



ENGAGEMENT AGREEMENT

Dear Client:

Hagan, Tucker, Schmitt & Gintz, LLC is pleased to provide you with the professional services described below. This letter, and the attached *Terms and Conditions Addendum* and any other attachments incorporated herein (collectively, "Agreement"), confirm our understanding of the terms and objectives of our engagement and the nature and limitations of the services we will provide. The engagement between you and our firm will be governed by the terms of this Agreement.

Engagement Objective and Scope

We will prepare your federal and state individual income tax returns for the year ended December 31, 2019.

We will not prepare any tax returns except those identified above, without your written request, and our written consent to do so. We will prepare your tax returns based upon information and representations that you provide to us. We have not been engaged to and will not prepare financial statements. We will not audit or otherwise verify the data you submit to us, although we may ask you to clarify certain information.

We will prepare the above referenced tax returns solely for filing with the Internal Revenue Service ("IRS") and state and local tax authorities as identified above. Our work is not intended to benefit or influence any third party, either to obtain credit or for any other purpose.

You agree to indemnify and hold our firm and its partners, principals, shareholders, officers, directors, members, employees, agents or assigns (collectively, "firm," "we," "us," or "our") 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 and state and local tax authorities regardless of the nature of the claim, including the negligence of any party.

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

This engagement is limited to the professional services outlined above.

CPA Firm Responsibilities

Unless otherwise noted, we will perform our services in accordance with the Statements on Standards for Tax Services ("SSTS") 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 income tax 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 prepare your tax returns based upon your filing status (single, married filing jointly, married filing separately, head of household or qualifying widow[er] with dependent child) as reflected in your income tax returns for last year. If your filing status has changed, you wish to change your filing status, or you have questions about your filing status, please contact us immediately.

Confidentiality

If the tax returns prepared in connection with this engagement are filed using the married filing jointly filing status, both spouses are deemed to be clients of the firm under the terms of this Agreement. Both individuals acknowledge that there is no expectation of privacy from the other concerning our services in connection with this Agreement. We are at liberty to share with either of you, without prior consent of the other, documents and other information concerning the preparation of your tax returns.

Bookkeeping assistance

We may deem it necessary to provide you with accounting and bookkeeping assistance solely for the purpose of preparing the income tax returns. These services will be performed solely in accordance with the AICPA Code of Professional Conduct. We will request your approval in writing before rendering these services. Additional charges will apply for such services.

Estimated tax payments

You may be required to make quarterly estimated tax payments. We will calculate these payments for the 2020 tax year based upon the information you provide to prepare your 2019 tax returns (the "safe harbor" rule). Updating recommended payments to more closely reflect your actual current

year's income is not within the scope of this engagement. If you would like us to provide this service, we will confirm this update in a separate engagement letter.

Tax planning services

Our engagement does not include tax planning services. During the course of preparing the tax returns identified above, we may bring to your attention potential tax savings strategies for you to consider as a possible means of reducing your taxes in subsequent tax years. However, we have no responsibility to do so, and will take no action with respect to such recommendations, as the responsibility for implementation remains with you, the taxpayer. If you ask us to provide tax planning services, we will confirm this representation in a separate engagement letter.

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, we will confirm this representation in a separate engagement letter.

Third-party verification requests

We will not respond to any request from banks, mortgage brokers or others for verification of any information reported on these tax returns.

Client Responsibilities

We will provide you with an income tax organizer to help you compile and document the information we will need to prepare your income tax returns. You must complete the income tax organizer with accurate and complete information. Income from all sources, including those outside the U.S., is required.

We rely upon the accuracy and completeness of both the information you provide in the income tax organizer and other supporting data you provide in rendering professional services to you.

Documentation

You are responsible for maintaining adequate documentation to substantiate the accuracy and completeness of your tax returns. You should retain all documents that provide evidence and support for reported income, credits, and deductions on your returns, as required under applicable tax laws and regulations. You are responsible for the adequacy of all information provided in such documents. You represent that you have such documentation and can produce it, if needed, to respond to any audit or inquiry by tax authorities. You agree to hold harmless our firm and its partners, principals, shareholders, officers, directors, members, employees, agents or assigns with respect to any additional tax, penalties, or interest imposed on you by tax authorities resulting from the disallowance of tax deductions due to inadequate documentation.

It is our policy to keep records related to this engagement for three years after which they are destroyed. **However, we do not keep any original client records, so we will return those to you at the completion of the services rendered under this engagement. When records are returned to you, it is your responsibility to retain and protect your records for three years for possible future use, including potential examination by any government or regulatory agencies.**

Gift Tax Returns

The IRS considers a gift to be any transfer to an individual, either directly or indirectly, where full consideration (measured in money or money's worth) is not received in return. Under federal tax law, certain gifts are taxable and subject to an annual gift tax exclusion amount, which for 20[XX], is \$[X] per taxpayer. You are responsible for informing us if gift tax returns are required to be filed. If you ask us to prepare these returns, we will confirm this representation in a separate engagement letter.

Gifts received from foreign persons

If you received a gift or bequest from a foreign person or trust, you may be required to file a separate IRS Form 3520, Annual Return To Report Transactions With Foreign Trusts and Receipt of Certain Foreign Gifts or 3520-A, Annual Information Return of Foreign Trust with a U.S. Owner. If you ask us to prepare this return, we will confirm this in a separate engagement letter.

Personal expenses

You are responsible for ensuring that personal expenses, if any, are segregated from business expenses and that expenses such as meals, travel, entertainment, vehicle use, gifts, and related expenses are supported by necessary 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

On June 21, 2018, the U.S. Supreme Court reversed the long-standing physical presence nexus standard in *South Dakota v. Wayfair, Inc. et. al.* This decision significantly changes the landscape of sales and use tax compliance, especially for online sellers. If you wish to understand the impact of the decision on your business, we will confirm this in a separate engagement letter. The scope of our services under this engagement letter does not include services related to your compliance with other tax obligations.

You are responsible for determining your tax filing obligations with any state or local tax authorities, including, but not limited to income, franchise, sales, use, property or unclaimed property taxes. 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 any additional filing obligations are not within the scope of this engagement. If you ask us to prepare these returns, we will confirm this representation in a separate engagement letter.

U.S. filing obligations related to foreign financial assets

As part of your filing obligations, you are required to report the maximum value of specified foreign financial assets, which include financial accounts with foreign institutions and certain other foreign non-account investment assets that exceed certain thresholds. You are responsible for informing us of all foreign assets, so we may properly advise you regarding your filing obligations.

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); or
- U.S. person with interests in a foreign disregarded entity (Form 8858).

If we believe you have additional filing requirements, we will discuss them with you prior to completing your tax return.

In addition, as part of your filing obligations, you are required to report the maximum value of specified foreign financial assets, which include financial accounts with foreign institutions and certain other foreign non-account investment assets that exceed certain thresholds.

Based upon the information you provide, we will use this data to inform you of any additional filing requirements, which may include Form 8938, Statement of Specified Foreign Assets, and FinCEN Form 114, Report of Foreign Bank and Financial Accounts ("FBAR"). The FBAR is not a tax return and its preparation is not within the scope of this engagement. If you ask us to prepare the FBAR, we will confirm this representation in a separate engagement letter.

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 that you have a direct or indirect interest in, 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. We assume no liability 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.

Other income, losses and expenses

If you realized income, loss or expense from a business or supplemental income or loss, the reporting requirements of federal and state income tax authorities apply to such income, loss or expense. You are responsible for complying with all applicable laws and regulations pertaining to such operations, including the classification of workers as employees or independent contractors and related payroll tax and withholding requirements.

Ultimate responsibility

You have final responsibility for your income tax returns. We will provide you with a copy of your electronic income tax returns and accompanying schedules and statements for review prior to filing with the IRS and 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, *IRS e-file Signature Authorization*, 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 income tax returns filed electronically, please contact our firm. Additional procedures will apply. You will be responsible for reviewing the paper returns for accuracy, signing them, and filing them timely with the tax authorities.

Timing of the Engagement

We expect to begin our services upon receipt of this executed Agreement, the completed 2019 income tax organizer and all documents requested either in the organizer or by our office. Our services will conclude upon the earlier of:

- the filing and acceptance of your 2019 tax returns by the appropriate tax authorities and mailing or delivery of non-electronically filed tax returns (if any) for your review and filing with the appropriate tax authorities,
- written notification by either party that the engagement is terminated, or
- one year from the execution date of this Agreement.

Our goal is to provide you with an accurate tax return that takes advantage of all possible deductions in reducing your taxable income to its lowest legal amount by the due date April 15, 2020. **To that end, we have established a policy of extending all returns for which complete information is not received by our office by March 25, 2020.** Through this practice, we hope to better serve you. **However, we do not file extensions for clients unless specifically requested to do so.** If extensions are prepared, we are not responsible for determining any tax payments to be submitted with the extension, and we are not responsible for any penalties or interest incurred as a result of the extensions. Our firm maintains and complies with a five-year record retention policy. By signing this agreement, you acknowledge we are free to destroy our records at the expiration of the five year period.

If your return is electronically filed, our services will conclude upon the earlier of the filing and acceptance of your 2019 tax returns by the appropriate taxing authorities or one year from the execution date of this letter. If your return is filed by mail, our services will be concluded upon the earlier of delivery to you of your 2019 tax returns for your review and filing with the appropriate taxing authorities or one year from the execution date of this letter.

Our fee for these services will be based upon the amount of time required at standard billing rates plus out-of-pocket expenses. In addition, this fee depends upon the timely delivery, availability, quality, and completeness of the information you provide us. You agree that you will deliver all records requested and respond to all inquiries made by our staff to complete this engagement on a timely basis. **All invoices are due and payable upon receipt the delivery of the tax return or invoice.**

In the event of a dispute related in any way to our services, our firm and you agree to discuss the dispute and, if necessary, promptly mediate in a good faith effort to resolve. We will agree on a mediator, but if we cannot, either of us may apply to a court having personal jurisdiction over the parties for appointment of a mediator. We will share the mediator's fees and expenses equally, but otherwise will bear our own attorneys' fees and mediation costs. Participation in such mediation shall be a condition to either of us initiating litigation.

If the foregoing fairly sets forth your understanding, please sign the enclosed copy of this letter in the space indicated and return it to our office. However, if there are other tax returns you expect us to prepare, please inform us by noting so at the end of the return copy of this letter.

We want to express our appreciation for this opportunity to work with you.

Hagan, Tucker, Schmitt & Gintz, LLC

CPAs + Advisors

Taxpayer Signature: _____ Printed Name: _____

Spouse Signature: _____ Printed Name: _____

Date: _____ Email Address: _____

Yes! Please email my tax organizer next year.