Form 990 Legalese and Disclosures

It is your responsibility to provide us with all the information required for preparing complete and accurate returns. You should retain all the documents, canceled checks, and other data that form the basis of the returns. These may be necessary to prove the accuracy and completeness of the returns to a taxing authority. You have the final responsibility for the tax returns and, therefore, you should review them carefully before you sign them.

We will not audit or otherwise verify the data you submit, although we may ask you to clarify some of it or furnish written or oral assurance that records or other evidence exist to substantiate deductions.

You are responsible for the proper recording of transactions in the books of accounts, the safeguarding of assets, the substantial accuracy of the financial records, and fully and accurately disclosing all relevant facts affecting the return(s) to us. Fiduciary accounting income is determined in accordance with the terms of the governing instrument and the fiduciary's interpretation under local law, which is purely a legal matter.

You are confirming that you will furnish us with all the information required for preparing the returns. This includes, but is not limited to, providing us with the information necessary to identify (1) all states and foreign countries in which you "do business" or derive income (directly or indirectly) and (2) the extent of business operations in each relevant state and/or country. We will not audit or verify the data you submit, although we may ask you to clarify it, or furnish us with additional data. You should retain all the documents, books, and records that form the basis of your income and deductions. The documents may be necessary to prove the accuracy and completeness of the returns to a taxing authority. If you have any questions as to the type of records required, please ask us for advice in that regard.

Please note that the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) considers virtual currency (e.g., Bitcoin) as property for U.S. federal tax purposes. As such, any transactions in, or transactions that use, virtual currency are subject to the same general tax principles that apply to other property transactions. If there was virtual currency activity during the tax year, there may be tax consequences associated with such transactions, and there may be additional foreign reporting obligations.

You agree to provide us with complete and accurate information regarding any transactions in, or transactions that have used, virtual currency during the applicable tax year. Please ask us for advice if you have any questions regarding the type of records required for virtual currency transactions.

We may provide you with a questionnaire or other document requesting specific information. Completing those forms will assist us in making sure you are well served for a reasonable fee. You represent that the information you are supplying to us is accurate and complete to the best of your knowledge and that you have disclosed to us all relevant facts affecting the returns. We will not verify the information you give us; however, we may ask for additional clarification of some information.

We will use our professional judgment in preparing your return(s). Given the magnitude of the changes the Tax Act contains, as well as some new concepts introduced in the law, additional stated guidance from the IRS, and possibly from Congress in the form of technical corrections, may be forthcoming. We will use our professional judgment and expertise to assist you given the Tax Act guidance as currently promulgated. Subsequent developments issued by the applicable tax authorities may affect the information we have previously provided, and these effects may be material. Whenever we are aware that a possibly applicable tax law is unclear or that there are conflicting interpretations of the law by authorities (e.g., tax agencies and courts), we will share our knowledge and understanding of the possible positions that may be taken on your return(s). We will adopt whatever position you request on your return(s) so long as it is consistent with our professional standards and ethics. If you desire a legal opinion before choosing among alternative tax positions, legal counsel should be separately retained for this purpose. We will work with you and your chosen legal counsel to the best of our

abilities in giving you whatever information we have that may help you in your decision. You have the final responsibility for positions taken on the return(s).

If the Internal Revenue Service should later contest the position taken, there may be an assessment of additional tax liability plus interest and possible penalties. We assume no liability for any such additional penalties or assessments. Additional services will be subject to arrangements made in writing at the time requested.

The law provides for a penalty to be imposed where taxpayers make a substantial understatement of their tax liability. Taxpayers may seek to avoid all or part of the penalty by showing (1) that they acted in good faith and there was reasonable cause for the understatement, (2) that the understatement was based on substantial authority, or (3) there was a reasonable basis for the position taken on the return and the relevant facts affecting the item's tax treatment were adequately disclosed on the return. You agree to advise us if you wish disclosure to be made in your returns or if you desire us to identify or perform further research with respect to any material tax issues for the purposes of ascertaining whether, in our opinion, there is "substantial authority" for the position proposed to be taken on such issues in your returns.

In 2018, a Supreme Court Ruling in <u>South Dakota v. Wayfair, Inc.</u> ("<u>Wayfair</u>") significantly impacted businesses that engage in out-of-state sales (i.e., remote sales). <u>Wayfair</u> opened the door for other states to redefine what is deemed to be "sufficient contact" from a physical presence standard, to a much broader standard that looks at a business's economic presence ("economic nexus") in a given state. How this may impact your business depends on the individual states from which you derive sales and whether they have adopted an economic nexus standard. As our engagement is limited to preparing the income tax returns specified above, our firm is not rendering any services designed to assess your sales and use tax risks and potential exposure to substantial ("economic") nexus. By your signature below, you understand and acknowledge that you are responsible for compliance with applicable rules associated with the collection and remittance of sales and use tax for the various states in which you do business. If you require our assistance to assess your sales and use tax exposure and how the <u>Wayfair</u> decision may impact your business, please let us know. Any additional services will be covered under a separate engagement letter.

If your organization has employees working remotely in another locality, state and/or foreign country, even on a temporary basis, your company may be viewed as having "nexus" in that location for tax purposes. By your signature below, you understand that Management is responsible for tracking the locations where company employees live and work and determining the tax compliance requirements in those respective locations. If you require our assistance to assess your potential tax exposure in locations other than your normal place of business where you may have employees residing, please let us know. Any additional services will be covered under a separate engagement letter.

Provisions of the Internal Revenue Code require you to have the necessary records to support your travel (including auto), entertainment, and related expenses. If you do not have the required records, including receipts, do not record the expenditure as a deductible item. If you have any questions as to the type of records required, please contact us for assistance.

If, during our work, we discover information that affects prior-year tax returns, we will make you aware of the facts. However, we cannot be responsible for identifying all items that may affect prior-year returns. If you become aware of such information during the year, please contact us to discuss the best resolution of the issue. We will be happy to prepare appropriate amended returns as a separate engagement.

Our work in connection with the preparation of the tax return(s) does not include any procedures designed to discover defalcations or other irregularities, should any exist. The returns will be prepared solely from information provided to us without verification by us.

The firm may from time to time, and depending on the circumstance, use third-party service providers to assist in preparing your return, but these preparers will not make substantive decisions concerning your return. We may share your tax return information with these service providers, but remain committed to maintaining the confidentiality and security of your information. Accordingly, we maintain internal policies, procedures, and safeguards with all service providers to maintain the confidentiality of your information, and we will take reasonable precautions to determine that they have appropriate procedures in place to prevent the unauthorized release of your confidential information to others. The firm will remain responsible for the work provided by any such third-party service providers.

In accordance with federal law, in no case will we disclose your tax return information to any location outside the United States, to another tax return preparer outside of our firm for purposes of a second opinion, or to any other third party for any purpose other than to prepare your return without first receiving your consent.

The Internal Revenue Code and regulations impose preparation and disclosure standards with noncompliance penalties on both the preparer of a tax return and on the taxpayer. To avoid exposure to these penalties, it may be necessary in some cases to make certain disclosures to you and/or in the tax return concerning positions taken on the return that do not meet these standards. Accordingly, we will discuss tax positions that may increase the risk of exposure to penalties and any recommended disclosures before completing the preparation of the return. If we conclude that we are obligated to disclose a position and you refuse to permit the disclosure, we reserve the right to withdraw from the engagement, and you agree to compensate us for our services to the date of withdrawal. Our engagement with you will terminate upon our withdrawal.

The IRS permits you to authorize us to discuss, on a limited basis, aspects of your return for one year after the return's due date. Your consent to such a discussion is evidenced by checking a box on the return. Unless you indicate otherwise, we will check the box that authorizes the IRS to discuss your return with us.

We do not keep any of your original records, so we will return those to you upon the completion of the engagement. When records are returned to you, it is your responsibility to retain and protect the records for possible future use, including potential examination by governmental or regulatory agencies.

Certain communications involving tax advice are privileged and not subject to disclosure to the IRS. By disclosing the contents of those communications to anyone, or by turning over information about those communications to the government, you, your employees, or agents may be waiving this privilege. To protect this right to privileged communication, please consult with us or your attorney prior to disclosing any information about our tax advice. Should you decide that it is appropriate for us to disclose any potentially privileged communication, you agree to provide us with written, advance authority to make that disclosure.

If we receive any request for the disclosure of privileged information from any third party, including a subpoena or IRS summons, we will notify you. In the event you direct us not to make the disclosure, you agree to hold us harmless from any expenses incurred in defending the privilege, including, by way of illustration only, our attorney's fees, court costs, outside adviser's costs, or penalties or fines imposed as a result of your asserting the privilege or your direction to us to assert the privilege.

Your returns may be selected for examination by taxing authorities. In the event of an examination or other Internal Revenue Service or state taxing authority contact, we are available to represent you. Any proposed adjustments by the examining agent are subject to certain rights of appeal. In the event of such government tax examinations, we will be available upon request to represent you and will render additional invoices for the time and expenses incurred. Fees and services will be communicated in a separate engagement letter.

If you and/or your entity have a financial interest in, or signature authority over, any foreign accounts, you may be subject to certain filing requirements with the U.S. Department of the Treasury, in addition to the IRS. Filing requirements may also apply to taxpayers that have direct or indirect control over a foreign or domestic entity with foreign financial accounts, even if the taxpayer does not have foreign account(s).

The filing deadline for the Report of Foreign Bank and Financial Accounts (FBAR) required by the U.S. Department of the Treasury is April 15th and follows the federal income tax due date guidance, which notes that if the tax due date falls on a weekend or legal holiday, the form is considered timely filed if filed on the next business day. An automatic 6-month extension is available. Electronic filing of the FBAR is mandatory using the Bank Secrecy Act (BSA) e-filing system for the Financial Crimes Enforcement Network (FinCEN). We must receive a signed consent form from you prior to submitting the foreign reporting form. If we do not receive your signed authorization to file your foreign reporting form, we will not be able to file any of the required disclosure statements on your behalf.

Additionally, the IRS requires information reporting on foreign interests or activities under applicable IRC sections and related regulations, and the respective IRS tax forms are due when your income tax return is due, including extensions. The IRS reporting requirements are in addition to the U.S. Department of the Treasury reporting requirements stated above. Therefore, if you have any direct or indirect foreign interests that require disclosures to the IRS, you must provide us with the information necessary to prepare the applicable IRS forms.

Failure to timely file the appropriate forms with the U.S. Department of the Treasury and the IRS may result in substantial civil and/or criminal penalties. By your signature below, you agree to provide us with complete and accurate information regarding any foreign accounts that you and/or your entity may have had a direct or indirect interest in, or signature authority over, during the above referenced tax year. The foreign reporting requirements are very complex, so if you have any questions regarding the application of the U.S. Department of the Treasury and/or the IRS reporting requirements to your foreign interests or activities, please ask us for advice in that regard. We assume no liability for penalties associated with the failure to file or untimely filing of any of these forms.

You acknowledge that you are responsible for management decisions and functions. That responsibility includes designating qualified individuals with the necessary expertise to be responsible and accountable for overseeing all the specific services we perform as part of this engagement, as well as evaluating the adequacy and results of the services performed. You are responsible for establishing and maintaining internal controls, including monitoring ongoing activities.

Because of the importance of oral and written management representations to the effective performance of our services, client releases and indemnifies our firm and its personnel from any and all claims, liabilities, costs and expenses attributable to any misrepresentation by management and its representatives.

In connection with this engagement, we may communicate with you or others via email transmission. We take reasonable measures to secure your confidential information in our email transmissions. However, as emails can be intercepted and read, disclosed, or otherwise used or communicated by an unintended third party, or may not be delivered to each of the parties to whom they are directed and only to such parties, we cannot guarantee or warrant that emails from us will be properly delivered to and read only by the addressee. Therefore, we specifically disclaim and waive any liability or responsibility whatsoever for interception or unintentional disclosure or communication of email transmissions, or for the unauthorized use or failed delivery of emails transmitted by us in connection with the performance of this engagement. In that regard, you agree that we shall have no liability for any loss or damage to any person or entity resulting from the use of email transmissions, including any consequential, incidental, direct, indirect, or special damages, such as loss of sales or anticipated profits, or disclosure or communication of confidential or proprietary information.

We may from time to time, and depending on the circumstances and nature of the services we are providing, share your confidential information with third-party service providers, some of whom may be cloud-based or offshore, but we remain committed to maintaining the confidentiality and security of your information. Accordingly, we maintain internal policies, procedures and safeguards to protect the confidentiality of your personal information. In addition, we will secure confidentiality agreements with all service providers to maintain the confidentiality of your information and will take reasonable precautions to determine that they have appropriate procedures in place to prevent the unauthorized release of your confidential information to others. In the event that we are unable to secure an appropriate confidentiality agreement, you will be asked to provide your consent prior to the sharing of your confidential information to such third parties secure from unauthorized access, no completely secure system for electronic data transfer has yet been devised. As such, by your signature below, you understand that the firm makes no warranty, expressed or implied, on the security of electronic data transfers.

In addition, in the event our firm or any of its employees or agents is called as a witness or requested to provide any information whether oral, written or electronic in any judicial, quasi-judicial, or administrative hearing or trial regarding information or communications that you have provided to this firm, or any documents and workpapers prepared by Cook & Company CPAs + Wealth Management, LLC in accordance with the terms of this agreement, you agree to pay any and all reasonable expenses including fees and costs for our time at the rates specified in our engagement letter, as well as any legal or other fees that we incur as a result of such appearance or production of documents.

It is our policy to keep records related to this engagement for seven years. However, Cook & Company CPAs + Wealth Management, LLC does not keep any original client records, so we will return those to you at the completion of the services rendered under this engagement. When records are returned to you, it is your responsibility to retain and protect your records for possible future use, including potential examination by any government or regulatory agencies.

You acknowledge and agree that upon the expiration of the seven year period Cook & Company CPAs + Wealth Management, LLC shall be free to destroy our records related to this engagement.

We have the right to withdraw from this engagement, in our discretion, if you do not provide us with any information we request in a timely manner, refuse to cooperate with our reasonable requests, or misrepresent any facts. Our withdrawal will release us from any obligation to complete your return and will constitute completion

of our engagement. You agree to compensate us for our time and out-of-pocket expenses through the date of our withdrawal.

If any dispute arises among the parties hereto, the parties agree to first try to settle the dispute through discussion or voluntary mediation. If the discussion and voluntary mediation are unsuccessful, the parties agree to try in good faith to settle the dispute by mediation administered by an agreed upon mediator between parties. The mediation will be administered under the rules of the American Arbitration Association for resolving professional accounting and related services disputes before resorting to litigation. If the parties are unable to agree upon an association for mediation within thirty (30) days after notification that the dispute will be submitted to a mediator, then the accountant shall make the decision. Costs of any mediation proceeding shall be shared equally by all parties.

Client and accountant both agree that any dispute over fees charged by the accountant to the client will be submitted for resolution by arbitration in accordance with the applicable rules for resolving professional accounting and related services disputes of the American Arbitration Association except that under all circumstances the arbitrator must follow the laws of Missouri. Such arbitration shall be binding and final. IN AGREEING TO ARBITRATION, WE BOTH ACKNOWLEDGE THAT, IN THE EVENT OF A DISPUTE OVER FEES CHARGED BY THE ACCOUNTANT, EACH OF US IS GIVING UP THE RIGHT TO HAVE THE DISPUTE DECIDED IN A COURT OF LAW BEFORE A JUDGE OR JURY AND INSTEAD WE ARE ACCEPTING THE USE OF ARBITRATION FOR RESOLUTION. The prevailing party shall be entitled to an award of reasonable attorneys' fees and costs incurred in connection with the arbitration of the dispute in an amount to be determined by the arbitrator.

The arbitration shall take place in the offices of the arbitrator, or at a mutually agreeable location. The rules under which the arbitration shall take place shall be the rules of the American Arbitration Association or other such alternative dispute resolution procedures as may be agreed upon by the parties. If the parties are unable to agree upon an association for arbitration within thirty (30) days after notification that the dispute will be submitted to arbitration, then the accountant shall make the decision. Any statements made in preparation for or the conduct of the actual arbitration shall be confidential and the parties agree not to use any such statements in any other matter, including any litigation between the parties and other third-parties not a part to this engagement letter. Unless otherwise agreed, the parties agree that no depositions shall be used as a discovery device in the arbitration. Moreover, unless otherwise agreed, the parties agree that an arbitration of the dispute shall take place no later than six (6) months after service of a demand for arbitration on the other party.

We appreciate the opportunity to be of service to you and believe this letter accurately summarizes the significant terms of our engagement. If you have any questions, please let us know. Please note that you are affirming to Cook & Company CPAs + Wealth Management, LLC your understanding of, and agreement to, the terms and conditions of this letter along with the Legalese and Disclosures outlined on our website by any one of the following actions: returning your signed engagement letter to our firm, returning your income tax information to us for use in the preparation of your returns, the submission of the tax returns we have prepared for you to the taxing authorities, or payment of any portion of our return preparation fees.