

# JOHNSON & ASSOCIATES

CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

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## Engagement Letter

Dear Client:

Thank you for selecting Johnson & Associates, CPA to assist you with your tax affairs. This letter confirms the terms of our engagement with you and the nature and extent of services we will provide.

We will prepare your 2019 federal and all state income tax returns for you using information you provide to us. We may ask for clarification of some items, but **we will not audit or otherwise verify the data you submit.** Our worksheet and questionnaire are to help you gather the information required for a complete return. If you use the worksheet and questionnaire, they will help you avoid overlooking important information and contribute to efficient preparation of your returns. That helps keep the cost of our services as low as possible.

It is your responsibility to provide information required for preparation of complete and accurate returns. You should keep all documents, canceled checks and other data that support your reported income and deductions. They may be necessary to prove accuracy and completeness of the returns to a taxing authority. **You are responsible for the returns, so you should review them carefully before you sign them.**

Our work will not include any procedures to discover defalcations or other irregularities. The only accounting or analysis work we will do is that which is necessary for preparation of your income tax returns. We must use our judgment in resolving questions where the tax law is unclear, or where there may be conflicts between the taxing authorities' interpretations of the law and other supportable positions. In order to avoid penalties, we will apply the "more likely than not" reliance standard to resolve such issues. You agree to honor our decisions regarding the need to make protective disclosures in your returns.

Penalties of as much as \$100,000 can be imposed on you for failing to disclose participation in "reportable transactions," that is, certain arrangements the IRS has identified as potentially abusive. We will insist that all such transactions be properly disclosed.

The law also imposes penalties when taxpayers understate their tax liability. If you have concerns about such penalties, please call us.

Your returns may be selected for audit by a taxing authority. Any proposed adjustments are subject to appeal. In the event of a tax examination, we can arrange to be available to represent you. Such representation will be a separate engagement for which an engagement letter will be provided to you. Fees and expenses for defending the returns will be invoiced in accordance with terms we agree on for that engagement.

Our fee for preparation of your tax returns will be based on the schedules and forms required to file your return(s). Additional charges for organizing documents or transactions to obtain the necessary information to prepare your returns or other year-end accounting work will be based on the amount of time required at standard billing rates of \$75 to \$150 per hour plus out-of-pocket expenses. **A \$30.00 surcharge will be added to all returns received in April. All invoices are due and payable upon presentation.** To the extent permitted by state law, an interest charge may be added to all accounts not paid within thirty (30) days.

We will retain copies of records you supplied to us along with our work papers for your engagement for a period of seven years. After seven years, our work papers and engagement files will be destroyed. All of your original records will be returned to you at the end of this engagement. You should keep the original records in secure storage.

Proof of identity will be required when you pick up your prepared return. Returns will not be given to someone other than the taxpayer or the taxpayer's guardian without prior written notification on file at our office.

We appreciate your confidence in us. Please call if you have questions.

Sincerely,

Johnson & Associates, CPA

Accepted by: Client \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Signature) (Printed Name)