

January 18, 2017

Board of County Commissioners
Guilford County, North Carolina
201 S. Greene Street
Greensboro, NC 27402

Dear Board of County Commissioners:

This engagement letter between Guilford County, North Carolina (hereinafter referred to as the "County") and Cherry Bekaert LLP (the "Firm" or "Cherry Bekaert") sets forth the nature and scope of the services we will provide, the County's required involvement and assistance in support of our services, the related fee arrangements, and other Terms and Conditions, which are attached hereto and incorporated by reference, designed to facilitate the performance of our professional services and to achieve the mutually agreed-upon objectives of the County.

SUMMARY OF SERVICES

We will provide the following services to the County as of and for the year ended June 30, 2017:

Audit services

1. We will audit the basic financial statements of the County as of and for the year ended June 30, 2017 including the governmental activities, the discretely presented component unit, each major fund, and the remaining fund information.
2. The supplementary information, such as the introductory section and statistical sections accompanying the financial statements will not be subjected to the auditing procedures applied in our audit of the financial statements and our auditor's report will not provide an opinion or any assurance on that information.
3. We will audit the supplementary information such as the combining and individual fund financial statements and schedules, and additional financial data as well as the Schedule of Expenditures of Federal and State Awards. As part of our engagement, we will apply certain additional procedures, including comparing and reconciling such information directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the financial statements or the financial statements themselves.
4. We will apply limited procedures to the Required Supplementary Information ("RSI") such as Management's Discussion and Analysis (MD&A) and the RSI as listed in the table of contents of the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR) which will consist of inquiries of management about the methods of preparing the information and comparing the information for consistency with management's responses to our inquiries, the basic financial statements and other knowledge we obtained during our audit of the financial statements.

Accounting and other services

We will provide the following additional services:

5. Complete the appropriate sections of and sign the Data Collection Form.

YOUR EXPECTATIONS

As part of our planning process, we have discussed with you your expectations of Cherry Bekaert, changes that occurred during the year, your views on risks facing you, any relationship issues with Cherry Bekaert, and specific engagement arrangements and timing. Our service plan, which includes our audit plan, is designed to provide a foundation for an effective, efficient, and quality-focused approach to accomplish the engagement objectives and meet or exceed your expectations. Our service plan will be reviewed with you periodically and will serve as a benchmark against which you will be able to measure our performance. Any additional services that you may request, and that we agree to provide, will be the subject of separate written arrangements.

The County recognizes that our professional standards require that we be independent from you in our audit of your financial statements and our accompanying report in order to ensure that our objectivity and professional skepticism have not been compromised. As a result, we cannot enter into a fiduciary relationship with you and you should not expect that we will act only with due regard to your interest in the performance of this audit and you should not impose on us special confidence that we will conduct this audit with only your interest in mind. Because of our obligation to be independent of you, no fiduciary relationship will be created by this engagement or audit of your financial statements.

The engagement will be led by Eddie Burke, who will be responsible for assuring the overall quality, value, and timeliness of the services provided to you.

AUDIT SERVICES

The objective of our audit is the expression of opinions as to whether your basic financial statements are fairly presented, in all material respects, in conformity with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles ("GAAP") and to report on the fairness of the additional information referred to in the Summary of Services section when considered in relation to the basic financial statements taken as a whole. The objective also includes reporting on:

- Internal control related to the financial statements and compliance with the provisions of applicable laws, regulations, contracts, agreements and grants, noncompliance with which could have a material effect on the financial statements in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*.
- Internal control related to major programs and an opinion (or disclaimer of opinion) on compliance with laws, regulations, and the provisions of contracts or grant agreements that could have a direct and material effect on each major program in accordance with the Single Audit Act Amendments of 1996, *Title 2 U.S. Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 200, Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards ("Uniform Guidance")*, and the State Single Audit Implementation Act

The reports on internal control and compliance will each include a paragraph that states that the purpose of the report is solely to describe (1) the scope of testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the result of that testing and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of internal control over financial reporting or on compliance, (2) the scope of testing internal control over compliance for major programs and major program compliance and the result of that testing and to provide an opinion on compliance but not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of internal control over compliance, and (3) that the report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing*

Standards in considering internal control over financial reporting and compliance and with Single Audit Act Amendments of 1996, *OMB Guidance for Grants and Agreements* (2 CFR 200), and State Single Audit Implementation Act in considering internal control over compliance and major program compliance. The paragraph will also state that the report is not suitable for any other purpose.

Our audit will be conducted in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America; *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States (“GAAS”); the Single Audit Act Amendments of 1996; State Single Audit Implementation Act and *OMB Guidance for Grants and Agreements* (2 CFR 200), and will include tests of accounting records, a determination of major programs in accordance with *OMB Guidance for Grants and Agreements* (2 CFR 200) and the State Single Audit Implementation Act, and other procedures as deemed necessary to enable us to express such opinions and to render the required reports. If any of our opinions resulting from the procedures described above are other than unmodified, we will fully discuss the reasons with you in advance. If, for any reason, we are unable to complete the audit or are unable to form or have not formed opinions, we may decline to express opinions or issue a report as a result of this engagement.

ACCOUNTING AND OTHER SERVICES

Data Collection Form

We will complete the appropriate sections of and sign the Data Collection Form that summarizes our audit findings. We will provide copies of our reports to the County; however, it is management’s responsibility to submit the reporting package (including financial statements, schedule of expenditures of federal awards, summary schedule of prior audit findings, auditors’ reports, and corrective action plan) along with the Data Collection Form to the designated federal audit clearinghouse and, if appropriate, to pass-through entities. The Data Collection Form and the reporting package must be submitted within the earlier of 30 days after receipt of the auditors’ reports or nine months after the end of the audit period.

Management’s responsibilities related to accounting and other services

For all nonattest services we perform in connection with the engagement, you are responsible for designating a competent employee to oversee the services, make any management decisions, perform any management functions related to the services, evaluate the adequacy of the services, and accept overall responsibility for the results of the services.

Prior to the release of the report, Management will need to sign a representation letter acknowledging your responsibility for the results of these services.

MANAGEMENT’S RESPONSIBILITIES RELATED TO THE AUDIT

Management is responsible for the fair presentation of the financial statements in conformity with GAAP, including the appropriate basis of accounting is applied by all component units, if applicable, for making all financial records and related information available to us, for ensuring that all material information is disclosed to us, and for identifying and ensuring that the County complies with the laws and regulations applicable to its activities and with the provisions of contracts and grant agreements.

Management is responsible for the preparation of the supplementary information in conformity with GAAP. Management agrees to include our report on the supplementary information in any document that contains and indicates that we have reported on the supplementary information. Management also agrees to include the audited financial

Guilford County, North Carolina

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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.

Management is also responsible for adjusting the financial statements to correct material misstatements, informing us of events that occurred subsequent to the balance sheet date until the date of the auditors' report that might affect the financial statements or related disclosures and informing us of any discovery of facts related to items that existed at the financial statement date that might affect the financial statements or related disclosures.

Management is responsible for informing us of its views regarding the risk of fraud at the County. Management must inform us of their knowledge of any allegations of fraud or suspected fraud affecting the County that was received in communications from employees, former employees, regulators, or others. Additionally, Management must inform us about all known or suspected fraud affecting the County involving (a) Management, (b) employees who have significant roles in internal control, and (c) others where the fraud could have a material effect on the financial statements.

Management is responsible for the design and implementation of programs and controls over financial reporting and to prevent and detect fraud. Appropriate supervisory review procedures are necessary to provide reasonable assurance that adopted policies and prescribed procedures are adhered to and to identify errors and fraud or illegal acts. As a part of our audit, we will consider the County's internal control structure, as required by GAAS, sufficient to plan the audit and to determine the nature, timing, and extent of auditing procedures necessary for expressing our opinion concerning the financial statements. An audit is not designed to provide any assurance on internal controls. As part of our consideration of the County's internal control structure, we will inform you of matters that come to our attention that represent significant deficiencies or material weaknesses in the design or operation of the internal control structure.

Management is responsible for establishment and maintenance of a process for tracking the status of audit findings and recommendations. Management is also responsible for identifying to us previous audits or other engagements or studies related to the objectives discussed in the Audit Objectives section of this letter. This responsibility includes relaying to us corrective actions taken to address significant findings and recommendations resulting from those audits or other engagements 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, and the timing and format related thereto.

At the conclusion of the engagement, Management will provide to us a representation letter that, among other things, addresses (1) Management's responsibilities related to the audit and confirms certain representations made to us during the audit, including, Management's acknowledgement of its responsibility for the design and implementation of programs and controls to prevent and detect fraud; (2) Management's responsibilities related to the monitoring of internal control over financial reporting; and (3) Management's knowledge, directly or from allegations by others, of fraud or suspected fraud affecting the County. The representation letter will also affirm to us that Management believes that the effects of any uncorrected misstatements, if any, pertaining to the financial statements are immaterial, both individually and in the aggregate, to the financial statements taken as a whole. The Firm will rely on Management providing these representations to us, both in the planning and performance of the audit, and in considering the fees that we will charge to perform the audit.

FEES

The estimated fee contemplates only the services described in the Summary of Services section of this letter. If Management requests additional services not listed above, we will provide an estimate of those fees prior to commencing additional work.

The following summarizes the fees for the services described above:

<u>Description of Services</u>	<u>Estimated Fee</u>
Audit services	
Audit of the financial statements	\$86,355

The fees will be billed periodically as work progresses. Invoices are due on presentation. A service charge will be added to past due accounts equal to 1½% per month (18% annually) on the previous month's balance less payments received during the month, with a minimum charge of \$2.00 per month.

If the foregoing is in accordance with your understanding, please sign a copy of this letter in the space provided and return it to us. If you have any questions, please call Eddie Burke at 919-782-1040.

Sincerely,

CHERRY BEKAERT LLP



ATTACHMENT – Engagement Letter Terms and Conditions

GUILFORD COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA

ACCEPTED BY: _____

TITLE: _____ DATE: _____

Cherry Bekaert LLP
Engagement Letter Terms and Conditions

The following Terms and Conditions are an integral part of the attached engagement letter and should be read in their entirety in conjunction with your review of the letter.

LIMITATIONS OF THE AUDIT REPORT

Should the County wish to include or incorporate by reference these financial statements and our report thereon into *any* other document at some future date, we will consider granting permission to include our report into another such document at the time of the request. However, we may be required by generally accepted auditing standards (“GAAS”) to perform certain procedures before we can give our permission to include our report in another document such as an annual report, private placement, regulator filing, official statement, offering of debt securities, etc. You agree that you will not include or incorporate by reference these financial statements and our report thereon, or our report into *any* other document without our prior written permission. In addition, to avoid unnecessary delay or misunderstandings, it is important to provide us with timely notice of your intention to issue any such document.

If, however, management takes certain actions, such as requesting a written consent from us prior to including our audit report in such an offering statement, our firm then becomes associated with the offering and in accordance with professional standards, we will be required to perform certain limited procedures with respect to unaudited information contained in the document. These procedures will be subject to separate written arrangements and fees.

LIMITATIONS OF THE AUDIT PROCESS

In conducting the audit, we will perform tests of the accounting records and such other procedures as we consider necessary in the circumstances to provide a reasonable basis for our opinion on the financial statements. We also will assess the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by Management, as well as evaluate the overall financial statement presentation.

Our audit will include procedures designed to obtain reasonable assurance of detecting misstatements due to errors or fraud that are material to the financial statements. Absolute assurance is not attainable because of the nature of audit evidence and the characteristics of fraud. For example, audits performed in accordance with GAAS are based on the concept of selective testing of the data being examined and are, therefore, subject to the limitation that material misstatements due to errors or fraud, if they exist, may not be detected. Also, an audit is not designed to detect matters that are immaterial to the financial statements. In addition, an audit conducted in accordance with GAAS does not include procedures specifically designed to detect illegal acts having an indirect effect (e.g., violations of fraud and abuse statutes that result in fines or penalties being imposed on the County) on the financial statements.

Similarly, in performing our audit we will be aware of the possibility that illegal acts may have occurred. However, it should be recognized that our audit provides no assurance that illegal acts generally will be detected, and only reasonable assurance that illegal acts having a direct and material effect on the determination of financial statement amounts will be detected. We will inform you with respect to errors and fraud, or illegal acts that come to our attention during the course of our audit unless clearly inconsequential. In the event that we have to consult with the County’s counsel or counsel of our choosing regarding any illegal acts we identify, additional fees incurred may be billed to the County. You agree to cooperate fully with any procedures we deem necessary to perform with respect to these matters.

We will issue a written report upon completion of our audit of the County's financial statements. If, for any reason, we are unable to complete the audit, or are unable to form, or have not formed an opinion on the financial statements, we may decline to express an opinion or decline to issue a report as a result of the engagement. We will notify the appropriate party within your organization of our decision and discuss the reasons supporting our position.

AUDIT PROCEDURES – GENERAL

An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements; therefore, our audit will involve professional judgment about the number of transactions to be examined and the areas to be tested. We will plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable rather than absolute 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 County or to acts by management or employees acting on behalf of the County. Because the determination of abuse is subjective, *Government Auditing Standards* do not expect auditors to provide reasonable assurance of detecting abuse.

Because an audit is designed to provide reasonable, but not absolute assurance and because we will not perform a detailed examination of all transactions, there is a risk that material misstatements or noncompliance may exist and not be detected by us. 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 or major programs. However, we will inform you of any material errors and fraud, or illegal acts that come to our attention during the course of our audit. We will also inform you 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.

Our procedures will include tests of documentary evidence supporting the transactions recorded in the accounts, and may include tests of the physical existence of inventories and direct confirmation of receivables and certain other assets and liabilities by correspondence with selected individuals, creditors and financial institutions. We will request written representations from your attorneys as part of the engagement, and they may bill you for responding to this inquiry. At the conclusion of our audit, we will also require certain written representations from you about the financial statements and related matters.

AUDIT PROCEDURES – INTERNAL CONTROLS

Our audit will include obtaining an understanding of the County and its environment, including internal controls, sufficient to assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements and to design the nature, timing, and extent of further audit procedures. 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*.

An audit is not designed to provide assurance on internal control or to identify significant deficiencies. 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 professional standards, and *Government Auditing Standards*.

AUDIT PROCEDURES – COMPLIANCE

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the basic financial statements are free of material misstatement, we will perform tests of the County's compliance with applicable laws and regulations and the provisions of contracts and agreements, including grant agreements. However, the objective of those procedures 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*.

NONATTEST SERVICES (IF APPLICABLE)

All nonattest services to be provided in the attached engagement letter (if applicable) shall be provided pursuant to the AICPA Code of Professional Conduct. The AICPA Code of Professional Conduct requires that we establish objectives of the engagement and the services to be performed, which are described under nonattest services in the attached letter.

You agree to assume all management responsibilities for the nonattest services we provide; oversee the services by designating an individual, with suitable skill, knowledge, or experience; evaluate the adequacy and results of the services; and accept responsibility for them. In order to ensure we provide such services in compliance with all professional standards, you are responsible for:

- Making all financial records and related information available to us.
- Ensuring that all material information is disclosed to us.
- Granting unrestricted access to persons within the entity from whom we determine it necessary to obtain audit evidence.
- Identifying and ensuring that such nonattest complies with the laws and regulations.

The accuracy and appropriateness of such nonattest services shall be limited by the accuracy and sufficiency of the information provided by you. In the course of providing such nonattest services, we may provide professional advice and guidance based on knowledge of accounting, tax, and other compliance, and of the facts and circumstances as provided by you. Such advice and guidance shall be limited as permitted under the Code of Professional Conduct.

COMMUNICATIONS

At the conclusion of the audit engagement, we may provide Management and those charged with governance a letter stating any significant deficiencies or material weaknesses which may have been identified by us during the audit and our recommendations designed to help the County make improvements in its internal control structure and operations related to the identified matters discovered in the financial statement audit. As part of this engagement we will ensure that certain additional matters are communicated to the appropriate members of the County. Such matters include (1) our responsibility under GAAS; (2) the initial selection of and changes in significant accounting policies and their application; (3) our independence with respect to the County; (4) the process used by Management in formulating particularly sensitive accounting estimates and the basis for our conclusion regarding the reasonableness of those estimates; (5) audit adjustments, if any, that could, in our judgment,

either individually or in the aggregate be significant to the financial statements or our report; (6) any disagreements with Management concerning a financial accounting, reporting or auditing matter that could be significant to the financial statements; (7) our views about matters that were the subject of Management's consultation with other accountants about auditing and accounting matters; (8) major issues that were discussed with Management in connection with the retention of our services, including, among other matters, any discussions regarding the application of accounting principles and auditing standards; and (9) serious difficulties that we encountered in dealing with Management related to the performance of the audit.

We have attached, as required by *Government Auditing Standards*, a copy of the report on our most recent peer review.

OTHER MATTERS

Access to working papers

The working papers and related documentation for the engagement are the property of the Firm and constitute confidential information. We have a responsibility to retain the documentation for a period of time to satisfy legal or regulatory requirements for records retention. It is our policy to retain all workpapers and client information for seven years from the date of issuance of the report. It is our policy to retain emails and attachments to emails for a period of 15 months, except as required by any governmental regulation. Except as discussed below, any requests for access to our working papers will be discussed with you prior to making them available to requesting parties. Any parties seeking access to our working papers must agree to sign our standard access letter.

We may be requested to make certain documentation available to regulators, governmental agencies (e.g., SEC, PCAOB, HUD, DOL, etc.), or their representatives ("Regulators") pursuant to law or regulations. If requested, access to the documentation will be provided to the Regulators. The Regulators may intend to distribute to others, including other governmental agencies, our working papers and related documentation without our knowledge or express permission. You hereby acknowledge and authorize us to allow Regulators access to and copies of documentation as requested. In addition, our Firm, as well as all other major accounting firms, participates in a "peer review" program covering our audit and accounting practices as required by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants. This program requires that once every three years we subject our quality assurance practices to an examination by another accounting firm. As part of the process, the other firm will review a sample of our work. It is possible that the work we perform for you may be selected by the other firm for their review. If it is, they are bound by professional standards to keep all information confidential. If you object to having the work we do for you reviewed by our peer reviewer, please notify us in writing.

Electronic transmittals

During the course of our engagement, we may need to electronically transmit confidential information to each other, within the Firm, and to other entities engaged by either party. Although email is an efficient way to communicate, it is not always a secure means of communication and thus, confidentiality may be compromised. As an alternative, we recommend using our Client Portal ("Portal") to transmit documents. Portal allows you, us, and other involved entities to upload and download documents in a secure location. You agree to the use of email, Portal, and other electronic methods to transmit and receive information, including confidential information between the Firm, the County, and other third-party providers utilized by either party in connection with the engagement.

Subpoenas

In the event we are requested or authorized by you or required by government regulation, subpoena, or other legal process to produce our working papers or our personnel as witnesses with respect to our engagement for you, you will, so long as we are not a party to the proceeding in which the information is sought, reimburse us for our professional time and expense, as well as the fees and expenses of our counsel, incurred in responding to such a request at standard billing rates.

Dispute resolution procedures

If any dispute, controversy, or claim arises in connection with the performance or breach of this agreement, either party may, on written notice to the other party, request that the matter be mediated. Such mediation would be conducted by a mediator appointed by and pursuant to the rules of the American Arbitration Association or such other neutral facilitator acceptable to both parties. Both parties would exert their best efforts to discuss with each other in good faith their respective positions in an attempt to finally resolve such dispute, controversy, or claim.

Waiver of Trial by Jury

In the event the parties are unable to successfully mediate any dispute, controversy, or claim, the parties agree to WAIVE TRIAL BY JURY and agree that the court will hear any matter without a jury.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS SUPPORTING FEE

The estimated fees set forth in the attached engagement letter are based on anticipated full cooperation from your personnel, timely delivery of requested audit schedules and supporting information, timely communication of all significant accounting and financial reporting matters, the assumption that unexpected circumstances will not be encountered during the audit, as well as working space and clerical assistance as mutually agreed upon and as is normal and reasonable in the circumstances. We strive to ensure that we have the right professionals scheduled on each engagement. As a result, sudden County requested scheduling changes or scheduling changes necessitated by the agreed information not being ready on the agreed upon dates can result in expensive downtime for our professionals. Any last minute schedule changes that result in downtime for our professionals could result in additional fees. Our estimated fee does not include assistance in bookkeeping or other accounting services not previously described. If for any reason the County is unable to provide such schedules, information and assistance, the Firm and the County will mutually revise the fee to reflect additional services, if any, required of us to achieve these objectives.

The estimated fees contemplate that the County will provide adequate documentation of its systems and controls related to significant transaction cycles and audit areas.

In providing our services, we will consult with the County with respect to matters of accounting, financial reporting or other significant business issues as permitted by professional standards. Accordingly, time necessary to effect a reasonable amount of such consultation is reflected in our fee. However, should a matter require research, consultation, or audit work beyond that amount, the Firm and the County will agree to an appropriate revision in our fee.

The estimated fees are based on auditing and accounting standards effective as of the date of this engagement letter and known to apply to the County at this time, but do not include any time related to the application of new auditing or accounting standards that impact the

County for the first time. If new auditing or accounting standards are issued subsequent to the date of this letter and are effective for the period under audit, we will estimate the impact of any such standard on the nature, timing, and extent of our planned audit procedures and will communicate with you concerning the scope of the additional procedures and the estimated fees.

The County agrees to pay all costs of collection (including reasonable attorneys' fees) that the Firm may incur in connection with the collection of unpaid invoices. In the event of nonpayment of any invoice rendered by us, we retain the right to (a) suspend the performance of our services, (b) change the payment conditions under this engagement letter, or (c) terminate our services. If we elect to suspend our services, such services will not be resumed until your account is paid. If we elect to terminate our services for nonpayment, the County will be obligated to compensate us for all time expended and reimburse us for all expenses through the date of termination.

This engagement letter sets forth the entire understanding between the County and the Firm regarding the services described herein and supersedes any previous proposals, correspondence, and understandings whether written or oral. Any subsequent changes to the terms of this letter, other than additional billings, will be rendered in writing and shall be executed by both parties. Should any portion of this engagement letter be ruled invalid, it is agreed that such invalidity will not affect any of the remaining portions.

System Review Report

January 10, 2017

To the Partners of Cherry Bekaert LLP
And the National Peer Review Committee

We have reviewed the system of quality control for the accounting and auditing practice of Cherry Bekaert LLP (the firm), applicable to engagements not subject to PCAOB permanent inspection in effect for the year ended April 30, 2016. 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. As a part of our peer review, we considered reviews by regulatory entities, if applicable, in determining the nature and extent of our procedures. 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. 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. The nature, objectives, scope, limitations of, and the procedures performed in a System Review are described in the standards at www.aicpa.org/prsummary.

As required by the standards, engagements selected for review included engagements performed under *Government Auditing Standards*; audits of employee benefit plans, audits performed under FDICIA, and examinations of service organizations [Service Organizations Control (SOC) 1 and SOC 2 engagements].

In our opinion, the system of quality control for the accounting and auditing practice of Cherry Bekaert LLP, applicable to engagements not subject to PCAOB permanent inspection in effect for the year ended April 30, 2016, 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*. Cherry Bekaert LLP has received a peer review rating of *pass*.

EisnerAmper LLP
EisnerAmper LLP
Iselin, NJ

January 13, 2017

Howard Joseph Kies
Cherry Bekaert LLP
200 S 10th St Ste 900
Richmond, VA 23219

Dear Mr. Kies:

It is my pleasure to notify you that on January 12, 2017 the National Peer Review Committee accepted the report on the most recent system peer review of your firm. The due date for your next review is October 31, 2019. This is the date by which all review documents should be completed and submitted to the administering entity.

As you know, the report had a peer review rating of pass. The Committee asked me to convey its congratulations to the firm.

Sincerely,



Michael Fawley
Chair—National PRC
nprc@aicpa.org 919 4024502

cc: Marc T. Fogarty; Raymond R Quintin

Firm Number: 10011816

Review Number 451036

Letter ID: 1139057A