

**PROFESSIONAL SERVICE AGREEMENT  
BETWEEN SANTA FE COUNTY AND  
BRIDGET JACOBBER TO PROVIDE LEGAL SERVICES  
FOR THE ASSESSOR'S OFFICE**

**THIS AGREEMENT** is made and entered into this 26<sup>th</sup> day of March 2018, by and between **SANTA FE COUNTY**, hereinafter referred to as the "County" and **BRIDGET JACOBBER**, whose principal address is **128 Grant Avenue, Suite 215, Santa Fe, New Mexico 87501** hereinafter referred to as the "Contractor".

**WHEREAS**, the Santa Fe County Assessor requires legal assistance on property tax valuation matters and administrative law; and

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to NMSA 1978, Sections 13-1-112 and 13-1-117, competitive, sealed proposals were solicited through a formal Request for Proposals, No. 2018-0246-AO/MM (the RFP), for legal services for the Assessor's Office; and

**WHEREAS**, based upon the evaluation criteria established within the RFP for the purposes of determining the most qualified Offeror, the County has determined the Contractor as the most responsive and highest rated Offeror; and

**WHEREAS**, the County requires the services of the Contractor and the Contractor is willing to provide these services and both parties wish to enter into this Agreement.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, it is agreed between the parties:

**1. SCOPE OF WORK**

The Contractor shall advise and represent the County, Santa Fe County Assessor on property tax matters as directed by the County Attorney in consultation with the County Assessor.

The Contractor shall:

- A. Provide legal research and write legal memoranda regarding property valuation matters and administrative law.
- B. Prepare pleadings and briefs for district, appellate and supreme courts.
- C. Represent the County Assessor in certain protest proceedings and tax refund claims.
- D. Draft information documents and instruction for property owners as well as appraisal staff.
- E. Interface with any property owner's attorney for exchange of information necessary to appraise property.

- F. Work with the District Attorney's office in relation to charges of criminal tax evasion.
- G. Interface with taxpayers, attorneys and tax consultants who contact the County Assessor's Office.
- H. Work with attorneys and administrators of the NM Taxation and Revenue Department, the County Assessor and other counties regarding issues that have state-wide property tax implications.
- I. Brief County officials, employees and others on issues pertinent to this scope of work.

**2. ADDITIONAL SERVICES**

A. The parties agree that all tasks set forth in Section 1 (Scope of Work), of this Agreement shall be completed in full, to the satisfaction of the County, in accordance with professional standards and for the amount set forth in Section 3 (Compensation, Invoicing and Set-off), of this Agreement, and for no other cost, amount, fee or expense.

B. The County may from time to time request changes in the scope of work to be performed hereunder. Such changes, including any increase or decrease in the amount of the Contractor's compensation, which are mutually agreed upon by and between the County and the Contractor, shall be incorporated in a written amendment to this Agreement.

**3. COMPENSATION, INVOICING AND SET-OFF**

A. In consideration of its obligations under this Agreement the Contractor shall be compensated as follows:

- 1) County shall pay to the Contractor in full payment for services satisfactorily performed at an hourly rate of \$150.00.
- 2) The total amount payable to the Contractor under this Agreement shall not exceed **\$65,000.00** exclusive of New Mexico gross receipts tax.
- 3) This amount is a maximum and not a guarantee that the work assigned to be performed by Contractor under this Agreement shall equal the amount stated herein. The parties do not intend for the Contractor to continue to provide services without compensation when the total compensation amount is reached. The County will notify the Contractor when the services provided under this Agreement reach the total compensation amount. In no event will the Contractor be paid for services provided in excess of the total compensation amount without this Agreement being amended in writing.

B. The Contractor shall submit a written request for payment to the County when payment is due under this Agreement. Upon the County's receipt of the written request, the County

shall issue a written certification of complete or partial acceptance or rejection of the deliverables for which payment is sought.

- 1) The County's representative for certification of acceptance or rejection of contractual items and services shall be **PJ Griego, Administrative Manager**, or such other individual as may be designated in the absence of the County representative.
- 2) The Contractor acknowledges and agrees that the County may not make any payment hereunder unless and until it has issued a written certification accepting the contractual services or deliverables.
- 3) Within 30 days of the issuance of a written certification accepting the services or deliverables, the County shall tender payment for the accepted items or services. In the event the County fails to tender payment within 30 days of the written certification accepting the items or services, the County shall pay late payment charges of one and one-half percent (1.5%) per month, until the amount due is paid in full.

C. In the event the Contractor breaches this Agreement, the County may, without penalty, withhold any payments due the Contractor for the purpose of set-off until such time as the County determines the exact amount of damages it suffered as a result of the breach.

D. Payment under this Agreement shall not foreclose the right of the County to recover excessive or illegal payment.

#### **4. EFFECTIVE DATE AND TERM**

This Agreement shall, upon due execution by all parties, become effective as of the date first written above and shall terminate one year later, unless earlier terminated pursuant to Section 5 (Termination) or Section 6 (Appropriations and Authorizations). The County has the option to extend the term of this Agreement in one year increments not to exceed four years in total

#### **5. TERMINATION**

A. Termination of Agreement for Cause. Either party may terminate the Agreement based upon any material breach of this Agreement by the other party. The non-breaching party shall give the breaching party written notice of termination specifying the grounds for the termination. The termination shall be effective 30 days from the breaching party's receipt of the notice of termination, during which time the breaching party shall have the right to cure the breach. If, however, the breach cannot with due diligence be cured within 30 days, the breaching party shall have a reasonable time to cure the breach, provided that, within 30 days of its receipt of the written notice of termination, the breaching party began to cure the breach and advised the non-breaching party in writing that it intended to cure.

B. Termination for Convenience of the County. The County may, in its discretion, terminate this Agreement at any time for any reason by giving the Contractor written notice of

termination. The notice shall specify the effective date of termination, which shall not be less than 15 days from the Contractor's receipt of the notice. The County shall pay the Contractor for acceptable work, determined in accordance with the specifications and standards set forth in this Agreement, performed before the effective date of termination but shall not be liable for any work performed after the effective date of termination.

## **6. APPROPRIATIONS AND AUTHORIZATIONS**

This Agreement is contingent upon sufficient appropriations and authorizations being made for performance of this Agreement by the Board of County Commissioners of the County and/or, if state funds are involved, the Legislature of the State of New Mexico. If sufficient appropriations and authorizations are not made in this or future fiscal years, this Agreement shall terminate upon written notice by the County to the Contractor. Such termination shall be without penalty to the County, and the County shall have no duty to reimburse the Contractor for expenditures made in the performance of this Agreement. The County is expressly not committed to expenditure of any funds until such time as they are programmed, budgeted, encumbered and approved for expenditure by the County. The County's decision as to whether sufficient appropriations and authorizations have been made for the fulfillment of this Agreement shall be final and not subject to challenge by the Contractor in any way or forum, including a lawsuit.

## **7. INDEPENDENT CONTRACTOR**

The Contractor and its agents and employees are independent contractors and are not employees or agents of the County. Accordingly, the Contractor and its agents and employees shall not accrue leave, participate in retirement plans, insurance plans, or liability bonding, use County vehicles, or participate in any other benefits afforded to employees of the County. Except as may be expressly authorized elsewhere in this Agreement, the Contractor has no authority to bind, represent, or otherwise act on behalf of the County and agrees not to purport to do so.

## **8. ASSIGNMENT**

The Contractor shall not assign or transfer any interest in this Agreement or assign any claims for money due or to become due under this Agreement without the advance written approval of the County. Any attempted assignment or transfer without the County's advance written approval shall be null and void and without any legal effect.

## **9. SUBCONTRACTING**

The Contractor shall not subcontract or delegate any portion of the services to be performed under this Agreement without the advance written approval of the County. Any attempted subcontracting or delegating without the County's advance written approval shall be null and void and without any legal effect.

## **10. PERSONNEL**

A. All work performed under this Agreement shall be performed by the Contractor or

under its supervision.

B. The Contractor represents that it has, or will secure at its own expense, all personnel required to discharge its obligations under this Agreement. Such personnel (i) shall not be employees of or have any contractual relationships with the County and (ii) shall be fully qualified and licensed or otherwise authorized or permitted under federal, state, and local law to perform such work.

**11. RELEASE**

Upon its receipt of all payments due under this Agreement, the Contractor releases the County, its elected officials, officers, agents and employees from all liabilities, claims, and obligations whatsoever arising from or under or relating to this Agreement.

**12. CONFIDENTIALITY**

Any confidential information provided to or developed by the Contractor in the performance of this Agreement shall be kept confidential and shall not be made available to any individual or organization by the Contractor without the prior written approval of the County.

**13. PUBLICATION, REPRODUCTION, AND USE OF MATERIAL; COPYRIGHT**

A. The County has the unrestricted right to publish, disclose, distribute and otherwise use, in whole or in part, any reports, data, or other material prepared under or pursuant to this Agreement.

B. The Contractor acknowledges and agrees that any material produced in whole or in part under or pursuant to this Agreement is a work made for hire. Accordingly, to the extent that any such material is copyrightable in the United States or in any other country, the County shall own any such copyright.

**14. CONFLICT OF INTEREST**

The Contractor represents that it has no and shall not acquire any interest, direct or indirect, that would conflict in any manner or degree with the performance of its obligations under this Agreement.

**15. NO ORAL MODIFICATIONS; WRITTEN AMENDMENTS REQUIRED**

This Agreement may not be modified, altered, changed, or amended orally but, rather, only by an instrument in writing executed by the parties hereto. The Contractor specifically acknowledges and agrees that the County shall not be responsible for any changes to Section 1 (Scope of Work), of this Agreement unless such changes are set forth in a duly executed written amendment to this Agreement.

**16. ENTIRE AGREEMENT; INTEGRATION**

This Agreement incorporates all the agreements, covenants, and understandings between the parties hereto concerning the subject matter hereof, and all such agreements, covenants and understandings have been merged into this written Agreement. No prior or contemporaneous agreement, covenant or understandings, verbal or otherwise, of the parties or their agents shall be valid or enforceable unless embodied in this Agreement.

**17. NOTICE OF PENALTIES**

The Procurement Code, NMSA 1978, Sections 13-1-28 through 13-1-199, imposes civil and criminal penalties for its violation. In addition, New Mexico criminal statutes impose felony penalties for bribes, gratuities, and kickbacks.

**18. EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY COMPLIANCE**

A. The Contractor agrees to abide by all federal, state, and local laws, ordinances, and rules and regulations pertaining to equal employment opportunity and unlawful discrimination. Without in any way limiting the foregoing general obligation, the Contractor specifically agrees not to discriminate against any person with regard to employment with the Contractor or participation in any program or activity offered pursuant to this Agreement on the grounds of race, age, religion, color, national origin, ancestry, sex, physical or mental handicap, serious medical condition, spousal affiliation, sexual orientation, or gender identity.

B. The Contractor acknowledges and agrees that failure to comply with this Section shall constitute a material breach of this Agreement.

**19. COMPLIANCE WITH APPLICABLE LAW; CHOICE OF LAW**

A. In performing its obligations hereunder, the Contractor shall comply with all applicable laws, ordinances, and regulations.

B. Contractor shall comply with the requirements of Santa Fe County Ordinance 2014-1 (Establishing a Living Wage).

C. This Agreement shall be construed in accordance with the substantive laws of the State of New Mexico, without regard to its choice of law rules. Contractor and the County agree that the exclusive forum for any litigation between them arising out of or related to this Agreement shall be state district courts of New Mexico, located in Santa Fe County.

**20. RECORDS AND INSPECTIONS**

A. To the extent its books and records relate to (i) its performance of this Agreement or any subcontract entered into pursuant to it or (ii) cost or pricing data (if any) set forth in this Agreement or that was required to be submitted to the County as part of the procurement process, the Contractor agrees to (i) maintain such books and records during the term of this Agreement



102 Grant Avenue  
P.O. Box 276  
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87504-0276

To the Contractor: Bridget Jacober  
128 Grant Avenue, Suite 215  
Santa Fe, New Mexico

## 24. CONTRACTOR'S REPRESENTATIONS AND WARRANTIES

The Contractor hereby represents and warrants that:

A. This Agreement has been duly authorized by the Contractor, the person executing this Agreement has authority to do so, and, once executed by the Contractor, this Agreement shall constitute a binding obligation of the Contractor.

B. This Agreement and Contractor's obligations hereunder do not conflict with Contractor's corporate agreement or any statement filed with the New Mexico Secretary of State on Contractor's behalf.

C. Contractor is legally registered and is properly licensed by the State of New Mexico to provide the services anticipated by this Agreement and shall maintain such registration and licensure in good standing throughout the duration of the Agreement.

## 25. FACSIMILE SIGNATURES

The parties hereto agree that a facsimile signature has the same force and effect as an original for all purposes.

## 26. NO THIRD-PARTY BENEFICIARIES

This Agreement was not intended to and does not create any rights in any persons not a party hereto.

## 27. INSURANCE

A. General Conditions. The Contractor shall submit evidence of insurance as is required herein. Policies of insurance shall be written by companies authorized to write such insurance in New Mexico.

B. General Liability Insurance, Including Automobile. The Contractor shall procure and maintain during the life of this Agreement a comprehensive general liability and automobile insurance policy with liability limits in amounts not less than \$1,000,000.00 combined single limits of liability for bodily injury, including death, and property damage for any one occurrence. Said policies of insurance shall include coverage for all operations performed for the County by the



Contractor; coverage for the use of all owned, non-owned, hired automobiles, vehicles and other equipment, both on and off work; and contractual liability coverage under which this Agreement is an insured contract. Santa Fe County shall be a named additional insured on the policy.

C. Increased Limits. If, during the life of this Agreement, the Legislature of the State of New Mexico increases the maximum limits of liability under the Tort Claims Act (NMSA 1978, Sections 41-4-1 through 41-4-29, as amended), the Contractor shall increase the maximum limits of any insurance required herein.

D. Professional Liability [Malpractice/Errors and Omissions Insurance]. The Contractor shall procure and maintain during the life of this Agreement professional liability (errors and omissions) insurance with policy limits of not less than \$1,500,000.00 per occurrence, \$2,500,000.00 per aggregate.

## **28. PERMITS, FEES, AND LICENSES**

Contractor shall procure all permits and licenses, pay all charges, fees, and royalties, and give all notices necessary and incidental to the due and lawful performance of its obligations hereunder.

## **29. NEW MEXICO TORT CLAIMS ACT**

No provision of this Agreement modifies or waives any sovereign immunity or limitation of liability enjoyed by County or its “public employees” at common law or under the New Mexico Tort Claims Act, NMSA 1978, Section 41-4-1, et seq.

## **30. CAMPAIGN CONTRIBUTION DISCLOSURE FORM**

The Contractor agrees to compute and submit simultaneous with execution of this Agreement a Campaign Contribution Disclosure form approved by the County.

## **32. SURVIVAL**

The provisions of following paragraphs shall survive termination of this Contract; INDEMNIFICATION; RECORDS AND INSPECTION; RELEASE, CONFIDENTIALITY, PUBLICATION, REPRODUCTION, AND USE OF MATERIAL; COPYRIGHT; COMPLIANCE WITH APPLICABLE LAW; CHOICE OF LAW; NO THIRD-PARTY BENEFICIARIES; SURVIVAL.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties have duly executed this Agreement as of the date of last signature by the parties.

**SANTA FE COUNTY**

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
By Katherine Miller  
County Manager

3-26-18  
Date

Approved as to form

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
R. Bruce Frederick  
County Attorney


3-23-18  
Date

Finance Department

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Stephanie Schardin Clarke  
Finance Director

3/23/18  
Date

**CONTRACTOR:**

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
(Signature)  
Bridget Jacober  
\_\_\_\_\_  
(Print name & title)

3/26/2018  
Date