

General Engagement Letter for Individual Tax Return Preparation

This letter is to inform you, the taxpayer, of the services we will provide you, and the responsibilities you have for preparation of your tax return.

Tax Return Preparation

- We will prepare your 2016 federal and state tax returns based on information you provide. Services for preparation of your return do not include auditing or verification of information provided by you.
- This engagement does not include any audit or examination of your books or records. In the event your return is audited, you will be responsible for verifying the items reported.
- The tax return preparation fee does not include bookkeeping.
- Fees charged for tax return preparation do not include audit representation or preparing materials to respond to correspondence from taxing authorities.
- Preparation fees do cover limited assistance and consultation during the year.
- The engagement to prepare your 2016 tax returns terminates upon delivery of your completed returns and original documents to you. Please store your supporting documents and copies of your tax returns in a secure place for at least seven years.

Taxpayer Responsibilities

- You agree to provide us all income and deductible expense information. If you receive additional information after we begin working on your return, you will contact us immediately to ensure your completed tax returns contain all relevant information.
- You affirm that all expenses or other deduction amounts are accurate and that you have all required supporting written records. In some cases, we will ask to review your documentation.
- You must be able to provide written records of all items included on your return if audited by either the IRS or state tax authority. We can provide guidance concerning what evidence is acceptable.
- You must review the return carefully before signing to make sure the information is correct.
- Fees must be paid before your tax return is delivered to you or filed for you. If you terminate this engagement before completion, you agree to pay a fee for work completed. A retainer is required for preparation of late returns.

Signatures. By signing below, you acknowledge that you have read, understand, and accept your obligations and responsibilities and that you understand our responsibilities in preparing your tax returns as explained above. For a joint return, both taxpayers must sign.

- You should keep a copy of your tax return and any related tax documents. You may be assessed a fee if you request a copy in the future.

Taxpayer

Spouse

Date

Privacy Policy. The nature of our work requires us to collect certain nonpublic personal information about you from various sources. We collect financial and personal information from applications, worksheets, reporting statements, and other forms, as well as interviews and conversations with our clients and affiliates. We may also review banking and credit card information about our clients in the performance of receipt of payment. Under our policy, all information we obtain about you will be provided by you or obtained with your permission.

Our firm has procedures and policies in place to protect your confidential information. We restrict access to your confidential information to those within our firm who need to know in order to provide you with services. We will not disclose your personal information to any third party without your express permission, except where required by law. We maintain physical, electronic, and procedural safeguards in compliance with federal regulations that protect your personal information from unauthorized access. Please contact us with any questions regarding our privacy policy.

AUTHORIZATION TO USE TAX RETURN INFORMATION TO PROVIDE OTHER REQUESTED TAX-RELATED SERVICES

Federal law requires this consent form be provided to you. Unless authorized by law, we cannot use, without your consent, your tax return information for purposes other than the preparation and filing of your tax return. This firm is in the business of providing tax services beyond tax return preparation and tax representation, specifically year-round consultation and tax planning services. We cannot provide those services without your consent.

You are not required to complete this form. If we obtain your signature on this form by conditioning our services on your consent, your consent will not be valid. Your consent is valid for the amount of time that you specify. If you do not specify the duration of your consent, your consent is valid for one year.

Consent – I authorize the use of my tax information to communicate with me via newsletter, e-mail, website, phone or other means of communication with information or data that may be of use to me and, at my request, for the purpose of making recommendations to me, including, but not limited to the following:

- Tax advice related to life events such as marriage, divorce, college expenses, stock option exercises, retirement and estate planning;
- Advice and planning related to tax treatment of investments, including acquisition and sale or exchange of real estate or other assets;
- Year-end tax planning including the preparation of revised estimated tax payments, minimum required distributions; and
- Responding to other tax and financial questions that I may have.

Having full knowledge of my rights in these matters, I affirmatively state that such services are an integral part of the total tax services for which I have contracted with this firm. I hereby authorize this firm to use tax return information, which I furnish, to provide me with tax-related tax services and responses to questions I later raise related to my personal income or business tax matters.

I understand that beyond the specific purpose of providing services I request, no tax return information will be disclosed to any other person or for any purpose not specifically allowed by law or by subsequent approval by me.

Duration of your consent (defaults to one year if left blank): _____

Your Name: _____ Spouse's Name: _____

Signature: _____ Signature: _____

Date: _____ Date: _____

If you believe your tax return information has been disclosed or used improperly in a manner unauthorized by law or without your permission, you may contact the Treasury Inspector General for Tax Administration (TIGTA) by telephone at 1-800-366-4484, or by e-mail at complaints@tigta.treas.gov.