

April 12, 2015

Mr. Thomas Bonfield
City Manager
City of Durham, North Carolina
101 City Hall Plaza, 2nd Floor
Durham, NC 27701

Dear Mr. Bonfield:

This engagement letter between City of Durham, North Carolina (hereafter referred to as the "City") and Cherry Bekaert LLP (the "Firm" or "Cherry Bekaert") sets forth the nature and scope of the services we will provide, the City'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 City.

SUMMARY OF SERVICES

We will provide the following services to the City as of and for the year ended June 30, 2015:

Audit services

1. We will audit the basic financial statements of the City as of and for the year ended June 30, 2015 including the governmental activities, the business type activities, each major fund and the aggregate remaining fund information.
2. The supplementary information, such as the introductory 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 statements, budgetary schedules, other schedules, and 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, the Law Enforcement Officers' Special Separation Allowance and the Other Post Employment Benefits, 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:

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

YOUR EXPECTATIONS

As part of our planning process, we will discuss 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 services 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 City 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 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 and OMB Circular A-133 *Audits of States, Local Governments, and Non-Profit Organizations*, 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

OMB Circular A-133 and the 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; the provisions of OMB Circular A-133; the Single Audit Act Amendments of 1996; and the State Single Audit Implementation Act, and will include tests of accounting records, a determination of major programs in accordance with Circular A-133 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

Accounting services

We will advise Management about the application of appropriate accounting principles, and may propose adjusting journal entries to the City's financial statements. Management is responsible for reviewing the entries and understanding the nature of any proposed entries and the impact they have on the City's financial statements. If, while reviewing the journal entries, Management determines that a journal entry is inappropriate, it will be Management's responsibility to contact us to correct it.

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 City; 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, auditor's 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 auditor's 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 City 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 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 auditor's 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 City. Management must inform us of their knowledge of any allegations of fraud or suspected fraud affecting the City received in communications from employees, former employees, regulators, or others. Additionally, Management must inform us about all known or suspected fraud affecting the City 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 City'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 City'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 City. 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	\$ 69,000

The fees will be billed periodically. Invoices are due on presentation. A service charge will be added to past due accounts equal to 1-1/2% 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

Cherry Bekaert LLP

ATTACHMENT – Engagement Letter Terms and Conditions

City of Durham

ACCEPTED BY: Thomas J. Bonfield

Thomas J. Bonfield

TITLE: City Manager

DATE: 4/28/15



ATTEST:

D. Ann Gray

City Clerk
D. Ann Gray