



# WJ GORDON & ASSOCIATES

## ACCOUNTING FOR ALL SEASONS

### 2023 Tax Preparation Engagement Letter - Annual Business Filing

Dear Client,

W.J. Gordon & Associates Inc. is pleased to provide you with the professional services described below. In accordance with the standards established by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants, this engagement letter is necessary to set forth our understanding of the terms and objectives of our relationship, and the nature and limitations of the tax services to be provided.

The underlying purpose of this document is to establish the understanding that we are committed to preparing your returns with the utmost professionalism and your involvement and timely replies are crucial to this process.

We will prepare the following federal and state tax returns for the year ended December 31, 2023:

1. Form 1065, U.S. Return of Partnership Income
2. Annual Ohio Commercial Activity Tax Return, if applicable
3. State (other than Ohio) Income Tax Return, if applicable
4. Local City Income Tax Return, if applicable

We will not prepare any tax returns except those identified above, without your written request, and our written consent to do so.

**Please be aware there are specific new reporting requirements involving certain types of companies regarding compliance with the Corporate Transparency Act (CTA), including Beneficial Owner Information (BOI) reporting. Aiding with this compliance is NOT within the scope of this engagement.**

This engagement cannot be relied upon to disclose errors, irregularities, or illegal acts, including fraud or defalcations that may exist. However, W.J. Gordon and Associates, Inc. will inform the client of any such matters that may come to our attention.

This engagement is limited to the professional services outlined above and does not include the following services:

1. Estimated Tax Evaluations or Mock Tax Returns
2. Any other tax preparation and accounting services not identified within this contract.
3. Our firm will NOT assist with any Beneficial Owner Information (BOI) reporting. Furthermore, our firm will assume NO liability stemming from your neglect in not filing this BOI report.

#### ***Firm Responsibilities***

**Tax Return Preparation** - We will prepare the above-referenced tax returns solely for filing with the Internal Revenue Service and state and local tax authorities as identified above. We will prepare your tax returns based upon information and representations that you provide to us. We will not audit or otherwise verify the data you submit to us, although we may ask you to clarify certain information.

Confidentiality - All returns and supporting tax documents and conversations are held with the utmost confidentiality. We will not share your information with any third party unless otherwise approved and/or requested by you directly.

Bookkeeping assistance - We may deem it necessary to provide you with accounting and bookkeeping assistance solely for the purpose of preparing the tax returns. We will request your approval in writing before rendering these services. Additional charges will apply for such services.

Government inquiries - This engagement does not include responding to inquiries by any governmental agency or tax authority. If your tax return is selected for examination or audit, you may request our assistance in responding to such an inquiry.

### ***Client Responsibilities***

Client is responsible to provide all the information required for the preparation of complete and accurate returns. You agree that you will deliver all records requested and respond to all inquiries made by our staff to complete this engagement on a timely basis.

Tax Liabilities and Filing - You are responsible to remit payment for any tax liabilities that result from the filing of the tax returns prepared and payment vouchers will be provided to you upon completion of the tax returns. Local tax returns prepared by our office cannot be e-filed and our office will provide you with the tax return and all attachments to be mailed to each locality for filing. You are responsible to sign, date, mail and remit payment, if applicable, all local returns prepared and provided to you by our office.

Documentation - You are responsible for maintaining and retaining adequate documentation to substantiate the accuracy and completeness of your tax returns. You should retain all documents that provide evidence and support for reported income, credits, and deductions on your returns. You represent that you have such documentation and can produce it, if necessary, to respond to any audit or inquiry by tax authorities. You agree to hold our firm harmless from any liability including but not limited to, additional tax, penalties, interest, and professional fees resulting from the disallowance of tax deductions due to inadequate or missing documentation.

Personal expenses - You are responsible for ensuring that personal expenses, if any, are segregated from business expenses.

State and local filing obligations - You are responsible for determining your tax filing obligations with any state or local tax authorities, including, but not limited to income, franchise, sales, use, property, or unclaimed property taxes. You agree that we have no responsibility to research these obligations or to inform you of them. If upon review of the information you have provided to us, including information that comes to our attention, we believe that you may have additional filing obligations, we will notify you of this responsibility in writing and ask you to contact us.

U.S. filing and/reporting obligations related to foreign financial assets and partners - As part of your filing obligations, you are required to report the maximum value of specified foreign financial assets, which include financial accounts with foreign institutions and certain other foreign non-account investment assets that exceed certain thresholds. You are responsible for informing us of all foreign assets, so we may properly advise you regarding your filing obligations.

Other income, losses, and expenses - If you realized income, loss, or expense from a business or supplemental income or loss, the reporting requirements of federal and state income tax authorities apply to such income, loss or expense. You are responsible for complying with all applicable laws and regulations pertaining to such operations, including the classification of workers as employees or independent contractors and related payroll tax, and withholding requirements.

Ultimate responsibility - You have final responsibility for your tax returns. We will provide you with a copy of your electronic tax returns and accompanying schedules and statements for review prior to filing with the IRS and state and local tax authorities, as applicable. You agree to review and examine them carefully for accuracy and completeness.

You will be required to verify and sign a completed Form 8879-PE, IRS e-file Signature Authorization for Form 1065, and any similar state equivalent authorization form before your returns can be filed electronically. If the entity is owned by multiple parties, make sure to provide the owner who is authorized to approve and sign the return, the tax matters owner.

### *Timing of the Engagement*

We expect to begin our services outlined above upon receipt of this executed Agreement and receipt of all information required for the preparation of complete and accurate returns.

### *Extensions of Time to File Tax Returns*

The original filing due dates for your tax returns are March 15, 2024 for Federal and April 15, 2024 for Local Returns, if applicable. **Due to the high volume of tax returns prepared by our firm, the information needed to complete the tax returns must be received no later than February 27, 2024 so that the returns may be completed by the original filing due dates.**

Our office files extensions within the month of February. We automatically file extensions to accommodate the filers that have not yet submitted their information and to accommodate our internal workflow so that we can continue to focus on returns closer to the actual filing due date. **By signing this document, you also approve of this automatic extension for the 2023 and 2024 tax year.** While we will file the extension automatically for 2023, a separate engagement letter will still be required to communicate and approve of the tax return engagement for that tax year.

### *Penalties and Interest Charges*

Federal, state, and local tax authorities impose various penalties and interest charges for non-compliance with tax laws and regulations including failure to file or late filing of returns, late filing of payment and underpayment of taxes. You, as the taxpayer, remain responsible for the payment of all tax, penalties, and interest charges imposed by tax authorities. Failure to disclose or inadequate disclosure of income or tax positions may result in the imposition of penalties and interest charges.

### *Tax Return Delivery*

Upon completion of the tax returns listed above, our office will prepare a digital packet of all filed returns on the firm's secure portal for your access and record retention.

Our office will provide the following action items via email:

- Summary coversheet with instructions
- "Action Items" to include
  - Payment Vouchers for Federal and State tax liabilities
  - Quarterly estimated tax vouchers, when applicable
  - Local returns when applicable for mailing by you/client

\*\*\*\*These items can be mailed upon your request. Postage fees will apply.

The above items will also be accessible in our secure portal.

You are responsible to check your mail, e-mail and secure portal for our correspondence and contact our office should you not receive and/or have questions.

*Professional Fees*

The invoice for the tax services is based upon the complexity of the work to be performed, time, and out-of-pocket expenses. This fee is dependent upon the timely delivery, availability, quality, and completeness of the information you provide to us. Invoices are expected to be paid upon receipt. You agree to pay all fees and expenses incurred whether or not we prepare the tax returns.

**Please note, if a past due balance exists with our office for prior services, tax preparations will not begin for the current year until the balance is resolved in full or a payment agreement has been put in place.**

Services will not be initiated until we receive the executed Agreement even if documents have been received to process your return(s).

We appreciate the opportunity to be of service. Please date and execute the enclosed copy of this Agreement and return it to us to acknowledge your acceptance.

Sara M. Lotts, CPA  
W.J. Gordon & Associates, Inc.

**PLEASE CONTINUE TO NEXT PAGE FOR YOUR COMPLETION OF  
QUESTIONNAIRE, INITIALS AND SIGNATURES**

**Please complete the below questions by circling YES or NO and Initialing:**

- Did this entity have a foreign bank account(s) in 2023? **YES or NO**
  - If yes, have you filed the FBAR with FinCen? (Please provide a copy of the filing with your tax document submission.) **YES or NO**

\_\_\_\_\_  
INITIALS

- At any time during the 2023 tax year, did the business receive a distribution from, or was it the grantor of, or transferor to, a foreign trust? **YES or NO**

\_\_\_\_\_  
INITIALS

- Does the business have any foreign partners? **YES or NO**

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INITIALS

- Did the business make any payments in 2023 that would require it to file Form(s) 1099? **YES or NO**
  - And if yes, were they filed? **YES or NO**  
(Please provide a copy to our office of Form 1096 if filed internally by your business and not our firm.)

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INITIALS

- At any time during the 2023 tax year, did the business: (a) receive (as an award, or payment for property or services; or (b) sell, exchange, or otherwise dispose of a digital asset (or financial interest in a digital asset)? **YES or NO**

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INITIALS

- As per the Corporate Transparency Act (CTA), you may be required to report to FinCen the Beneficial Owner Information (BOI). Please check this box to acknowledge that you understand your responsibility to file if applicable with FinCen the BOI on or before January 1, 2025, that you understand that our firm cannot assist in this filing other than to provide information on where to file and if you are required to file, and that you will file if applicable.

I (we) acknowledge our responsibility to report to FinCen the BOI as it relates to my (our) business that is registered with the IRS.

\_\_\_\_\_  
INITIALS

ACCEPTED:

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Signature)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Date)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Print Name and Title)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Name of business)