party Product, by the County, or any user to whom the County grants access to such Third-Party Product.

You acknowledge that the use of Third-Party Products may be subject to limitations, delays, interruptions, errors, and other problems which are beyond our control, including, without limitation, internet outage or lack of availability related to updates, upgrades, patches, fixes, maintenance, or other issues. We will not be liable for any delays, delivery failures, or other losses or damages resulting from such issues. Nor will we be held responsible or liable for any loss, or unauthorized use or disclosure, of any information or data provided by you, including, without limitation, Personal Information provided by you, resulting from the use of a Third-Party Product.

Use and Ownership; Access to Audit Documentation

The Audit Documentation for this engagement is the property of AGH. For the purposes of this Engagement Letter, the term "Audit Documentation" shall mean the confidential and proprietary records of AGH's audit procedures performed, relevant audit evidence obtained, other audit-related

workpapers, and conclusions reached. Audit Documentation shall not include custom-developed documents, data, reports, analyses, recommendations, and deliverables authored or prepared by AGH for the County under this Engagement Letter, or any documents belonging to the County or furnished to AGH by the County.

Review of Audit Documentation by a successor auditor or as part of due diligence is subject to applicable AGH policies, and will be agreed to, accounted for and billed separately. Any such access to our Audit Documentation is subject to a successor auditor signing an Access & Release Letter substantially in AGH's form. AGH reserves the right to decline a successor auditor's request to review our workpapers.

In the event we are required by government regulation, subpoena or other legal process to produce our documents or our personnel as witnesses with respect to our engagement for the County, the County will, so long as we are not a party to the proceeding in which the information is sought, reimburse us for our professional time and expenses, as well as the fees and expenses of our counsel, incurred in responding to such requests.

The documentation for this engagement is the property of AGH. However, you acknowledge and grant your assent that representatives of the cognizant or oversight agency or their designee, other government audit staffs, and the U.S. Government Accountability Office shall have access to the Audit Documentation upon their request and that we shall maintain the Audit Documentation for a period of at least three years after the date of the report, or for a longer period if we are requested to do so by the cognizant or oversight agency. Access to the requested Audit Documentation will be provided under the supervision of AGH audit personnel and at a location designated by our firm.

Indemnification, Limitation of Liability, and Claim Resolution

Because AGH will rely on the County and its management and County Executive and Members of the County Legislature to discharge the foregoing responsibilities, the County agrees to indemnify, hold harmless and release AGH and its partners, principals, officers, directors, employees, affiliates, subsidiaries, contractors, Subcontractors, agents, representatives, successors, or assigns from all third-party claims, liabilities, losses and costs arising in circumstances where there has been a knowing misrepresentation by a member of the County's management.

THE COUNTY AND AGH AGREE THAT NO CLAIM ARISING OUT OF, FROM, OR RELATING TO THE SERVICES RENDERED PURSUANT TO THIS ENGAGEMENT LETTER SHALL BE FILED MORE THAN TWO YEARS AFTER THE DATE OF THE AUDIT REPORT ISSUED BY AGH OR THE DATE OF THIS ENGAGEMENT LETTER IF NO REPORT HAS BEEN ISSUED. IN NO EVENT SHALL AGH OR THE COUNTY, OR ANY OF THEIR RESPECTIVE PARTNERS, PRINCIPALS, OFFICERS, DIRECTORS, EMPLOYEES, AFFILIATES, SUBSIDIARIES, CONTRACTORS, SUBCONTRACTORS, AGENTS, REPRESENTATIVES, SUCCESSORS, OR ASSIGNS (COLLECTIVELY, THE "COVERED PARTIES" AND EACH INDIVIDUALLY, A "COVERED PARTY"), BE LIABLE FOR THE INTERRUPTION OR LOSS OF BUSINESS, ANY LOST PROFITS, SAVINGS, REVENUE, GOODWILL, SOFTWARE, HARDWARE, OR DATA, OR THE LOSS OF USE THEREOF (REGARDLESS OF WHETHER SUCH LOSSES ARE DEEMED DIRECT DAMAGES), OR INCIDENTAL, INDIRECT, PUNITIVE, CONSEQUENTIAL, SPECIAL, EXEMPLARY, OR SIMILAR SUCH DAMAGES, EVEN IF ADVISED OF THE POSSIBILITY OF SUCH DAMAGES. EXCEPT FOR A COVERED PARTY'S INDEMNIFICATION OBLIGATIONS UNDER THIS ENGAGEMENT LETTER, TO THE FULLEST EXTENT PERMITTED BY LAW, THE TOTAL AGGREGATE LIABILITY OF THE COVERED PARTIES ARISING OUT OF, FROM, OR RELATING TO THIS ENGAGEMENT LETTER, OR THE REPORT ISSUED OR SERVICES PROVIDED HEREUNDER, REGARDLESS OF

THE CIRCUMSTANCES OR NATURE OR TYPE OF CLAIM, INCLUDING, WITHOUT LIMITATION, CLAIMS ARISING FROM A COVERED PARTY'S NEGLIGENCE OR BREACH OF CONTRACT OR WARRANTY, OR RELATING TO OR ARISING FROM A GOVERNMENT, REGULATORY OR ENFORCEMENT ACTION, INVESTIGATION, PROCEEDING, OR FINE, WILL NOT EXCEED THE TOTAL AMOUNT OF THE FEES PAID BY THE COUNTY TO AGH UNDER THIS ENGAGEMENT LETTER. NOTWITHSTANDING THE FOREGOING, NOTHING IN THIS LIMITATION OF LIABILITY PROVISION SHALL, OR SHALL BE INTERPRETED OR CONSTRUED TO, RELIEVE THE COUNTY OF ITS PAYMENT OBLIGATIONS TO AGH UNDER THIS ENGAGEMENT LETTER.

Confidentiality

AGH and the County may, from time to time, disclose Confidential Information (as defined below) to one another. Accordingly, AGH and the County agree as the recipient of such Confidential Information (the "Receiving Party") to keep strictly confidential all Confidential Information provided to it by the disclosing party (the "Disclosing Party") and use, modify, store, and copy such Confidential Information only as necessary to perform its obligations and exercise its rights under this Engagement Letter. Except as otherwise set forth herein, the Receiving Party may only disclose the Confidential Information of the Disclosing Party to its personnel, agents, and representatives who are subject to obligations of confidentiality at least as restrictive as those set forth herein and only for the purpose of exercising its rights and fulfilling its obligations hereunder. To avoid any doubt, AGH is permitted to disclose the County's Confidential Information to AGH's personnel, agents, and representatives to provide the services or exercise its rights under this Engagement Letter or for the purpose of maintaining compliance with applicable laws and professional, regulatory, and/or ethical standards.

As used herein, "Confidential Information" means, information in any form, oral, graphic, written, electronic, machine-readable or hard copy consisting of: (i) any nonpublic information provided by the Disclosing Party, including, but not limited to, all of its inventions, designs, data, source and object code, programs, program interfaces, know-how, trade secrets, techniques, ideas, discoveries, marketing and business plans, pricing, profit margins and/or similar information; (ii) any information that the Disclosing Party identifies as confidential; or (iii) any information that, by its very nature, a person in the same or similar circumstances would understand should be treated as confidential, including, but not limited to, this Engagement Letter.

As used herein, the term "Confidential Information" will not include information that: (i) is publicly available at the time of disclosure by the Disclosing Party; (ii) becomes publicly available by publication or otherwise after disclosure by the Disclosing Party, other than by breach of the confidentiality obligations set forth herein by the Receiving Party; (iii) was lawfully in the Receiving Party's possession, without restriction as to confidentiality or use, at the time of disclosure by the Disclosing Party; (iv) is provided to the Receiving Party without restriction as to confidentiality or use by a third party without violation of any obligation to the Disclosing Party; or (v) is independently developed by employees or agents of the Receiving Party who did not access or use the Disclosing Party's Confidential Information.

The Receiving Party will treat the Disclosing Party's Confidential Information with the same degree of care as the Receiving Party treats its own confidential and proprietary information, but in no event will such standard of care be less than a reasonable standard of care. The Receiving Party will promptly notify the Disclosing Party if it becomes aware that any of the Confidential Information of the Disclosing Party has been used or disclosed in violation of this Engagement Letter.

Notwithstanding the foregoing, in the event that the Receiving Party becomes legally compelled to disclose any of the Confidential Information of the Disclosing Party, or as may be required by

applicable regulations or professional standards, the Receiving Party will use commercially reasonable efforts to provide the Disclosing Party with notice prior to disclosure, to the extent permitted by law.

Preexisting Nondisclosure Agreements

In the event that the parties have executed a separate nondisclosure agreement, such agreement shall be terminated as of the effective date of this Engagement Letter and the terms of this Engagement Letter shall apply to the treatment of information shared by the parties hereto.

Data Protection Compliance

We take reasonable steps to comply with privacy, cybersecurity, and data protection laws that may apply to Personal Information and Confidential Information we process on behalf of our clients.

AGH and the County acknowledge and agree that they may correspond or convey information and documentation, including Confidential Information and Personal Information, via various forms of electronic transmission, including, but not limited to, Third-Party Products, such as, email, FTP and cloud-based sharing and hosting applications (e.g., portals, data analytics tools, and helpdesk and support ticketing applications), and that neither party has control over the performance, operation, reliability, availability, or security of these electronic transmissions methods. Therefore, neither party will be liable for any loss, damage, expense, harm, disclosure or inconvenience resulting from the loss, delay, interception, corruption, unauthorized disclosure, or alteration of any electronic transmission where the party has used commercially reasonable efforts to protect such information. We offer our clients various platforms for the exchange of information. You hereby agree that you shall be bound by and comply with any and all user terms and conditions made available (whether by link, click-through, or otherwise) with respect to such platforms.

Personal Information

As used herein, the term "Personal Information" means any personal information, as may be defined by applicable privacy, data protection, or cybersecurity laws, that directly or indirectly identifies a natural person, and includes, but is not limited to, nonpublic, personally identifiable information such as Social Security numbers, Social Insurance numbers, driver's license numbers or government-issued identification card numbers, and health information.

Each party agrees to transmit Personal Information consistent with applicable laws and any other obligations the respective party may have. We are permitted to use all such Personal Information to perform our obligations and exercise our rights under this Engagement Letter.

You represent and warrant that you have provided all notices and obtained all consents required under applicable data protection laws prior to your collection, use and disclosure to us or our Subcontractors of such Personal Information and shall take reasonable steps to ensure that such Personal Information does not include irrelevant or unnecessary information about individuals.

Where we are acting as a service provider under the California Consumer Privacy Act and the California Privacy Rights Act, including as amended or replaced, and the associated regulations ("CCPA"), we (i) will not Sell or Share (as those terms are defined by the CCPA) any Personal Information received from the County; (ii) will not retain, use, or disclose Personal Information to another business, person, or third party, except for the purpose of maintaining or providing the services or exercising our rights as specified in this Engagement Letter, including to provide Personal Information to advisers or Subcontractors, to maintain or provide the services provided under this Engagement Letter, or to the extent such disclosure is required by law. At your written request, and at

your cost, we shall reasonably assist you in addressing your obligations under the CCPA with regard to privacy rights requests related to your Personal Information held by us, directly resulting from our business relationship with you. We reserve the right to decline such a request where, as determined in our sole discretion, the request for our assistance could violate or impair a Consumer's (as that term is defined by the CCPA) rights under the CCPA or another applicable law, regulation, or professional or ethical standard. We understand and will comply with the requirements enumerated in (i) and (ii). For the avoidance of doubt, all permitted uses of Personal Information by service providers that are enumerated in the CCPA are understood to apply to the Personal Information processed by us.

We agree to maintain appropriate security measures to protect such Personal Information in accordance with applicable laws.

If we become aware of an unauthorized acquisition or use of County-provided Personal Information, we will promptly inform you of such unauthorized acquisition or use as required by applicable laws and, upon your written request, reasonably cooperate with you at your sole cost in support of any breach notification requirements as imposed upon you by applicable laws.

Retention of Records

We will return to you all original records you provide to us in connection with this engagement. Further, in addition to providing you with those deliverables set forth in this Engagement Letter, we will provide to you a copy of any records we prepare or accumulate in connection with such deliverables which are not otherwise reflected in your books and records without which your books and records would be incomplete. You have the sole responsibility for retaining and maintaining in your possession or custody all of your financial and nonfinancial records related to this engagement. We will not host, and will not accept responsibility to host, any of your records. We, however, may maintain a copy of any records of yours necessary for us to comply with applicable law and/or professional standards or to exercise our rights under this Engagement Letter. Any such records retained by us will be subject to the confidentiality obligations set forth herein and destroyed in accordance with our record retention policies.

Termination

Your failure to make full payment of any and all undisputed amounts invoiced in a timely manner constitutes a material breach for which we may refuse to provide deliverables and/or, upon written notice, suspend or terminate our services under this Engagement Letter. We will not be liable to you for any resulting loss, damage or expense connected with the suspension or termination of our services due to your failure to make full payment of undisputed amounts invoiced in a timely manner.

You may terminate this Engagement Letter for any reason upon fifteen (15) days' prior written notice to us. In the event you terminate this engagement, you will pay us for all services rendered (including deliverables and products delivered), expenses incurred, and noncancelable commitments made by us on your behalf through the effective date of termination.

Either party may terminate this Engagement Letter upon written notice if: (i) circumstances arise that in its judgment would cause its continued performance to result in a violation of law, a regulatory requirement, applicable professional or ethical standards, or, in the case of AGH, our client acceptance or retention standards; or (ii) if the other party is placed on a Sanctioned List (as defined herein), or if any director or executive of, or other person closely associated with such other party or its affiliate, is placed on a Sanctioned List.

We will not be responsible for any delay or failure in our performance resulting from acts beyond our reasonable control or unforeseen or unexpected circumstances, such as, but not limited to, acts of God, government or war, riots or strikes, disasters, fires, floods, epidemics, pandemics or outbreaks of communicable disease, cyberattacks, and internet or other system or network outages. At your option, you may terminate this Engagement Letter where our services are delayed more than 120 days; however, you are not excused from paying us for all amounts owed for services rendered and deliverables provided prior to the termination of this Engagement Letter.

When an engagement has been suspended at the request of management or those charged with governance and work on that engagement has not recommenced within 120 days of the request to suspend our work, we may, at our sole discretion, terminate this Engagement Letter without further obligation to you. Resumption of our work following termination may be subject to our client acceptance procedures and, if resumed, will require additional procedures not contemplated in this Engagement Letter. Accordingly, the scope, timing and fee arrangement discussed in this Engagement Letter will no longer apply. In order for us to recommence work, the execution of a new Engagement Letter will be required.

The parties agree that those provisions of this Engagement Letter which, by their context, are intended to survive, including, but not limited to, payment, limitations on liability, claim resolution, use and ownership, and confidentiality obligations, shall survive the termination of this Engagement Letter.

Miscellaneous

We may mention your name and provide a general description of the engagement in our client lists and marketing materials.

Notwithstanding anything stated to the contrary in this Engagement Letter, the County acknowledges and consents that we also may utilize Confidential Information and Personal Information to (i) improve the quality of our services and offerings and/or (ii) develop or perform internal data analysis or other insight generation. Information developed in connection with these purposes may be used by us to provide services or offerings. We will not use your Confidential Information or Personal Information in a way that would permit the County or an individual to be identified by third parties without your prior written consent.

You have informed us that you may issue public debt in the future and that you may include our report on your financial statements in the offering statement. You have further informed us that you do not intend for us to be associated with the proposed offering.

We agree that our association with any proposed offering is not necessary, providing the County agrees to clearly indicate that we are not associated with the contents of any such official statement or memorandum. The County agrees that the following disclosure will be prominently displayed in any such official statement or memorandum:

Allen, Gibbs & Houlik, L.C., our independent auditor, has not been engaged to perform, and has not performed, since the date of its report included herein, any procedures on the financial statements addressed in that report. Allen, Gibbs, & Houlik, L.C. also has not performed any procedures relating to this official statement.

Our professional standards require that we perform certain additional procedures, on current and previous years' engagements, whenever a partner or professional employee leaves the firm and is subsequently employed by or associated with a client in a key position. Accordingly, you agree to

compensate us for any additional costs incurred as a result of your employment of one of our partners, principals or employees.

Both parties to this agreement have made a substantial investment in their respective employees and depend upon them to generate future profits. Because of this, we agree that neither party (including related affiliates) shall hire, nor solicit for hire, any person employed by the other during the term of the service relationship and for a period of one year after the termination of services. Since our professional standards require that we perform certain additional procedures, on current and previous years engagements, whenever a shareholder or professional employee leaves AGH and is subsequently employed by or associated with the County, the County agrees it will compensate AGH for any additional costs incurred as a result of the County's employment of a shareholder or professional employee of AGH.

Each party hereto affirms it has not been placed on a Sanctioned List (as defined below) and will promptly notify the other party upon becoming aware that it has been placed on a Sanctioned List at any time throughout the duration of this Engagement Letter. The County shall not, and shall not permit third parties to, access or use any of the deliverables provided for hereunder, or Third-Party Products provided hereunder, in violation of any applicable sanctions laws or regulations, including, but not limited to, accessing or using the deliverables provided for hereunder or any Third-Party Products from any territory under embargo by the United States or Canada. The County shall not knowingly cause AGH to violate any sanctions applicable to AGH. As used herein "Sanctioned List" means any sanctioned person or entity lists promulgated by the Office of Foreign Assets Control of the U.S. Department of the Treasury, the U.S. State Department, the Consolidated Canadian Autonomous Sanctions List, the United Nations Security Council, the European Union, and United Kingdom.

Any term of this Engagement Letter that would be prohibited by or impair our independence under applicable law or regulation shall not apply, to the extent necessary only to avoid such prohibition or impairment.

Notices

Unless otherwise expressly agreed upon by the parties in this Engagement Letter, all notices required to be given hereunder will be in writing and addressed to the party at the business address provided in this Engagement Letter, or such other address as such party may indicate by a notice delivered to the other party. A copy of any legal notice (e.g., any claimed breach or termination of this Engagement Letter) sent by the City to AGH shall also be sent to the following address: Allen, Gibbs & Houlik, L.C., attn: Chief Executive Officer, 301 N. Main, Suite 1700, Wichita, Kansas 67202. Except as otherwise expressly provided in this Engagement Letter, notices hereunder will be deemed given and effective: (i) if personally delivered, upon delivery; (ii) if sent by registered or certified mail or by overnight courier service with tracking capabilities, upon receipt; and, (iii) if sent by electronic mail (without indication of delivery failure), at such time as the party that sent the notice receives confirmation of receipt, whether by read-receipt confirmation or otherwise.

Dispute Resolution

We agree that any dispute arising out of, or relating to, this agreement or an interpretation of this agreement that we are not able to resolve ourselves shall be submitted to mediation under the American Arbitration Association's ("AAA") Accounting and Related Services Arbitration Rules and Mediation Procedures before resorting to arbitration, litigation or some other dispute resolution procedure. The mediator will be selected by mutual agreement of the parties. If the parties cannot agree on a mediator, a mediator shall be designated by the AAA. The mediation will be conducted in the State of Kansas. The mediation will be treated as a settlement discussion and, therefore, all

discussions during the mediation will be confidential. The mediator may not testify for either party in any later proceeding related to the dispute. No recording or transcript shall be made of the mediation proceedings. Costs and expenses of the mediation shall be borne equally by each of us. Any costs of legal representation shall be borne by the hiring party. If the mediation does not result in an agreement acceptable to all sides, any party may take such other further action as he, she, or it deems advisable under law or equity.

Governing Law

This Engagement Letter, including, without limitation, its validity, interpretation, construction, and enforceability, and any dispute, litigation, suit, action, claim, or other legal proceeding arising out of, from, or relating in any way to this Engagement Letter, any provisions herein, a report issued or the services provided hereunder, will be governed and construed in accordance with the laws of the State of Missouri, without regard to its conflict of law principles, and applicable U.S. federal law.

Entire Agreement

This Engagement Letter constitutes the complete and exclusive statement of agreement between AGH and the County and supersedes all prior agreements, understandings, and proposals, whether oral or written, relating to the subject matter of this Engagement Letter.

If any term or provision of this Engagement Letter is determined to be invalid or unenforceable, such term or provision will be deemed stricken, and all other terms and provisions will remain in full force and effect.

This Engagement Letter may be amended or modified only by a written instrument executed by both parties.

Electronic Signatures and Counterparts

Each party hereto agrees that any electronic signature of a party to this Engagement Letter or any electronic signature to a document contemplated hereby (including any representation letter) is intended to authenticate such writing and shall be as valid, and have the same force and effect, as a manual signature. Any such electronically signed document shall be deemed (a) to be "written" or "in writing," (b) to have been signed and (c) to constitute a record established and maintained in the ordinary course of business and an original written record when printed from electronic files. Each party hereto also agrees that electronic delivery of a signature to any such document (via email or otherwise) shall be as effective as manual delivery of a manual signature. For purposes hereof, "electronic signature" includes, but is not limited to, (a) a scanned copy (as a "pdf" (portable document format) or other replicating image) of a manual ink signature, (b) an electronic copy of a traditional signature affixed to a document, (c) a signature incorporated into a document utilizing touchscreen capabilities or (d) a digital signature. This Engagement Letter may be executed in one or more counterparts, each of which shall be considered an original instrument, but all of which shall be considered one and the same agreement. Paper copies or "printouts," of such documents if introduced as evidence in any judicial, arbitral, mediation or administrative proceeding, will be admissible as between the parties to the same extent and under the same conditions as other original business records created and maintained in documentary form. Neither party shall contest the admissibility of true and accurate copies of electronically signed documents on the basis of the best evidence rule or as not satisfying the business records exception to the hearsay rule.

Please sign and return a copy of this Engagement Letter to indicate your acknowledgment of, and agreement with, the arrangements for our audit of the financial statements, including our respective responsibilities.

Acknowledgement and Acceptance

Each party acknowledges that it has read and agrees to all of the terms and conditions contained herein. Each party and its signatory below represent that said signatory is a duly authorized representative of such party and has the requisite power and authority to bind such party to the undertakings and obligations contained herein.

AGREED TO AND ACKNOWLEDGED BY:


ALLEN, GIBBS & HOULIK, L.C.



Jonathan Nibarger
Vice President, Assurance Services

JMN:zlw

Confirmed on behalf of Jackson County, Missouri:



County Executive



Date

WORK AUTHORIZATION AFFIDAVIT


As a condition for any service provided to the County, a business entity shall, by sworn affidavit and provision of documentation, affirm its enrollment and participation in a federal work authorization program with respect to the employees working in connection with the contracted services.

Business entity, as defined in section 285.525, RSMo pertaining to section 285.530, RSMo, is any person or group of persons performing or engaging in any activity, enterprise, profession, or occupation for gain, benefit, advantage, or livelihood. The term "business entity" shall include but not be limited to self-employed individuals, partnerships, corporations, contractors, and subcontractors. The term "business entity" shall include any business entity that possesses a business permit, license, or tax certificate issued by the state, any business entity that is exempt by law from obtaining such a business permit, and any business entity that is operating unlawfully without such a business permit.

Every such business entity shall complete the following affidavit affirming that it does not knowingly employ any person who is an unauthorized alien in connection with the contracted services. The completed affidavit must be returned as a part of the contract documentation.

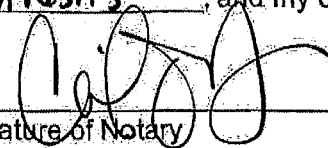
This affidavit affirms that **ALLEN, GIBBS, HOULIK, L.C. (AGH)** is enrolled in, and is currently participating in, E-verify or any other equivalent electronic verification of work authorization operated by the United States Department of Homeland Security under the Immigration Reform and Control Act of 1986 (IRCA); and, **ALLEN, GIBBS, HOULIK, L.C. (AGH)**, does not knowingly employ any person who is an unauthorized alien in conjunction with the contracted services.

In Affirmation thereof, the facts stated above are true and correct. (The undersigned understands that false statements made in this filing are subject to the penalties provided under section 575.040, RSMo.)


Authorized Representative's Signature
Senior Vice President
Title

Jonathan Nibarger
Printed Name
6/4/24
Date

Subscribed and sworn before me this 4 day of JUNE ~~2023~~ 2024. I am commissioned as a notary public within the County of JOHNSON, State of KANSAS, and my commission expires on 10/21/2025.


Signature of Notary

06/04/2024
Date

