

CONTRACT FOR PROFESSIONAL SERVICES
BETWEEN
COUNTY OF GLOUCESTER
AND
BOWMAN & COMPANY, LLP

This Contract is made this 30 day of Dec., 2023, by and between the **COUNTY OF GLOUCESTER**, a body politic and corporate, with offices in Woodbury, New Jersey, hereinafter referred to as "County", and **BOWMAN & COMPANY, LLP**, (a Limited Liability Partnership) of 6 N. Broad Street, Suite 201, Woodbury, New Jersey 08096, hereinafter referred to as "Vendor".

RECITALS

WHEREAS, there exists a need by the County of Gloucester for professional audit services for the Gloucester County Surrogate's Office for the year ending December 31, 2023; and

WHEREAS, Vendor represents that it is qualified to perform said services and desires to so perform pursuant to the terms and provisions of this Contract.

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the mutual promises, agreements and other considerations made by and between the parties, the County and the Vendor do hereby agree as follows:

TERMS OF AGREEMENT

1. TERM. Vendor shall commence services forthwith upon the date of the award and complete all services during the period of time provided for performance of the specific functions set forth in Vendor's Engagement Contract Letter, dated November 1, 2023, consisting of 11 pages attached hereto as "Attachment A".

2. COMPENSATION. Vendor shall be compensated pursuant to the unit prices set forth in and subject to all terms and provisions of "Attachment A" for a total contract amount of \$9,300.00.

Vendor shall be paid in accordance with this Contract document upon receipt of an invoice and a properly executed voucher. After approval by County, the payment voucher shall be placed in line for prompt payment.

Each invoice shall contain an itemized, detailed description of all work performed during the billing period. Failure to provide sufficient specificity shall be cause for rejection of the invoice until the necessary details are provided.

**CONTRACT FOR PROFESSIONAL SERVICES
BETWEEN
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AND
BOWMAN & COMPANY, LLP**

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Each invoice shall contain an itemized, detailed description of all work performed during the billing period. Failure to provide sufficient specificity shall be cause for rejection of the invoice until the necessary details are provided.

It is also agreed and understood that the acceptance of the final payment by Vendor shall be considered a release in full of all claims against the County arising out of, or by reason of, the work done and materials furnished under this Contract.

3. DUTIES OF VENDOR. The specific duties of the Vendor shall be as set forth in "Attachment A" which is incorporated in its entirety and made a part of this Contract. Vendor agrees that it has or will comply with, and where applicable shall continue throughout the period of this contract to comply with, all of the requirements of any specifications, which may have been issued by the Gloucester County Surrogate's Office in connection with the work to be performed.

4. FURTHER OBLIGATIONS OF THE PARTIES. During the performance of this Contract, the Vendor agrees as follows:

The Vendor or subcontractor, where applicable, will not discriminate against any employee or applicant for employment because of age, race, creed, color, national origin, ancestry, marital status, affectional or sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, disability, nationality, sex, veteran status or military service. The Vendor will ensure that equal employment opportunity is afforded to such applicants in recruitment and employment, and that employees are treated during employment, without regard to their age, race, creed, color, national origin, ancestry, marital status, affectional or sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, disability, nationality, sex, veteran status or military service. Such equal employment opportunity shall include, but not be limited to the following: employment, upgrading, demotion, or transfer; recruitment or recruitment advertising; layoff or termination; rates of pay or other forms of compensation; and selection for training, including apprenticeship. The Vendor agrees to post in conspicuous places, available to employees and applicants for employment, notices to be provided by the Public Agency Compliance Officer setting forth provisions of this nondiscrimination clause.

The Vendor or subcontractor, where applicable will, in all solicitations or advertisements for employees placed by or on behalf of the Vendor, state that all qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to age, race, creed, color, national origin, ancestry, marital status, affectional or sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, disability, nationality, sex, veteran status or military service.

The Vendor or subcontractor will send to each labor union, with which it has a collective bargaining agreement, a notice, to be provided by the agency contracting officer, advising the labor union of the Vendor's commitments under this chapter and shall post copies of the notice in conspicuous places available to employees and applicants for employment.

The Vendor or subcontractor, where applicable, agrees to comply with any regulations promulgated by the Treasurer pursuant to N.J.S.A. 10:5-31 et seq., as amended and supplemented from time to time and the Americans with Disabilities Act.

The Vendor or subcontractor agrees to make good faith efforts to meet targeted county employment goals established in accordance with N.J.A.C. 17:27-5.2.

5. LICENSING. If the Vendor, its agents, employees or any of its subcontractors are required to maintain a license issued by any governmental or quasi-governmental entity in order to perform the services which are the subject of this Contract, then prior to the effective date of this Contract, and as a condition precedent to its taking effect, Vendor shall provide to the County a copy of all current licenses to operate in the State of New Jersey, which license shall be in good standing and shall not be subject to any current action to revoke or suspend, and shall remain so throughout the term of this Contract.

Vendor shall notify the County immediately in the event of suspension, revocation or any change in status (or in the event of the initiation of any action to accomplish such suspension, revocation and/or change in status) of license or certification held by Vendor or its agents and/or subcontractors.

6. TERMINATION. This Contract may be terminated as follows:

A. Pursuant to the termination provisions set forth in the Bid Specifications or in the Request for Proposals, if any, as the case may be, which are specifically referred to and incorporated herein by reference.

B. If Vendor is required to be licensed in order to perform the services which are the subject of this Contract, then this Contract may be terminated by County in the event that the appropriate governmental entity with jurisdiction has instituted an action to have the Vendor's license suspended, or in the event that such entity has revoked or suspended said license. Notice of termination pursuant to this subparagraph shall be effective immediately upon the giving of said notice.

C. If, through any cause, the Vendor or subcontractor, where applicable, shall fail to fulfill in timely and proper manner his obligations under this Contract, or if the Vendor shall violate any of the covenants, agreements, or stipulations of this Contract, the County shall thereupon have the right to terminate this Contract by giving written notice to the Vendor of such termination and specifying the effective date thereof. In such event, all finished or unfinished documents, data, studies, and reports prepared by the Vendor under this Contract, shall be forthwith delivered to the County.

D. The County may terminate this Contract for public convenience at any time by a notice in writing from the County to the Contractor. If the Contract is terminated by the County as provided herein, the Contractor will be paid for the services rendered to the time of termination.

E. Notwithstanding the above, the Vendor or subcontractor, where applicable, shall not be relieved of liability to the County for damages sustained by the County by virtue of any breach of the Contract by the Vendor, and the County may withhold any payments to the Vendor for the purpose of set off until such time as the exact amount of damages due the County from the Vendor is determined.

F. Termination shall not operate to affect the validity of the indemnification provisions of this Contract nor to prevent the County from pursuing any other relief or damages to which it

may be entitled, either at law or in equity.

7. PROPERTY OF THE COUNTY. Any and all materials developed, prepared, completed, and/or acquired by Vendor, during the performance of the services specified by this Contract and attachments hereto, including but not limited to, all finished or unfinished documents, data, studies, materials under review, internal memorandums, correspondence and reports, shall remain and/or become the property of the County and all such materials shall be provided and/or returned to the County upon completion of the audit or at such time as services are otherwise concluded.

8. NO ASSIGNMENT OR SUBCONTRACT. This Contract may not be assigned nor subcontracted by the Vendor, except as otherwise agreed in writing by both parties. Any attempted assignment or subcontract without such written consent shall be void with respect to the County and no obligation on the County's part to the assignee shall arise, unless the County shall elect to accept and to consent to such assignment or subcontract.

9. INDEMNIFICATION. The Vendor or subcontractor, where applicable, shall be responsible for, shall keep, save and hold the County of Gloucester harmless from, and shall indemnify and shall defend the County of Gloucester against any claim, loss, liability, expense (specifically including but not limited to costs, counsel fees and/or experts' fees), or damage resulting from all mental or physical injuries or disabilities, including death, to employees or recipients of the Vendor's services or to any other persons, or from any damage to any property sustained in connection with this contract which results from any acts or omissions, including negligence or malpractice, of any of its officers, directors, employees, agents, servants or independent contractors, or from the Vendor's failure to provide for the safety and protection of its employees, or from Vendor's performance or failure to perform pursuant to the terms and provisions of this Contract, whether or not due to negligence, fault, or default of the Vendor. The Vendor's liability under this agreement shall continue after the termination of this agreement with respect to any liability, loss, expense or damage resulting from acts occurring prior to termination.

10. INSURANCE. Vendor shall, if applicable to the services to be provided, maintain general liability, automobile liability, business operations, builder's and Workers' Compensation insurance in amounts and with companies deemed satisfactory by County. Said policies shall be in compliance with any applicable requirements of the State of New Jersey and of the United States. Vendor shall, simultaneously with the execution of this Contract, deliver certifications of said insurance to County, naming County as an additional insured.

If Vendor is a member of a profession which is subject to suit for professional malpractice, then Vendor shall maintain and continue in full force and effect an insurance policy for professional liability/malpractice with limits of liability acceptable to the County. Vendor shall, simultaneously with the execution of this Contract, and as a condition precedent to its taking effect, provide to County a copy of a certificate of insurance, verifying that said insurance is and will be in effect during the term of this Contract. Vendor also hereby agrees to continue said policy in force and effect for the period of the applicable statute of limitations following the termination of this Contract and shall provide the County with copies of certificates of insurance as the certificates may be renewed during that period of time.

11. SET-OFF. Should Vendor either refuse or neglect to perform the service which Vendor is

required to perform in accordance with the terms of this Contract, and if expense is incurred by County by reason of Vendor's failure to perform, then and in that event, such expense shall be deducted from any payment due to Vendor. Exercise of such set-off shall not operate to prevent County from pursuing any other remedy to which it may be entitled.

12. PREVENTION OF PERFORMANCE BY COUNTY. In the event that the County is prevented from performing this Contract by circumstances beyond its control, then any obligations owing by the County to the Vendor shall be suspended without liability for the period during which the County is so prevented.

13. NON-WAIVER. The failure by the County to enforce any particular provision of this Contract, or to act upon a breach of this Contract by Vendor, shall not operate as or be construed as a waiver of any subsequent breach, nor a bar to any subsequent enforcement.

14. PARTIAL INVALIDITY. In the event that any provision of this Contract shall be or become invalid under any law or applicable regulation, such invalidity shall not affect the validity or enforceability of any other provision of this Contract.

15. NOTICES. Notices required by this Contract shall be effective upon mailing of notice by regular and certified mail to the addresses set forth above, or by personal service, or if such notice cannot be delivered or personally served, then by any procedure for notice pursuant to the Rules of Court of the State of New Jersey.

16. GOVERNING LAW, JURISDICTION AND VENUE. This agreement and all questions relating to its validity, interpretation, performance or enforcement shall be governed by and construed in accordance with the laws of the State of New Jersey. The parties each irrevocably agree that any dispute arising under, relating to, or in connection with, directly or indirectly, this agreement or related to any matter which is the subject of or incidental to this agreement (whether or not such claim is based upon breach of contract or tort) shall be subject to the exclusive jurisdiction and venue of the state and/or federal courts located in Gloucester County, New Jersey or the United States District Court, District of New Jersey, Camden, New Jersey. This provision is intended to be a "mandatory" forum selection clause and governed by and interpreted consistent with New Jersey law and each waives any objection based on forum non conveniens.

17. INDEPENDENT CONTRACTOR STATUS. The parties acknowledge that Vendor is an independent contractor and is not an agent of the County.

18. BINDING EFFECT. This Contract shall be binding on the undersigned and their successors and assigns.

19. CONTRACT PARTS. This Contract consists of this Contract and the Vendor's Engagement Contract Letter, dated November 1, 2023, consisting of 11 pages, which is attached hereto as "Attachment A" and made a part hereof and any specifications issued by the County of Gloucester in connection with the work to be performed. If there is a conflict between Vendor's Engagement Contract Letter and the Specifications, the Specifications will control. If there is a conflict between the documents identified above and this Contract, then this Contract will control.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:11-3, and authorized by Resolution, the County has caused this instrument to be signed by its Chief Financial Officer, and attested by its Purchasing Agent, and Attorney has caused this instrument to be signed and attested by its properly authorized representatives.

THIS CONTRACT is dated this 30 day of Dec, 2023.

ATTEST:

Kimberly Larter
Kimberly Larter,
Qualified Purchasing Agent

COUNTY OF GLOUCESTER

Tracey N. Giordano
Tracey N. Giordano,
Treasurer/CFO

ATTEST:

Laurie Dixon

BOWMAN & COMPANY, LLP

Stephanie J. DeSantis
Name: Stephanie J. DeSantis
Title: Partner

ATTACHMENT A

November 1, 2023

To the Honorable Surrogate of the
County of Gloucester
Woodbury, New Jersey 08096

We (the Accountant/Contractor) are pleased to confirm our understanding of the services we are to provide the Office of the Surrogate, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey, hereinafter referred to as "County Surrogate," for the year ended December 31, 2023.

Audit Scope and Objectives

We will audit the statements of assets, liabilities, and reserves - regulatory basis, Guardianship Trust and Revenue funds, of the County Surrogate and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the basic financial statements of the County Surrogate, as of and for the year ended December 31, 2023, in conformity with the *Requirements of Audit* as promulgated by the Division of Local Government Services, Department of Community Affairs, State of New Jersey, which is a comprehensive basis of accounting other than accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

We have also been engaged to report on supplementary information that accompanies the County Surrogate's financial statements. The supplemental financial statements presented are presented for purposes of additional analysis as required by the Division of Local Government Services, Department of Community Affairs, State of New Jersey, and are not a required part of the basic financial statements. We will subject the following supplementary information to the auditing procedures applied in our audit of the financial statements and certain additional procedures, including comparing and reconciling such information directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the financial statements or to the financial statements themselves, and other additional procedures in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and will provide an opinion on it in relation to the financial statements as a whole:

supplementary financial statements

Pursuant to professional standards, our responsibility for other information in documents containing the financial statements of the County Surrogate does not extend beyond the financial statements identified in the auditor's report, and we are not required to perform procedures to corroborate such other information. However, in accordance with such standards, we are required to read the information in the document and consider whether such information, or the manner of its presentation, was materially inconsistent with its presentation in the basic financial statements. It is also our responsibility to call to the attention of management any information, which we believe is a material misstatement of fact.

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 issue an auditor's report that includes our opinions about whether your financial statements are fairly presented, in all material respects, in conformity with the *Requirements of Audit* as promulgated by the Division of Local Government Services, Department of Community Affairs, State of New Jersey, which is a comprehensive basis of accounting other than accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America and to report on the fairness of the supplementary information referred to in the second paragraph when considered in relation to the financial statements as a whole. 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* will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements, including omissions, 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 of a reasonable user made based on the financial statements.

Audit Scope and Objectives (Cont'd)

The objectives also include reporting on:

- Internal control over financial reporting and compliance with provisions of laws, and regulations, noncompliance with which could have a material effect on the financial statements in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

We will conduct our audit in accordance with GAAS; the standards for financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States; and will include tests of accounting records, and other procedures we consider necessary to enable us to express such opinions. As part of an audit in accordance with GAAS and *Government Auditing Standards*, we exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit.

We will evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management. We will also evaluate the overall presentation of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and determine whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation. We will plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement, whether from (1) errors, (2) fraudulent financial reporting, (3) misappropriation of assets, or (4) violations of laws or governmental regulations that are attributable to the government or to acts by management or employees acting on behalf of the government. Because the determination of waste and abuse is subjective, *Government Auditing Standards* do not expect auditors to perform specific procedures to detect waste or abuse in financial audits nor do they expect auditors to provide reasonable assurance of detecting waste or abuse.

Because of the inherent limitations of an audit, combined with the inherent limitations of internal control, and because we will not perform a detailed examination of all transactions, there is an unavoidable risk that some material misstatements or noncompliance may not be detected by us, even though the audit is properly planned and performed in accordance with GAAS and *Government Auditing Standards*. In addition, an audit is not designed to detect immaterial misstatements or violations of laws or governmental regulations that do not have a direct and material effect on the financial statements. However, we will inform the appropriate level of management of any material errors, any fraudulent financial reporting, or misappropriation of assets that come to our attention. We will also inform the appropriate level of management of any violations of laws or governmental regulations that come to our attention, unless clearly inconsequential. Our responsibility as auditors is limited to the period covered by our audit and does not extend to any later periods for which we are not engaged as auditors.

We will also conclude, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the government's ability to continue as a going concern for a reasonable period of time.

Our procedures will include tests of documentary evidence supporting the transactions recorded in the accounts, and direct confirmation of receivables and certain assets and liabilities by correspondence with selected individuals, funding sources, creditors, and financial institutions. We will also request written representations from your attorneys as part of the engagement, and they may bill you for responding to this inquiry.

Audit Procedures - Internal Control

We will obtain an understanding of the government and its environment, including internal control relevant to the audit, sufficient to identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to error or fraud, and to design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks and obtain evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinions. Tests of controls may be performed to test the effectiveness of certain controls that we consider relevant to preventing and detecting errors and fraud that are material to the financial statements and to preventing and detecting misstatements resulting from illegal acts and other noncompliance matters that have a direct and material effect on the financial statements. Our tests, if performed, will be less in scope than would be necessary to render an opinion on internal control and, accordingly, no opinion will be expressed in our report on internal control issued pursuant to *Government Auditing Standards*. 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, misrepresentation, or the override of internal control.

Audit Procedures - Internal Control (Cont'd)

An audit is not designed to provide assurance on internal control or to identify significant deficiencies or material weaknesses. Accordingly, we will express no such opinion. However, during the audit, we will communicate to management and those charged with governance internal control related matters that are required to be communicated under AICPA professional standards and *Government Auditing Standards*.

Audit Procedures - Compliance

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement, we will perform tests of the County Surrogate's compliance with provisions of applicable laws and regulations. However, the objective of our audit will not be to provide an opinion on overall compliance, and we will not express such an opinion in our report on compliance issued pursuant to *Government Auditing Standards*.

Other Services

We will also provide assistance with the preparation of the following based on information provided by you:

- a) the financial statements in conformity with the *Requirements of Audit* as promulgated by the Division of Local Government Services, Department of Community Affairs, State of New Jersey, and related notes
- b) proposing entries affecting the financial statements

These nonaudit services do not constitute an audit under *Government Auditing Standards* and such services will not be conducted in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*. We will perform the services in accordance with applicable professional standards. The other services are limited to the above listed. We, in our sole professional judgment, reserve the right to refuse to perform any procedure or take any action that could be construed as assuming management responsibilities.

You agree to assume all management responsibilities relating to the financial statements and related notes, and any other nonaudit services we provide. You will be required to acknowledge in the management representation letter our assistance with preparation of the financial statements and related notes and that you have reviewed and approved the financial statements (including all proposed journal entries) and related notes prior to their issuance and have accepted responsibility for them. Further, you agree to oversee the nonaudit services by designating an individual, preferably from senior management, with suitable skill, knowledge, or experience; evaluate the adequacy and results of those services; and accept responsibility for them.

Responsibilities of Management for the Financial Statements

Our audit will be conducted on the basis that you acknowledge and understand your responsibility for designing, implementing, establishing, and maintaining effective internal controls relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and for evaluating and monitoring ongoing activities to help ensure that appropriate goals and objectives are met; following laws and regulations; ensuring that there is reasonable assurance that government programs are administered in compliance with compliance requirements; and ensuring that management and financial information is reliable and properly reported. Management is also responsible for implementing systems designed to achieve compliance with applicable laws, and regulations. You are also responsible for the selection and application of accounting principles; for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements and all accompanying information in conformity with the *Requirements of Audit* as promulgated by the Division of Local Government Services, Department of Community Affairs, State of New Jersey, which is a comprehensive basis of accounting other than accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, and for compliance with applicable laws and regulations (including federal and state statutes), and rules. Your responsibilities also include identifying significant contractor relationships in which the contractor has responsibility for program compliance and for the accuracy and completeness of that information.

Responsibilities of Management for the Financial Statements (Cont'd)

You are also responsible for making drafts of financial statements, all financial records, and related information available to us and for the accuracy and completeness of that information (including information from outside of the general and subsidiary ledgers). You are also responsible for providing us with (1) access to all information of which you are aware that is relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements, such as records, documentation, identification of all related parties and all related-party relationships and transactions, and other matters; (2) access to personnel, accounts, books, records, supporting documentation, and other information as needed to perform an audit; (3) additional information that we may request for the purpose of the audit; and (4) unrestricted access to persons within the government from whom we determine it necessary to obtain audit evidence. At the conclusion of our audit, we will require certain written representations from you about your responsibilities for the financial statements; compliance with laws, and regulations; related matters; and other responsibilities required by GAAS and *Government Auditing Standards*.

Your responsibilities include 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 latest period presented are immaterial, both individually and in the aggregate, to the financial statements of each opinion unit taken as a whole.

You are responsible for 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 government involving (1) management, (2) employees who have significant roles in internal control, and (3) others where the fraud could have a material effect on the financial statements. Your responsibilities include informing us of your knowledge of any allegations of fraud or suspected fraud affecting the County Surrogate received in communications from employees, former employees, regulators, or others. In addition, you are responsible for identifying and ensuring that the government complies with applicable laws and regulations. You are also responsible for taking timely and appropriate steps to remedy fraud and noncompliance with provisions of laws, and regulations that we report.

You are also responsible for the preparation of the other supplementary information, which we have been engaged to report on, in conformity with the *Requirements of Audit* as promulgated by the Division of Local Government Services, Department of Community Affairs, State of New Jersey. You agree to include our report on the supplementary information in any document that contains, and indicates that we have reported on, the supplementary information. You also agree to include the audited financial statements with any presentation of the supplementary information that includes our report thereon OR make the audited financial statements readily available to users of the supplementary information no later than the date the supplementary information is issued with our report thereon.

Your responsibilities include acknowledging to us in the written representation letter that (1) you are responsible for presentation of the supplementary information in accordance with the *Requirements of Audit* as promulgated by the Division of Local Government Services, Department of Community Affairs, State of New Jersey; (2) you believe the supplementary information, including its form and content, is fairly presented in accordance with the *Requirements of Audit* as promulgated by the Division of Local Government Services, Department of Community Affairs, State of New Jersey; (3) the methods of measurement or presentation have not changed from those used in the prior period or, if they have changed, the reasons for such changes; and (4) you have disclosed to us any significant assumptions or interpretations underlying the measurement or presentation of the supplementary information.

Management is responsible for establishing and maintaining a process for tracking the status of audit findings and recommendations. Management is also responsible for identifying and providing report copies of previous financial audits, attestation engagements, performance audits, or other studies related to the objectives discussed in the Audit Scope and Objectives section of this letter. This responsibility includes relaying to us corrective actions taken to address significant findings and recommendations resulting from those audits, attestation engagements, performance audits, or studies. You are also responsible for providing management's views on our current findings, conclusions, and recommendations, as well as your planned corrective actions for the report, and for the timing and format for providing that information. With regard to publishing the financial statements on your website, you understand that websites are a means of distributing information and, therefore, we are not required to read the information contained in those sites or to consider the consistency of other information on the website with the original document.

Engagement Administration, Fees, and Other

You may request that we perform additional services not addressed in this engagement letter. If this occurs, we will communicate with you regarding 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 understand that your employees will prepare all cash and other confirmations we request and will locate any documents selected by us for testing.

We will provide copies of our reports to the County Surrogate. In addition, we will also submit a copy of our reports and financial statements to the Division of Local Government Services, Department of Community Affairs, State of New Jersey; however, management is responsible for distribution of the reports and the financial statements to any additional party(ies). Unless restricted by law or regulation, or containing privileged and confidential information, copies of our reports are to be made available for public inspection.

The audit documentation for this engagement is the property of Bowman & Company LLP and constitutes confidential information. However, subject to applicable laws and regulations, audit documentation and appropriate individuals will be made available upon request and in a timely manner to the Division of Local Government Services, Department of Community Affairs, State of New Jersey or its designee, or the U.S. Government Accountability Office for purposes of a quality review of the audit, to resolve audit findings, or to carry out oversight responsibilities. We will notify you of any such request. If requested, access to such audit documentation will be provided under the supervision of Bowman & Company LLP personnel. Furthermore, upon request, we may provide copies of selected audit documentation to the aforementioned parties. These parties may intend, or decide, to distribute the copies or information contained therein to others, including other governmental agencies.

The audit documentation for this engagement will be retained for a minimum of five years after the report release date or for any additional period requested by the Division of Local Government Services, Department of Community Affairs, State of New Jersey.

Our Firm must submit to an external quality control review of its accounting and auditing practice by an independent third party every three years. One important component of this review process is a detailed inspection of the work performed by our Firm during the conduct of selected audits. As such, the independent third party, as part of this process, may select the audit engagement of the County Surrogate. However, the conduct of an external quality control review complies with the confidentiality requirements set forth in the AICPA Code of Professional Conduct. In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, Section 5.79, a copy of the Accountant's most recent external quality control review report is attached to this agreement (Appendix 1).

Stefanie J. DeSantis, CPA, RMA is the engagement partner and is responsible for supervising the engagement and signing the reports or authorizing another individual to sign them.

Our fee for these services will be based on the time spent by various members of our staff, at our standard hourly rates (Appendix 2), which is estimated to be \$9,300.00 subject to the conditions of the records. Our standard hourly rates vary according to the degree of responsibility involved and the experience level of the personnel assigned to your audit. Vouchers for payment of these fees may, at our discretion, be presented as work progresses. All vouchers presented in accordance with this agreement shall be paid by the County Surrogate within forty-five (45) days from the date remitted. Delinquent balances may be subject to collection agency action if account is not paid in full in a timely manner. The above fee is based on anticipated cooperation from your personnel and the assumption that unexpected circumstances will not be encountered during the engagement. If significant additional time is necessary, we will keep you informed of any problems we encounter and our fees will be adjusted accordingly.

Affirmative Action/Americans with Disabilities Act

MANDATORY EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY LANGUAGE N.J.S.A. 10:5-31 et seq. (P.L. 1975, C. 127) N.J.A.C. 17:27 GOODS, PROFESSIONAL SERVICE AND GENERAL SERVICE CONTRACTS

During the performance of this contract, we (the "Accountant or Subcontractor") agree as follows:

The Accountant or subcontractor, where applicable, will not discriminate against any employee or applicant for employment because of age, race, creed, color, national origin, ancestry, marital status, affectional or sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, disability, nationality or sex. Except with respect to affectional or sexual orientation and gender identity or expression, the Accountant will ensure that equal employment opportunity is afforded to such applicants in recruitment and employment, and that employees are treated during employment, without regard to their age, race, creed, color, national origin, ancestry, marital status, affectional or sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, disability, nationality or sex. Such equal employment opportunity shall include, but not be limited to the following: employment, upgrading, demotion, or transfer; recruitment or recruitment advertising; layoff or termination; rates of pay or other forms of compensation; and selection for training, including apprenticeship. The Accountant agrees to post in conspicuous places, available to employees and applicants for employment, notices to be provided by the Public Agency Compliance Officer setting forth provisions of this nondiscrimination clause.

The Accountant or subcontractor, where applicable will, in all solicitations or advertisements for employees placed by or on behalf of the Accountant, state that all qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to age, race, creed, color, national origin, ancestry, marital status, affectional or sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, disability, nationality or sex.

The Accountant or subcontractor will send to each labor union, with which it has a collective bargaining agreement, a notice, to be provided by the agency contracting officer, advising the labor union of the Accountant's commitments under this chapter and shall post copies of the notice in conspicuous places available to employees and applicants for employment.

The Accountant or subcontractor, where applicable, agrees to comply with any regulations promulgated by the Treasurer pursuant to N.J.S.A. 10:5-31 et seq., as amended and supplemented from time to time and the Americans with Disabilities Act.

The Accountant or subcontractor agrees to make good faith efforts to employ minority and women workers consistent with the applicable county employment goals established in accordance with N.J.A.C. 17:27 5.2, or a binding determination of the applicable county employment goals determined by the Division, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 17:27-5.2.

The Accountant or subcontractor agrees to inform in writing its appropriate recruitment agencies including, but not limited to, employment agencies, placement bureaus, colleges, universities, and labor unions, that it does not discriminate on the basis of age, race, creed, color, national origin, ancestry, marital status, affectional or sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, disability, nationality or sex, and that it will discontinue the use of any recruitment agency which engages in direct or indirect discriminatory practices.

The Accountant or subcontractor agrees to revise any of its testing procedures, if necessary, to assure that all personnel testing conforms with the principles of job-related testing, as established by the statutes and court decisions of the State of New Jersey and as established by applicable Federal law and applicable Federal court decisions.

In conforming with the targeted employment goals, the Accountant or subcontractor agrees to review all procedures relating to transfer, upgrading, downgrading and layoff to ensure that all such actions are taken without regard to age, race, creed, color, national origin, ancestry, marital status, affectional or sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, disability, nationality or sex, consistent with the statutes and court decisions of the State of New Jersey, and applicable Federal law and applicable Federal court decisions.

Affirmative Action/Americans with Disabilities Act (Cont'd)

The Accountant shall submit to the public agency, after notification of award but prior to execution of a goods and services contract, one of the following three documents:

Letter of Federal Affirmative Action Plan Approval
Certificate of Employee Information Report
Employee Information Report from AA302

The Accountant and its subcontractors shall furnish such reports or other documents to the Division of Contract Compliance and EEO as may be requested by the Division from time to time in order to carry out the purposes of these regulations, and public agencies shall furnish such information as may be requested by the Division of Contract Compliance and EEO for conducting a compliance investigation pursuant to *Subchapter 10 of the Administrative Code at N.J.A.C. 17:27*.

AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT
Mandatory Language
Equal Opportunity for Individuals with Disability

The Accountant and the County Surrogate do hereby agree that the provisions of Title 11 of the Americans With Disabilities Act of 1990 (the "Act") (42 U.S.C. S121 01 et seq.), which prohibits discrimination on the basis of disability by public entities in all services, programs, and activities provided or made available by public entities, and the rules and regulations promulgated pursuant thereto, are made a part of this contract. In providing any aid, benefit, or service on behalf of the County Surrogate pursuant to this contract, the contractor agrees that the performance shall be in strict compliance with the Act. In the event that the contractor, its agents, servants, employees, or subcontractors violate or are alleged to have violated the Act during the performance of this contract, the contractor shall defend the County Surrogate in any action or administrative proceeding commenced pursuant to this Act. The contractor shall indemnify, protect, and save harmless the County Surrogate, its agents, servants, and employees from and against any and all suits, claims, losses, demands, or damages, of whatever kind or nature arising out of or claimed to arise out of the alleged violation.

The contractor shall, at its own expense, appear, defend, and pay any and all charges for legal services and any and all costs and other expenses arising from such action or administrative proceeding or incurred in connection therewith. In any and all complaints brought pursuant to the County Surrogate's grievance procedure, the contractor agrees to abide by any decision of the County Surrogate which is rendered pursuant to said grievance procedure.

If any action or administrative proceeding results in an award of damages against the County Surrogate, or if the County Surrogate incurs any expense to cure a violation of the ADA that has been brought pursuant to its grievance procedure, the contractor shall satisfy and discharge the same at its own expense.

The County Surrogate shall, as soon as practicable after a claim has been made against it, give written notice thereof to the contractor along with full and complete particulars of the claim. If any action or administrative proceeding is brought against the County Surrogate or any of its agents, servants, and employees, the *County Surrogate shall expeditiously forward or have forwarded to the contractor every demand, complaint, notice, summons, pleading, or other process received by the County Surrogate or its representatives*.

It is expressly agreed and understood that any approval by the County Surrogate of the services provided by the contractor pursuant to this contract will not relieve the contractor of the obligation to comply with the Act and to defend, indemnify, protect, and save harmless the County Surrogate pursuant to this paragraph.

It is further agreed and understood that the County Surrogate assumes no obligation to indemnify or save harmless the contractor, its agents, servants, employees and subcontractors for any claim which may arise out of their performance of this Agreement. Furthermore, the contractor expressly understands and agrees that the provisions of this indemnification clause shall in no way limit the contractor's obligations assumed in this Agreement, nor shall they be construed to relieve the contractor from any liability, nor preclude the County Surrogate from taking any other actions available to it under any other provisions of the Agreement or otherwise at law.

We appreciate the opportunity to be of service to the Office of the Surrogate, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey, and believe this letter accurately summarizes the significant terms of our engagement. If you have any questions, please let us know. If you agree with the terms of our engagement as described in this letter, please sign the enclosed copy, and return it to us.

Respectively submitted,

BOWMAN & COMPANY LLP
Certified Public Accountants
& Consultants



Stefanie J. DeSantis, CPA, RMA

RESPONSE:

This engagement contract letter correctly sets forth the understanding of the Office of the Surrogate, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey:

Authorized by:

Management Signature: Tracy H. Henshaw
Title: Treasurer/CEO
Date: 12/27/23

Governance Signature: King Tant
Title: QPA
Date: 1/9/24

APPENDIX 1 - EXTERNAL QUALITY CONTROL REVIEW REPORT

Bonadio & Co., LLP
Certified Public Accountants

Report on the Firm's System of Quality Control

December 17, 2020

**To the Partners of
Bowman & Company LLP
and the Peer Review Committee of the New Jersey Society of Certified Public
Accountants:**

We have reviewed the system of quality control for the accounting and auditing practice of Bowman & Company LLP (the firm) in effect for the year ended May 31, 2020. 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 (Standards).

A summary of the nature, objectives, scope, limitations of, and the procedures performed in a System Review as described in the Standards may be found at www.aicpa.org/prsummary. The summary also includes an explanation of how engagements identified as not performed or reported in conformity with applicable professional standards, if any, are evaluated by a peer reviewer to determine a peer review rating.

Firm's Responsibility

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. The firm is also responsible for evaluating actions to promptly remediate engagements deemed as not performed or reported in conformity with professional standards, when appropriate, and for remediating weaknesses in its system of quality control, if any.

Peer Reviewer's Responsibility

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.

Required Selections and Considerations

Engagements selected for review included engagements performed under *Government Auditing Standards*, including compliance audits under the Single Audit Act, audits of employee benefit plans and examinations of service organizations [SOC 1 and SOC 2 engagements].

As part of our peer review, we considered reviews by regulatory entities as communicated by the firm, if applicable, in determining the nature and extent of our procedures.

(Continued)

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APPENDIX 1 - EXTERNAL QUALITY CONTROL REVIEW REPORT (CONT'D)

Report on the Firm's System of Quality Control (Continued)

Opinion

In our opinion, the system of quality control for the accounting and auditing practice of Bowman & Company LLP in effect for the year ended May 31, 2020, 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. Bowman & Company LLP has received a peer review rating of pass.

Bonadio & Co., LLP

APPENDIX 2 - STANDARD HOURLY RATES FOR JULY 1, 2023 - JUNE 30, 2024*

General Administration /	
Report Processing	\$75.00
Associate	120.00
Senior Associate	155.00
Manager	190.00
Senior Manager	215.00/240.00/270.00
Partner	300.00

** rates are subject to change effective July 1, 2024*