CONTRACT FOR THE COLLECTION OF DELINQUENT TOLLS

This Contract is made between FORT BEND COUNTY TOLL ROAD AUTHORITY, a local government corporation created by Fort Bend County, Texas pursuant to Chapter 431 of the Texas Transportation Code ("Authority") and WEST LAW GROUP, PLLC, Attorneys at Law, Houston, Texas and various other locations throughout Texas ("Firm").

I. Engagement

Authority hereby engages the Firm to enforce by suit or otherwise, the collection of all delinquent tolls, penalties and interest, owing to the Authority, which the Authority refers to the Firm, subject to the Authority's right to make the final decision to enforce by suit any delinquent toll account turned over to the Firm for collection.

The Firm shall generally follow the enforcement process outlined in **Exhibit A** attached hereto.

II. Legal Compliance

All work will be done in strict compliance with all applicable city, county, state and federal rules, regulations and laws and any codes which may apply to the services being provided, including, but not limited to, Chapter 284 of the Texas Transportation Code.

III. Communication and Progress Reports

The Firm is to call to the attention of the Authority any errors, double assessments or other discrepancies coming under their observance during the progress of the work. The Firm agrees to make progress reports to the Authority on request, and to advise the Authority of all cases where investigation reveals violators to be financially unable to pay their delinquent tolls.

IV. Fees and Compensation

Authority agrees to pay the Firm as compensation for services required hereunder thirty percent (30%) of the amount of all delinquent tolls, penalty and interest which are subject to this contract and which are actually collected and paid to the Authority or the sum of money equal to the attorney fees awarded by the Court and collected by the Authority, at Firm's discretion.

Authority shall provide advanced costs in an amount agreed to by the parties for litigation expenses which the Firm shall keep in an FDIC-insured IOLTA account. The Firm shall submit a monthly itemized listing of all court costs expended in the previous month to the Authority. Such court costs shall be recovered by the Firm from the first moneys generated by, and collected from, the claim for which court costs were expended.

V. <u>Information</u>

Authority agrees to furnish or to have the agency which collects its tolls furnish to the Firm all data and information in its possession as to the name and address of the violator, the year, make, and model of the

vehicle, dates and amount of tolls due. Authority further agrees to update said information by furnishing a list of paid accounts and adjustments, as necessary.

VI. Effective Date, Termination, Miscellaneous Matters

This Contract shall commence on the date of its execution by all parties and continue in force and effect, provided, however, that either party to this agreement shall have the right to terminate this agreement by giving the other party thirty (30) days written notice of their desire and intention to terminate this agreement; and further provided that the Firm shall have an additional six (6) months to reduce to judgment or payment all toll suits or bankruptcies filed prior to the date this agreement is terminated.

In consideration of the terms and compensation here stated, the Firm hereby accepts said engagement and undertakes the performance of this contract as above written.

This Contract is executed on behalf of the Authority by the presiding officer of its governing body who is authorized to execute this agreement.

VII. Required Notices

The State Bar of Texas investigates and prosecutes professional misconduct committed by Texas attorneys. If you have a complaint against or dispute with this Firm involving professional misconduct, the State Bar's Office of Chief Disciplinary Counsel will provide you with information about how to file a complaint. Please call 1-800-932-1900 for more information.

In accordance with Section 176.0065, Texas Local Government Code, a list of local government officers of the Authority may be obtained by contacting the Authority's records administrator at (281) 500-6050.

VIII. Certifications

The Firm certifies and agrees that it (i) does not, nor will not, so long as the Agreement remains in effect, boycott Israel, as such term is defined in Chapter 808, Texas Government Code, (ii) does not engage in business with Iran, Sudan, or any foreign terrorist organization pursuant to Subchapter F of Chapter 2252 of the Texas Government Code; (iii) is not identified on a list prepared and maintained under Sections 806.051, 807.051, or 2252.153, Texas Government Code; (iv) does not, nor will not, so long as the agreement remains in effect, boycott energy companies, as such term is defined in Chapter 809, Texas Government Code; (v) does not, nor will not, so long as the agreement remains in effect, have a practice, policy, guidance, or directive that discriminates against a firearm entity or firearm trade association, as such term is defined in 2274.001(3), Texas Government Code; and (vi) is not (a) owned or controlled by (1) individuals who are citizens of China, Iran, North Korea, Russia or any designated country (as such term is defined in 113.003, Texas Business & Commerce Code); or (2) a company or other entity, including a governmental entity, that is owned or controlled by citizens of or is directly controlled by the government of China, Iran, North Korea, Russia, of any designated country; or (b) headquartered in China, Iran, North Korea, Russia or a designated country.

Prior to execution of this agreement by the Authority, the Firm will be required to submit a Texas Ethics Commission Form 1295. Please see the below website for details related to this disclosure: https://www.ethics.state.tx.us/whatsnew/elf-info-form1295.htm

WITNESS the signatures of all parties hereto in duplicate originals this the <u>MSF</u> day of <u>Chrusny</u>022.

FORT BEND COUNTY TOLL ROAD AUTHORITY

WITNESS the signatures of all parties hereto in dup	licate originals this the day of, 2022
	FORT BEND COUNTY TOLL ROAD AUTHORITY
	By: Name: Title:
	WEST LAW GROUP, PLLC By:
	Name: Jim West Title: Maraging Menber

EXHIBIT A

Enforcement Process

(see attached)

West Law Group PLLC

Jim West
Admitted in Texas, Florida
and New York
jim.west@westlawgroup.org

563 West Area Blvd., #411 Webster, TX 77598 713-266-9090 713-554-1044 (Fax)

Collection Procedure

- 1. Upon receipt of file from the client, I skip trace the Defendant to find a current address and enter the file into my system and send an initial demand letter.
- 2. If no response within 30 days, the petition is prepared. If an affidavit is needed it is forwarded to the client for signature.
- 3. After receipt of all required documents, the petition is filed and when the citation is issued the petition is send out for service.
- 4. After the petition is served, if no answer is timely filed a Motion for Default Judgment is filed.
- 5. If an answer if filed, unless a settlement is negotiated, a Motion for Summary Judgment is filed.
- 6. After a Judgment is obtained, I send a letter to the Defendant along with a copy of the Judgment and post judgment discovery. We also file an abstract of Judgment.
- 7. If no response is received from the debtor, we begin post judgment activities which generally will be filing for the Appointment of a Receiver but could be also a Writ of Garnishment or Writ of Execution.
- 8. After agreed settlement or full collection of the Judgment, a Release of Judgment is prepared and sent to the Defendant so they can file with the County Clerk

EFFECTIVE DATE

THIS AGREEMENT IS EFFECTIVE ON THE DATE IT IS APPROVED BY THE FORT BEND COUNTY COMMISSIONERS COURT, AND IF NOT SO APPROVED SHALL BE NULL AND VOID.
DATE OF COMMISSIONERS COURT APPROVAL:
AGENDA ITEM NO.: