

STATE OF TEXAS §
 §
COUNTY OF FORT BEND §

**AGREEMENT FOR AUDIT SERVICES BETWEEN
WHITLEY PENN LLP AND FORT BEND COUNTY
(FOR YEAR ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2017)**

THIS AGREEMENT is made and entered into by and between Fort Bend County, (hereinafter "County"), a body corporate and politic under the laws of the State of Texas, and Whitley Penn, LLP (hereinafter "Contractor"), a company authorized to conduct business in the State of Texas.

WITNESSETH

WHEREAS, County desires that Contractor provide professional Audit Services; and

WHEREAS, County has determined that this Agreement is for personal or professional services and therefore exempt from competitive bidding under Chapter 262 of the Texas Local Government Code; and

WHEREAS, Contractor represents that it is qualified and desires to perform such services.

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the mutual covenants and conditions set forth below, the parties agree as follows:

AGREEMENT

Section 1. Scope of Services

- A. Contractor shall render Audit Services in accordance with Exhibit A to this Agreement for the year ending September 30, 2017. Services shall not include assistance with preparation of the financial statements unless the Fort Bend County Auditor sends a written request for same to Contractor. The Fort Bend County Auditor is hereby authorized to make the request for assistance with preparation of the financial statement on behalf of County.
- B. Contractor shall provide County with written reports upon completion of Audit Services in both paper and electronic form, to include all charts, schedules and other appended documentation.
- C. This Agreement is effective upon execution of the Parties and continues until the Services have been performed, unless earlier terminated as provided in this Agreement.

Section 2. Personnel

- A. Contractor represents that it presently has, or is able to obtain, adequate qualified personnel in its employment for the timely performance of the Scope of Services required under this Agreement and that Contractor shall furnish and maintain, at its own expense, adequate and sufficient personnel, in the opinion of County, to perform the Scope of Services when and as required and without delays.
- B. All employees of Contractor shall have such knowledge and experience as will enable them to perform the duties assigned to them. Any employee of Contractor who, in the opinion of County, is incompetent or by his conduct becomes detrimental to the project shall, upon request of County, immediately be removed from association with the project.

Section 3. Compensation and Payment

- A. Contractor's fees shall be calculated at the rates set forth in the attached Exhibit A. The Maximum Compensation for the performance of Services within the Scope of Services described in Exhibit A is \$161,250.00. In no case shall the amount paid by County under this Agreement exceed the Maximum Compensation without an approved change order.
- B. All performance of the Scope of Services by Contractor including any changes in the Scope of Services and revision of work satisfactorily performed will be performed only when approved in advance and authorized by County.
- C. Mutually approved travel and mileage expenses incurred in the performance of required services will be compensated only in accordance with the Fort Bend County Travel Policy, a copy of which is attached as Exhibit B to this Agreement.
- D. Copy costs shall not exceed \$.10 per page, which is the maximum amount the County would be allowed to charge per the Texas Public Information Act.
- E. County will pay Contractor based on the following procedures: Upon completion of the tasks identified in the Scope of Services, Contractor shall submit to County two (2) original copies of invoices showing the amounts due for services performed in a form acceptable to County. County shall review such invoices and approve them within 30 calendar days with such modifications as are consistent with this Agreement and forward same to the Auditor for processing. County shall pay each such approved invoice within thirty (30) calendar days. County reserves the right to withhold payment pending verification of satisfactory work performed.

Section 4. Limit of Appropriation

- A. Contractor clearly understands and agrees, such understanding and agreement being of the absolute essence of this Agreement, that County shall have available the total maximum sum certified as available by the Fort Bend County Auditor, specifically allocated to fully discharge any and all liabilities County may incur.

- B. Contractor does further understand and agree, said understanding and agreement also being of the absolute essence of this Agreement, that the total maximum compensation that Contractor may become entitled to and the total maximum sum that County may become liable to pay to Contractor shall not under any conditions, circumstances, or interpretations thereof exceed \$161,250.00.

Section 5. Time of Performance

Contractor shall perform the Audit Services in compliance with the timelines stated in Exhibit A. Timing of performance of Audit Services is of the essence. If delivery or completion dates cannot be met, Contractor must inform the County Auditor immediately. Providing this information does not change the delivery or completion dates unless this Agreement is amended.

Section 6. Modifications and Waivers

- A. The parties may not amend or waive this Agreement, except by a written agreement executed by both parties.
- B. No failure or delay in exercising any right or remedy or requiring the satisfaction of any condition under this Agreement, and no course of dealing between the parties, operates as a waiver or estoppel of any right, remedy, or condition.
- C. The rights and remedies of the parties set forth in this Agreement are not exclusive of, but are cumulative to, any rights or remedies now or subsequently existing at law, in equity, or by statute.

Section 7. Termination

- A. Termination for Convenience: County may terminate this Agreement at any time upon thirty (30) days written notice issued by either the Fort Bend County Judge, on behalf of the County, or the County Auditor.
- B. Termination for Default
 - 1. County may terminate the whole or any part of this Agreement for cause in the following circumstances:
 - a. If Contractor fails to perform services within the time specified in the Scope of Services or any extension thereof granted by the County in writing;
 - b. If Contractor materially breaches any of the covenants or terms and conditions set forth in this Agreement or fails to perform any of the other provisions of this Agreement or so fails to make progress as to endanger performance of this Agreement in accordance with its terms, and in any of these circumstances does not cure such breach or failure

to County's reasonable satisfaction within a period of ten (10) calendar days after receipt of notice from County specifying such breach or failure.

2. If, after termination, it is determined by County that for any reason whatsoever that Contractor was not in default, or that the default was excusable, services may continue in accordance with the terms and conditions of this Agreement or the rights and obligations of the parties shall be the same as if the termination had been issued for the convenience of the County in accordance with Section 7A above.
- C. Upon termination of this Agreement, County shall compensate Contractor in accordance with the Compensation and Payment Section above, for those services which were provided under this Agreement prior to its termination and which have not been previously invoiced to County. Contractor's final invoice for said services will be presented to and paid by County in the same manner set forth in the Compensation and Payment Section above.
 - D. If County terminates this Agreement as provided in this Section, no fees of any type, other than fees due and payable at the Termination Date, shall thereafter be paid to Contractor.

Section 8. Ownership and Reuse of Documents

The written report(s) created by Contractor in fulfillment of its work under this Agreement, shall become the property of County upon completion of this Agreement, or in the event of termination or cancellation thereof, and at the time of payment under the Compensation and Payment Section for work performed.

Section 9. Inspection of Books and Records

Contractor will permit County, or any duly authorized agent of County, to inspect and examine the books and records of Contractor for the purpose of verifying the amount of work performed under the Scope of Services. County's right to inspect survives the termination of this Agreement for a period of four years.

Section 10. Insurance

- A. Prior to commencement of the Services, Contractor shall furnish County with properly executed certificates of insurance which shall evidence all insurance required and provide that such insurance shall not be canceled, except on 30 days' prior written notice to County. Contractor shall provide certified copies of insurance endorsements and/or policies if requested by County. Contractor shall maintain such insurance coverage from the time Services commence until Services are completed and provide replacement certificates, policies and/or endorsements for any such insurance expiring prior to completion of Services. Contractor shall obtain such insurance written on an Occurrence

form from such companies having Bests rating of A/VII or better, licensed or approved to transact business in the State of Texas, and shall obtain such insurance of the following types and minimum limits:

1. Workers' Compensation insurance in accordance with the laws of the State of Texas. Substitutes to genuine Workers' Compensation Insurance will not be allowed. Employers' Liability insurance with limits of not less than \$1,000,000 per injury by accident, \$1,000,000 per injury by disease, and \$1,000,000 per bodily injury by disease.
 2. Commercial general liability insurance with a limit of not less than \$1,000,000 each occurrence and \$2,000,000 in the annual aggregate. Policy shall cover liability for bodily injury, personal injury, and property damage and products/completed operations arising out of the business operations of the policyholder.
 3. Business Automobile Liability insurance with a combined Bodily Injury/Property Damage limit of not less than \$1,000,000 each accident. The policy shall cover liability arising from the operation of licensed vehicles by policyholder.
 4. Professional Liability insurance with limits not less than \$1,000,000.
- B. County and the members of Commissioners Court shall be named as additional insured to all required coverage except for Workers' Compensation and Professional Liability (if required). All Liability policies written on behalf of Contractor shall contain a waiver of subrogation in favor of County and members of Commissioners Court.
- C. If required coverage is written on a claims-made basis, Contractor warrants that any retroactive date applicable to coverage under the policy precedes the effective date of the Contract and that continuous coverage will be maintained or an extended discovery period will be exercised for a period of 2 years beginning from the time the work under this Contract is completed.
- D. Contractor shall not commence any portion of the work under this Contract until it has obtained the insurance required herein and certificates of such insurance have been filed with and approved by Fort Bend County.
- E. No cancellation of or changes to the certificates, or the policies, may be made without sixty (60) days prior, written notification to Fort Bend County.
- F. Approval of the insurance by Fort Bend County shall not relieve or decrease the liability of the Contractor.

Section 12. Indemnity

CONTRACTOR SHALL INDEMNIFY AND DEFEND COUNTY AGAINST ALL LOSSES, LIABILITIES, CLAIMS, CAUSES OF ACTION, AND OTHER EXPENSES, INCLUDING REASONABLE ATTORNEYS FEES, ARISING FROM ACTIVITIES OF CONTRACTOR, ITS AGENTS, SERVANTS OR EMPLOYEES, PERFORMED UNDER THIS AGREEMENT THAT RESULT FROM THE NEGLIGENT ACT, ERROR, OR OMISSION OF CONTRACTOR OR ANY OF CONTRACTOR'S AGENTS, SERVANTS OR EMPLOYEES.

Section 13. Confidential and Proprietary Information

- A. Contractor acknowledges that it and its employees or agents may, in the course of performing their responsibilities under this Agreement, be exposed to or acquire information that is confidential to County. Any and all information of any form obtained by Contractor or its employees or agents from County in the performance of this Agreement shall be deemed to be confidential information of County ("Confidential Information"). Any reports or other documents or items (including software) that result from the use of the Confidential Information by Contractor shall be treated with respect to confidentiality in the same manner as the Confidential Information. Confidential Information shall be deemed not to include information that (a) is or becomes (other than by disclosure by Contractor) publicly known or is contained in a publicly available document; (b) is rightfully in Contractor's possession without the obligation of nondisclosure prior to the time of its disclosure under this Agreement; or (c) is independently developed by employees or agents of Contractor who can be shown to have had no access to the Confidential Information.
- B. Contractor agrees to hold Confidential Information in strict confidence, using at least the same degree of care that Contractor uses in maintaining the confidentiality of its own confidential information, and not to copy, reproduce, sell, assign, license, market, transfer or otherwise dispose of, give, or disclose Confidential Information to third parties or use Confidential Information for any purposes whatsoever other than the provision of Services to County hereunder, and to advise each of its employees and agents of their obligations to keep Confidential Information confidential. Contractor shall use its best efforts to assist County in identifying and preventing any unauthorized use or disclosure of any Confidential Information. Without limitation of the foregoing, Contractor shall advise County immediately in the event Contractor learns or has reason to believe that any person who has had access to Confidential Information has violated or intends to violate the terms of this Agreement and Contractor will at its expense cooperate with County in seeking injunctive or other equitable relief in the name of County or Contractor against any such person. Contractor agrees that, except as directed by County, Contractor will not at any time during or after the term of this Agreement disclose, directly or indirectly, any Confidential Information to any person, and that upon termination of this Agreement or at County's request, Contractor will promptly turn over to County all

documents, papers, and other matter in Contractor's possession which embody Confidential Information.

- C. Contractor acknowledges that a breach of this Section, including disclosure of any Confidential Information, or disclosure of other information that, at law or in equity, ought to remain confidential, will give rise to irreparable injury to County that is inadequately compensable in damages. Accordingly, County may seek and obtain injunctive relief against the breach or threatened breach of the foregoing undertakings, in addition to any other legal remedies that may be available. Contractor acknowledges and agrees that the covenants contained herein are necessary for the protection of the legitimate business interest of County and are reasonable in scope and content.
- D. Contractor in providing all services hereunder agrees to abide by the provisions of any applicable Federal or State Data Privacy Act.
- E. Contractor expressly acknowledges that County is subject to the Texas Public Information Act, TEX. GOV'T CODE ANN. §§ 552.001 et seq., as amended, and notwithstanding any provision in the Agreement to the contrary, County will make any information related to the Agreement, or otherwise, available to third parties in accordance with the Texas Public Information Act. Any proprietary or confidential information marked as such provided to County by Consultant shall not be disclosed to any third party, except as directed by the Texas Attorney General in response to a request for such under the Texas Public Information Act, which provides for notice to the owner of such marked information and the opportunity for the owner of such information to notify the Attorney General of the reasons why such information should not be disclosed. The terms and conditions of the Agreement are not proprietary or confidential information.

Section 14. Independent Contractor

- A. In the performance of work or services hereunder, Contractor shall be deemed an independent contractor, and any of its agents, employees, officers, or volunteers performing work required hereunder shall be deemed solely as employees of contractor or, where permitted, of its subcontractors.
- B. Contractor and its agents, employees, officers, or volunteers shall not, by performing work pursuant to this Agreement, be deemed to be employees, agents, or servants of County and shall not be entitled to any of the privileges or benefits of County employment.

Section 15. Notices

- A. Each party giving any notice or making any request, demand, or other communication (each, a "Notice") pursuant to this Agreement shall do so in writing and shall use one of

the following methods of delivery, each of which, for purposes of this Agreement, is a writing: personal delivery, registered or certified mail (in each case, return receipt requested and postage prepaid), or nationally recognized overnight courier (with all fees prepaid).

- B. Each party giving a Notice shall address the Notice to the receiving party at the address listed below or to another address designated by a party in a Notice pursuant to this Section:

County:	Fort Bend County Attn: County Judge 401 Jackson Street Richmond, Texas 77469
With a copy to:	Fort Bend County Auditor 301 Jackson St. Richmond, TX 77469
Contractor:	Whitley Penn LLP 3411 Richmond Avenue, Ste. 500 Houston, TX 77046

- C. Notice is effective only if the party giving or making the Notice has complied with subsections 15(A) and 15(B) and if the addressee has received the Notice. A Notice is deemed received as follows:
1. If the Notice is delivered in person, or sent by registered or certified mail or a nationally recognized overnight courier, upon receipt as indicated by the date on the signed receipt.
 2. If the addressee rejects or otherwise refuses to accept the Notice, or if the Notice cannot be delivered because of a change in address for which no Notice was given, then upon the rejection, refusal, or inability to deliver.

Section 16. Compliance with Laws

Contractor shall comply with all federal, state, and local laws, statutes, ordinances, rules and regulations, and the orders and decrees of any courts or administrative bodies or tribunals in any matter affecting the performance of this Agreement, including, without limitation, Worker's Compensation laws, minimum and maximum salary and wage statutes and regulations, licensing laws and regulations. When required by County, Contractor shall furnish County with certification of compliance with said laws, statutes, ordinances, rules, regulations, orders, and decrees above specified.

Section 17. Performance Warranty

- A. Contractor warrants to County that Contractor has the skill and knowledge ordinarily possessed by well-informed members of its trade or profession practicing in the greater Houston metropolitan area and Contractor will apply that skill and knowledge with care and diligence to ensure that the Services provided hereunder will be performed and delivered in accordance with the highest professional standards.
- B. Contractor warrants to County that the Services will be free from material errors and will materially conform to all requirements and specifications contained in the attached Exhibit A.

Section 18. Assignment and Delegation

- A. Neither party may assign any of its rights under this Agreement, except with the prior written consent of the other party. That party shall not unreasonably withhold its consent. All assignments of rights are prohibited under this subsection, whether they are voluntarily or involuntarily, by merger, consolidation, dissolution, operation of law, or any other manner.
- B. Neither party may delegate any performance under this Agreement.
- C. Any purported assignment of rights or delegation of performance in violation of this Section is void.

Section 19. Applicable Law

- A. The laws of the State of Texas govern all disputes arising out of or relating to this Agreement. The parties hereto acknowledge that venue is proper in Fort Bend County, Texas, for all legal actions or proceedings arising out of or relating to this Agreement and waive the right to sue or be sued elsewhere.
- B. Nothing in this Agreement shall be construed to waive the County's sovereign immunity.
- C. County does not agree to pay any and/or all attorney fees incurred by Contractor in any way associated with this Agreement.
- D. County does not agree to submit disputes arising out of this Agreement to binding arbitration. Therefore, any references to binding arbitration or the waiver of a right to litigate a dispute are hereby deleted.

Section 20. Successors and Assigns

County and Contractor bind themselves and their successors, executors, administrators and assigns to the other party of this Agreement and to the successors, executors, administrators and assigns of the other party, in respect to all covenants of this Agreement.

Section 21. Third Party Beneficiaries

This Agreement does not confer any enforceable rights or remedies upon any person other than the parties.

Section 22. Severability

If any provision of this Agreement is determined to be invalid, illegal, or unenforceable, the remaining provisions remain in full force, if the essential terms and conditions of this Agreement for each party remain valid, binding, and enforceable.

Section 23. Publicity

Contact with citizens of Fort Bend County, media outlets, or governmental agencies shall be the sole responsibility of County. Under no circumstances whatsoever, shall Contractor release any material or information developed or received in the performance of the Services hereunder without the express written permission of County, except where required to do so by law.

Section 24. Captions

The section captions used in this Agreement are for convenience of reference only and do not affect the interpretation or construction of this Agreement.

Section 25. Entire Agreement

This Agreement contains the entire Agreement among the parties and supercedes all other negotiations and agreements, whether written or oral. Attached hereto is Exhibit A :Scope of Services dated June 27, 2017 and Exhibit B: Fort Bend County's Travel Policy; all of which are incorporate by reference as if set forth herein verbatim for all purposes.

Section 26. Conflict

- A. If there is a conflict between the terms of this document and the Attachments to it, the terms of this document overrides all Exhibits.
- B. With regard to conflicts between the Exhibits, Exhibit B overrides Exhibit A.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties hereto have signed or have caused their respective names to be signed to multiple counterparts to be effective on the _____ day of _____, 2017.

FORT BEND COUNTY

WHITLEY PENN, LLP

Robert E. Hebert, County Judge


Authorized Agent- Signature

Christopher L. Breaux
Authorized Agent- Printed Name

ATTEST:

Partner

Title

Laura Richard, County Clerk

25 July 2017
Date

Exhibit A: Scope of Services dated June 27, 2017

Exhibit B: Fort Bend County's Travel Policy

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AUDITOR'S CERTIFICATE

I hereby certify that funds are available in the amount of \$_____ to accomplish and pay the obligation of Fort Bend County under this contract.

Robert Edward Sturdivant, County Auditor

Exhibit A:

Scope of Services dated June 27, 2017

June 27, 2017

To the Honorable Robert E. Hebert, County Judge
and Members of Commissioners Court
Fort Bend County, Texas

You have requested that we audit the financial statements of the governmental activities, the aggregate discretely component units each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of Fort Bend County, Texas (the "County"), as of September 30, 2017 and for the year then ended, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the County's basic financial statements.

In addition, we will audit the County's compliance over major federal and state award programs for the year ended September 30, 2017. We are pleased to confirm our acceptance and our understanding of this audit engagement by means of this letter. Our audit will be conducted with the objectives of our expressing an opinion on each opinion unit and an opinion on compliance regarding the County's major federal and state award programs.

Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require that *the management's discussion and analysis* be presented to supplement the basic financial statements. Such information, although not a part of the basic financial statements, is required by *Governmental Accounting Standards Board*, who considers it to be an essential part of financial reporting for placing the basic financial statements in an appropriate operational, economic, or historical context. As part of our engagement, we will apply certain limited procedures to the required supplementary information (RSI) in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. These limited procedures will consist primarily of inquiries of management regarding their methods of measurement and presentation, and comparing the information for consistency with management's responses to our inquiries. We will not express an opinion or provide any form of assurance on the RSI. The following RSI is required by accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America:

- 1) Management's Discussion and Analysis.
- 2) General Fund Budgetary Schedule
- 3) Required Supplementary Pension System Information
- 4) Other Post-Employment Benefit Information

Supplementary information other than RSI will accompany the County's basic financial statements. We will subject the following supplementary information to the auditing procedures applied in our audit of the basic financial statements and certain additional procedures, including comparing and reconciling the supplementary information to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the financial statements or to the financial statements themselves, and additional procedures in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. We intend to provide an opinion on the following supplementary information in relation to the financial statements as a whole:

- 1) Schedule of Expenditures of Federal and State Awards.
- 2) Combining and Individual Fund Statements and Schedules

To the Honorable Robert E. Hebert, County Judge
and Members of Commissioners Court
Fort Bend County, Texas
June 27, 2017
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Also, the document we submit to you will include the following other additional information that will not be subjected to the auditing procedures applied in our audit of the financial statements:

- 1) Introductory Section
- 2) Statistical Section

Data Collection Form

Prior to the completion of our engagement, we will complete the sections of the Data Collection Form that are our responsibility. The form will summarize our audit findings, amounts and conclusions. It is management's responsibility to submit a reporting package including financial statements, schedule of expenditure of federal awards, summary schedule of prior audit findings and corrective action plan along with the Data Collection Form to the federal audit clearinghouse. The financial reporting package must be text searchable, unencrypted, and unlocked. Otherwise, the reporting package will not be accepted by the federal audit clearinghouse. We will assist you in the electronic submission and certification. You may request from us copies of our report for you to include with the reporting package submitted to pass-through entities.

The Data Collection Form is required to be submitted within the *earlier* of 30 days after receipt of our auditors' reports or nine months after the end of the audit period, unless specifically waived by a federal cognizant or oversight agency for audits. Data Collection Forms submitted untimely are one of the factors in assessing programs at a higher risk.

Audit of the Financial Statements

We will conduct our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America (U.S. GAAS), the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States of America; the audit requirements 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) and the audit requirements of the State of Texas Single Audit Circular (Uniform Grant Management Standards). Those standards, the Uniform Guidance, and the Uniform Grant Management Standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the basic financial statements are free from material misstatement. An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to error, fraudulent financial reporting, misappropriation of assets, or violations of laws, governmental regulations, grant agreements, or contractual agreements.

An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements. If appropriate, our procedures will therefore include tests of documentary evidence that support the transactions recorded in the accounts, tests of the physical existence of inventories, and direct confirmation of cash, investments, and certain other assets and liabilities by correspondence with creditors and financial institutions. As part of our audit process, we will request written representations from your attorneys, and they may bill you for responding. At the conclusion of our audit, we will also request certain written representations from you about the financial statements and related matters.

To the Honorable Robert E. Hebert, County Judge
and Members of Commissioners Court
Fort Bend County, Texas
June 27, 2017
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Because of the inherent limitations of an audit, together with the inherent limitations of internal control, an unavoidable risk that some material misstatements or noncompliance (whether caused by errors, fraudulent financial reporting, misappropriation of assets, detected abuse, or violations of laws or governmental regulations) may not be detected exists, even though the audit is properly planned and performed in accordance with U.S. GAAS and *Government Auditing Standards* of the Comptroller General of the United States of America, in accordance with the Uniform Guidance and the Uniform Grant Management Standards. Please note that the determination of abuse is subjective and *Government Auditing Standards* does not require auditors to detect abuse.

In making our risk assessments, we consider internal control relevant to the County's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements 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. Our responsibility as auditors is, of course, limited to the period covered by our audit and does not extend to any other periods.

We will issue a written report upon completion of our audit of the County's basic financial statements. Our report will be addressed to the governing body of the County. We cannot provide assurance that unmodified opinions will be expressed. Circumstances may arise in which it is necessary for us to modify our opinions, add an emphasis-of-matter or other-matter paragraph(s), or withdraw from the engagement.

In accordance with the requirements of *Government Auditing Standards*, we will also issue a written report describing the scope of our testing over internal control over financial reporting and over compliance with laws, regulations, and provisions of grants and contracts, including the results of that testing. However, providing an opinion on internal control and compliance over financial reporting will not be an objective of the audit and, therefore, no such opinion will be expressed.

We also will issue a written report on the County's compliance with the Uniform Guidance as it related to each of the major federal awards upon completion of our audit.

We also will issue a written report on the County's compliance with the Uniform Grant Management Standards as it related to each of the major state awards upon completion of our audit.

Audit of Major Program Compliance

Our audit of the County's major federal and state program(s) compliance will be conducted in accordance with the requirements of the Single Audit Act, as amended; the Uniform Guidance and the Uniform Grant Management Standards, where applicable, and will include tests of accounting records, a determination of major programs in accordance with the Uniform Guidance, the Uniform Grant Management Standards, where applicable, and other procedures we consider necessary to enable us to express such an opinion on major federal and state award program compliance and to render the required reports. We cannot provide assurance that an unmodified opinion on compliance will be expressed. Circumstances may arise in which it is necessary for us to modify our opinion or withdraw from the engagement.

The Uniform Guidance and the Uniform Grant Management Standards, where applicable, requires that we also plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the County has complied with applicable laws and regulations and the provisions of contracts and grant agreements applicable to major federal or state award programs. Our procedures will consist of determining major federal and state programs and performing the applicable procedures described in the U.S. Office of Management and Budget *OMB Compliance Supplement* for

the types of compliance requirements that could have a direct and material effect on each of the County's major federal and state programs. The purpose of those procedures will be to express an opinion on the County's compliance with requirements applicable to each of its major federal and state programs in our report on compliance issued pursuant to the Uniform Guidance and the Uniform Grant Management Standards, where applicable.

Also, as required by the Uniform Guidance and the Uniform Grant Management Standards, where applicable, we will perform tests of controls to evaluate the effectiveness of the design and operation of controls that we consider relevant to preventing or detecting material noncompliance with compliance requirements applicable to each of the County's major federal and state award programs. However, our tests will be less in scope than would be necessary to render an opinion on these controls and, accordingly, no opinion will be expressed in our report.

We will issue a report on compliance that will include an opinion or disclaimer of opinion regarding the County's major federal and state programs, and a report on internal controls over compliance that will report any significant deficiencies and material weaknesses identified; however, such report will not express an opinion on internal control.

Management's Responsibilities

Our audit will be conducted on the basis that management and, when appropriate, those charged with governance acknowledge and understand 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;
2. 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 error fraudulent financial reporting, misappropriation of assets, or violations of laws, governmental regulations, grant agreements, or contractual agreements;
3. For safeguarding assets;
4. For identifying all federal awards expended during the period including federal awards and funding increments received prior to December 26, 2014, and those received in accordance with the Uniform Guidance generally received after December 26, 2014;
5. For preparing the schedule of expenditures of federal and state awards (including notes and noncash assistance received) in accordance with the Uniform Guidance requirements and the Uniform Grant Management Standards requirements;
6. For the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control over compliance;
7. For identifying and ensuring that the County complies with laws, regulations, grants, and contracts applicable to its activities and its federal and state award programs and implementing systems designed to achieve compliance with applicable laws, regulations, grants, and contracts applicable to activities and its federal and state award programs;
8. For identifying and providing report copies of previous audits, attestation engagements, or other studies that directly relate to the objectives of the audit, including whether related recommendations have been implemented;
9. For addressing the findings and recommendations of auditors, for establishing and maintaining a process to track the status of such findings and recommendations and taking corrective action on reported audit findings from prior periods and preparing a summary schedule of prior audit findings;
10. For following up and taking corrective action on current year audit findings and preparing a corrective action plan for such findings;
11. For submitting the reporting package and data collection form to the appropriate parties;

12. For making the auditor aware of any significant vendor / contractor relationships where the vendor / contractor is responsible for program compliance;
13. 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, and relevant to federal and/or state award programs, such as records, documentation, and other matters;
 - b. Additional information that we may request from management for the purpose of the audit; and
 - c. Unrestricted access to persons within the County from whom we determine it necessary to obtain audit evidence.
14. For adjusting the financial statements to correct material misstatements and confirming to us in the management representation letter that the effects of any uncorrected misstatements aggregated by us during the current engagement and pertaining to the current year period(s) under audit are immaterial, both individually and in the aggregate, to the financial statements as a whole;
15. For maintaining adequate records, selecting and applying accounting principles, and safeguarding assets; and
16. For confirming your understanding of your responsibilities as defined in this letter to us in your management representation letter.

With regard to the supplementary information referred to above, you acknowledge and understand your responsibility (a) for the preparation of the supplementary information in accordance with the applicable criteria, (b) to provide us with the appropriate written representations regarding supplementary information, (c) to include our report on the supplementary information in any document that contains the supplementary information and that indicates that we have reported on such supplementary information, and (d) 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 by you of the supplementary information and our report thereon.

With respect to any nonattest services we perform, County's management is responsible for (a) making all management decisions and performing all management functions; (b) assigning a competent individual to oversee the services; (c) evaluating the adequacy of the services performed; (d) evaluating and accepting responsibility for the results of the services performed; and (e) establishing and maintaining internal controls, including monitoring ongoing activities. Nonattest services could include the preparation of the financial statements and full accrual entries.

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.

We understand that your employees will prepare all confirmations we request and will locate any documents or invoices selected by us for testing.

If you intend to publish or otherwise reproduce the financial statements and make reference to our firm, you agree to provide us with printers' proofs or masters for our review and approval before printing. You also agree to provide us with a copy of the final reproduced material for our approval before it is distributed.

To the Honorable Robert E. Hebert, County Judge
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Fort Bend County, Texas
June 27, 2017
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Fees and Timing

The timing of our audit will be scheduled for performance and completion as follows:

Document internal control and preliminary tests	August 2017
Inventory observation (for material balances)	September 30, 2017 or agreed upon date
Perform year-end audit procedures	November 2017
Issue audit reports	March 2018

We anticipate meeting these deadlines barring any delays.

Christopher Breaux, CPA is the engagement partner for the audit services specified in this letter. His responsibilities include supervising Whitley Penn, LLP's services performed as part of this engagement and signing or authorizing another qualified firm representative to sign the audit report.

Our fee for the audit services will be based on the amount of time required and the difficulty of the work involved which we estimate to be \$141,250. We anticipate the County Auditor's office personnel will prepare the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report. Should circumstances change and County personnel desire our assistance with the preparation of the financial statements, we will provide assistance for an optional fee not to exceed \$20,000. The fee estimate for the audit is based on anticipated cooperation from the County's personnel and the assumption that unexpected circumstances will not be encountered during the audit. If significant additional time is necessary, we will keep you informed of any problems we encounter and our fees will be adjusted accordingly.

Our invoices for these fees will be rendered each month as work progresses and are payable on presentation and payment is due in Tarrant County. You agree to pay reasonable attorney fees and collection costs incurred relating to collection of fees for services performed under the terms of this engagement. In accordance with Whitley Penn, LLP policy, work may be suspended if your account becomes 30 days or more past due and will not resume until your account is paid in full. In addition, invoices not paid in full by the last day of the month will be assessed interest at a rate of one percent per month. If we elect to terminate our services for nonpayment, our engagement will be deemed to have been complete even if we have not issued our report. You will be obligated to compensate us for all time expended and to reimburse us for all out-of-pocket expenditures through the date of termination. Our final auditors' report will be released upon final payment of any outstanding invoices.

You may request that we perform additional services not addressed in this engagement letter. If this occurs, we will communicate with you concerning the scope of the additional services and the estimated fees. We also may issue a separate engagement letter covering the additional services. In the absence of any other written communication from us documenting such additional services, our services will continue to be governed by the terms of this engagement letter.

We would like to make the following comments regarding the fee estimates:

1. Our fee estimates have not considered the effects of any changes to auditing standards and accounting principles, which may be promulgated by the AICPA, Congress, or any other regulatory body in the future and are unknown to us at this time. If significant additional time is necessary resulting in increased fees, we will endeavor to notify you of any such circumstances as they are assessed.

To the Honorable Robert E. Hebert, County Judge
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2. The County's personnel are responsible for the preparation of all items requested in the Prepared by Client ("PBC") listing and received by the date requested. Any delays caused by not preparing the items when requested may result in additional fees, as well as the possibility of postponing our fieldwork. The PBC listing will be provided to you during the planning process of the engagement.
3. Time incurred for audit adjustments identified during our audit and the related additional testing required has not been considered in our fee estimates. Prior to performing any additional testing, we will notify you of the exceptions and obtain approval for any additional fees which may be incurred.
4. Our fee estimates are based on all general ledger sub ledgers being reconciled to the general ledger balance and any adjustment necessary should be recorded to the general ledger prior to our fieldwork start date.

The ethics of our profession prohibit the rendering of professional services where the fee for such services is contingent, or has the appearance of being contingent, upon the results of such services. Accordingly, it is important that our bills be paid promptly when received. If a situation arises in which it may appear that our independence would be questioned because of significant unpaid bills, we may be prohibited from issuing our auditors' report.

In the unlikely event that differences concerning our services or fees should arise that are not resolved by mutual agreement, to facilitate judicial resolution and save time and expense of both parties, the County and Whitley Penn, LLP agree not to demand a trial by jury in any action, proceeding or counterclaim arising out of or relating to our services and fees for this engagement. Any controversy, dispute, or questions arising out of or in connection with this agreement or our engagement shall be determined by arbitration conducted in accordance with the rules of the American Arbitration Association, and any decision rendered by the American Arbitration Association shall be binding on both parties to this agreement. The costs of any arbitration shall be borne equally by the parties. Any and all claims relating to or arising out of this contract/agreement shall be governed by the laws of Texas.

This letter replaces and supersedes any previous proposals, correspondence and understanding, whether written or oral. The agreements contained in this engagement letter shall survive the completion or termination of this engagement.

The audit documentation for this engagement is the property of Whitley Penn, LLP and constitutes confidential information. However, we may be requested to make certain audit documentation available to various regulators pursuant to authority given to it by law or regulation, or to peer reviewers. If requested, access to such audit documentation will be provided under the supervision Whitley Penn, LLP's personnel. Furthermore, upon request, we may provide copies of selected audit documentation to the applicable regulator. The regulator may intend, or decide, to distribute the copies of information contained therein to others, including other governmental agencies.

To ensure that Whitley Penn, LLP's independence is not impaired under the AICPA Code of Professional Conduct, you agree to inform the engagement partner before entering into any substantive employment discussions with any of our personnel.

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Fort Bend County, Texas
June 27, 2017
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Other Matters

During the course of the engagement, we may communicate with you or your personnel via fax or e-mail, and you should be aware that communication in those mediums contains a risk of misdirected or intercepted communications.

The audit documentation for this engagement is the property of Whitley Penn, LLP and constitutes confidential information. However, we may be requested to make certain audit documentation available to your pass-through regulatory entity and federal agencies and the U.S. Government Accountability Office pursuant to authority given to it by law or regulation, or to peer reviewers. If requested, access to such audit documentation will be provided under the supervision Whitley Penn, LLP's personnel. Furthermore, upon request, we may provide copies of selected audit documentation to these agencies and regulators. The regulators and agencies may intend, or decide, to distribute the copies of information contained therein to others, including other governmental agencies. We agree to retain our audit documentation or work papers for a period of at least five years from the date of our report.

Further, we will be available during the year to consult with you on financial management and accounting matters of a routine nature.

During the course of the audit, we may observe opportunities for economy in, or improved controls over, your operations. We will bring such matters to the attention of the appropriate level of management, either orally or in writing.

We agree to retain our audit documentation or work papers for a period of at least five years from the date of our report.

You agree to inform us of facts that may affect the financial statements of which you may become aware during the period from the date of the auditor's report to the date the financial statements are issued.

At the conclusion of our audit engagement, we will communicate to the County Judge and to Commissioners Court the following significant findings from the audit:

- Our view about the qualitative aspects of the County's significant accounting practices;
- Significant difficulties, if any, encountered during the audit;
- Uncorrected misstatements, other than those we believe are trivial, if any;
- Disagreements with management, if any;
- Other findings or issues, if any, arising from the audit that are, in our professional judgment, significant and relevant to those charged with governance regarding their oversight of the financial reporting process;
- Material, corrected misstatements that were brought to the attention of management as a result of our audit procedures;
- Representations we requested from management;
- Management's consultations with other accountants, if any; and
- Significant issues, if any, arising from the audit that were discussed, or the subject of correspondence, with management.

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In accordance with the requirements of *Government Auditing Standards*, we have attached a copy of our latest external peer review report of our firm for your consideration and files.

Please sign and return the attached copy of this letter to indicate your acknowledgment of, and agreement with, the arrangements for our audit of the financial statements compliance over major federal and state award programs including our respective responsibilities.

We appreciate the opportunity to be your financial statement auditors and look forward to working with you and your staff.

Respectfully,

Whitley Penn LLP

Houston, Texas

RESPONSE:

This letter correctly sets forth our understanding.

Acknowledged and agreed on behalf of Fort Bend County, Texas by:

Name: _____

Title: _____

Date: _____

Name: _____

Title: _____

Date: _____

To the Honorable Robert E. Hebert, County Judge
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SYSTEM REVIEW REPORT

June 25, 2015

To the Partners of Whitley Penn LLP and the
National Peer Review Committee of the AICPA

We have reviewed the system of quality control for the accounting and auditing practice of Whitley Penn LLP (the Firm) applicable to engagements not subject to PCAOB permanent inspection in effect for the year ended April 30, 2015. Our peer review was conducted in accordance with the Standards for Performing and Reporting on Peer Reviews established by the Peer Review Board of the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants. As part of our peer review, we considered reviews by regulatory entities, if applicable, in determining the nature and extent of our procedures. The Firm is responsible for designing a system of quality control and complying with it to provide the Firm with reasonable assurance of performing and reporting in conformity with applicable professional standards in all material respects. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the design of the system of quality control and the Firm's compliance therewith based on our review. The nature, objectives, scope, limitations of, and the procedures performed in a System Review are described in the standards at www.aicpa.org/prsummary.

As required by the standards, engagements selected for review included engagements performed under *Government Auditing Standards*, audits of employee benefit plans, audits performed under FDICIA, audits of carrying broker-dealers, and examinations of service organizations (Service Organization Control (SOC) 1 engagements).

In our opinion, the system of quality control for the accounting and auditing practice of Whitley Penn LLP applicable to engagements not subject to PCAOB permanent inspection in effect for the year ended April 30, 2015, has been suitably designed and complied with to provide the Firm with reasonable assurance of performing and reporting in conformity with applicable professional standards in all material respects. Firms can receive a rating of *pass*, *pass with deficiency(ies)* or *fail*. Whitley Penn LLP has received a peer review rating of *pass*.

Olsen Thielen & Co., Ltd.

Olsen Thielen & Co., Ltd.

Exhibit B:

Fort Bend County's Travel Policy



Fort Bend County
Travel Policy Summary
Effective August 1, 2015
Summary Revised 09.21.15

This is a summary of the Travel Policy, it is the travelers responsibility to read the entire Travel Policy located at <http://econnect/modules/showdocument.aspx?documentid=876> prior to making any travel reservations. Failure to comply with the Travel Policy will result in delay of travel reimbursement or traveler covering cost of travel. For questions regarding the policy or making reservations call the Auditor's Office 281-341-3763 or after hours at 281-684-7292.

Hotels – Reimbursable rates are limited to the GSA Per Diem Limits per day, per city not including taxes. The rates, which vary by month, are located on the GSA website http://www.gsa.gov/portal/content/104877?utm_source=OGP&utm_medium=print-radio&utm_term=perdiem&utm_campaign=shortcuts

State Contract Hotels are available at discounted rates. Traveler must verify the state rate per night is less than the GSA rate when reserving hotel room or the traveler will only be reimbursed at the GSA rate plus taxes <http://www.window.state.tx.us/procurement/prog/stmp/>

Traveler can stay at the host hotel if the host hotel offers a group rate and the traveler is able to reserve the room at the group rate. ***If no more group rate rooms are available the traveler will need to find other accommodations within the GSA reimbursable rates.***

- Valet parking will not be reimbursed if self-parking is available.
- FBC is exempt from sales tax not hotel tax so you must pay all taxes at the hotel.
- Travel Days: If the traveler must leave before 7:00AM to arrive at the start of the event and/or return to the County after 6:00PM after the event concludes, an additional night's lodging is allowable before and/or after the event.
- Fees not allowable: Internet, phone charges, laundry, safe fees etc.
- Gratuities: Gratuities are not reimbursable for any lodging services.

Airfare- is reimbursable at the lowest available rate based on 14 day advance purchase of a discounted coach/economy full-service seat based on the required arrival time for the event. When using Southwest Airlines a traveler should choose the "wanna get away" flight category. Unallowable expenses include trip insurance, early bird check In, front of the line, leg room and fare changes for personal reasons.

Rental Cars- Traveler must use state contract rates with AVIS and Enterprise located at <http://www.window.state.tx.us/procurement/prog/stmp/>

No add on cost (additional insurance, prepaid fuel, GPS, premium radio etc.) The state contract rates already include insurance so additional insurance is not necessary. ***Refer to the travel policy for details on booking your rental car reservations using the state contracts.***

Meals Per Diem –\$36 in state and \$48 out of state. First and last day of travel are paid at 75% of daily per diem rate (first and last day travel per diem rates \$27 in state and \$36 out of state)

Mileage Reimbursements – Use of personal vehicle will be reimbursed at the current rate/mile set by Commissioners' Court. Mileage should be calculated using the County office location of the traveler and the event location.

Contract Rental Car Rates (September 1-2015- August 31, 2016) - State of Texas Rates

CAR TYPE	AVIS / BUDGET		ENTERPRISE / NATIONAL	
Compact	\$33.50	\$201.00	\$35.00	\$210.00
Intermediate	\$35.50	\$213.00	\$37.00	\$222.00
Full-Size	\$37.50	\$225.00	\$39.00	\$234.00
Minivan	\$47.50	\$285.00	\$52.00	\$312.00
SUV Mid-Size	\$47.50	\$285.00	\$56.00	\$336.00
SUV Large	n/a	n/a	\$89.00	\$534.00

Contract Rental Car Rates (September 1-2015- August 31, 2016) - Out of State Rates

CAR TYPE	AVIS / BUDGET		ENTERPRISE / NATIONAL	
Compact	\$35.50	\$213.00	\$35.00	\$210.00
Intermediate	\$37.50	\$225.00	\$37.00	\$222.00
Full-Size	\$39.50	\$237.00	\$39.00	\$234.00
Minivan	\$49.50	\$297.00	\$52.00	\$312.00
SUV Mid-Size	\$49.50	\$297.00	\$56.00	\$336.00
SUV Large	n/a	n/a	\$89.00	\$534.00

GSA Reimbursable Hotel Rates for the State of Texas October 2015 – September 2016. All other states are online.

		OCT 15	NOV 15	DEC 15	JAN 16	FEB 16	MAR 16	APR 16	MAY 16	JUN 16	JUL 16	AUG 16	SEP 16
Standard Rate	City/County not listed	89	89	89	89	89	89	89	89	89	89	89	89
Arlington / Fort Worth / Grapevine	Tarrant County / City of Grapevine	149	149	149	149	149	149	149	149	149	149	149	149
Austin	Travis	135	135	135	159	159	159	135	135	135	135	135	135
Bio Sorina	Howard	171	171	171	171	171	171	171	1471	171	171	171	171
College Station	Brazos	114	114	114	114	114	114	114	114	114	114	114	114
Corpus Christi	Nueces	105	105	105	105	105	105	105	105	105	105	105	105
Dallas	Dallas	125	125	125	138	138	138	138	138	138	125	125	125
El Paso	El Paso	95	95	95	95	95	95	95	95	95	95	95	95
Galveston	Galveston	99	99	99	99	99	99	99	99	129	129	129	99
Houston	Montgomery / Fort Bend / Harris	131	131	131	131	147	147	147	147	131	131	131	131
Laredo	Webb	99	99	99	99	99	99	99	99	99	99	99	99
McAllen	Hidalgo	93	93	93	93	93	93	93	93	93	93	93	93
Midland	Midland	185	174	174	174	185	185	185	185	185	185	185	185
Pearsall	Frio / Medina / La Salle	119	119	119	119	119	119	142	142	119	119	119	119

[illegible]

CERTIFICATE OF INTERESTED PARTIES

FORM 1295

1 of 1

Complete Nos. 1 - 4 and 6 if there are interested parties.
Complete Nos. 1, 2, 3, 5, and 6 if there are no interested parties.

OFFICE USE ONLY CERTIFICATION OF FILING

Certificate Number:
2017-240584

Date Filed:
07/25/2017

Date Acknowledged:

1 Name of business entity filing form, and the city, state and country of the business entity's place of business.

Whitley Penn LLP
Houston, TX United States

2 Name of governmental entity or state agency that is a party to the contract for which the form is being filed.

Fort Bend County

3 Provide the identification number used by the governmental entity or state agency to track or identify the contract, and provide a description of the services, goods, or other property to be provided under the contract.

24507
Audit Services

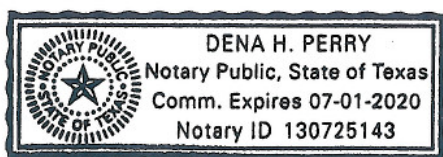
4	Name of Interested Party	City, State, Country (place of business)	Nature of interest (check applicable)	
			Controlling	Intermediary

5 Check only if there is NO Interested Party.




6 AFFIDAVIT

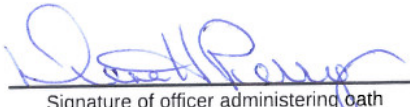
I swear, or affirm, under penalty of perjury, that the above disclosure is true and correct.



AFFIX NOTARY STAMP / SEAL ABOVE


Signature of authorized agent of contracting business entity

Sworn to and subscribed before me, by the said Christopher L. Breau, this the 25th day of July, 2017, to certify which, witness my hand and seal of office.

 Dena H. Perry Executive Assistant
Signature of officer administering oath Printed name of officer administering oath Title of officer administering oath