

CONTRACT TO AUDIT ACCOUNTS

Of Chatham County, NC
Governmental Unit and Discretely Presented Component Unit (DPCU) if applicable

On this 28th day of January, 2015

Auditor: Martin Starnes & Associates, CPAs, P.A. Auditor Mailing Address: _____

730 13th Avenue Drive SE, Hickory, NC 28602 Hereinafter referred to as The Auditor

and Board of Commissioners (Governing Board (s)) of _____

Chatham County, NC : hereinafter referred to as the Governmental Unit (s), agree as follows:
Governmental Unit (s)

1. The Auditor shall audit all statements and disclosures required by generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP) and additional required legal statements and disclosures of all funds and/or divisions of the Governmental Unit (s) for the period beginning July 1, 2014, and ending June 30, 2015. The non-major combining, and individual fund statements and schedules shall be subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the basic financial statements and an opinion will be rendered in relation to (as applicable) the governmental activities, the business-type activities, the aggregate DPCU's, each major governmental and enterprise fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information (non-major government and enterprise funds, the internal service fund type, and the fiduciary fund types).

2. At a minimum, the Auditor shall conduct his/her audit and render his/her report in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards. The Auditor shall perform the audit in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* if required by the State Single Audit Implementation Act, as codified in G.S. 159-34. If required by OMB Circular A-133 Audits of States, Local Governments, and Non-Profit Organizations and the State Single Audit Implementation Act, the Auditor shall perform a Single Audit. This audit and all associated workpapers may be subject to review by Federal and State agencies in accordance with Federal and State laws, including the staffs of the Office of State Auditor (OSA) and the Local Government Commission (LGC). If the audit and/or workpapers are found in this review to be substandard, the results of the review may be forwarded to the North Carolina State Board of CPA Examiners (NC CPA Board).

County and Multi-County Health Departments: The Office of State Auditor will designate certain programs that have eligibility requirements to be considered major programs in accordance with OMB Circular A-133 for the State of North Carolina. The LGC will notify the auditor and the County and Multi-Health Department of these programs. A County or a Multi-County Health Department may be selected to audit any of these programs as major.

3. If an entity is determined to be a component of another government as defined by the group audit standards - the entity's auditor will make a good faith effort to comply in a timely manner with the requests of the group auditor in accordance with AU-6 §600.41 - §600.42.

4. This contract contemplates an unqualified opinion being rendered. The audit shall include such tests of the accounting records and such other auditing procedures as are considered by the Auditor to be necessary in the circumstances. Any limitations or restrictions in scope which would lead to a qualification should be fully explained in an attachment to this contract.

5. If this audit engagement is subject to the standards for audit as defined in *Government Auditing Standards*, 2011 revisions, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States, then by accepting this engagement, the Auditor warrants that he has met the requirements for a peer review and continuing education as specified in *Government Auditing Standards*. The Auditor agrees to provide a copy of their most recent peer review report regardless of the date of the prior peer review report to the Governmental Unit and the Secretary of the LGC prior to the execution of the audit contract (See Item 22). If the audit firm received a peer review rating other than pass, the Auditor shall not contract with the Governmental Unit without first contacting the Secretary of the LGC for a peer review analysis that may result in additional contractual requirements.

If the audit engagement is not subject to Government Accounting Standards or if financial statements are not prepared in accordance with GAAP and fail to include all disclosures required by GAAP, the Auditor shall provide an explanation as to why in an attachment..

6. It is agreed that time is of the essence in this contract. All audits are to be performed and the report of audit submitted to the State and Local Government Finance Division (SLGFD) within four months of fiscal year end. Audit report is due on: October 31, 2015. If it becomes necessary to amend this due date or the audit fee, an amended contract along with a written explanation of the delay must be submitted to the Secretary of the LGC for approval.

Contract to Audit Accounts (cont.)

Chatham County, NC

Name of Governmental Unit and Discretely Presented Component Unit's (DPCU) if applicable

7. It is agreed that generally accepted auditing standards include a review of the Governmental Unit's systems of internal control and accounting as same relates to accountability of funds and adherence to budget and law requirements applicable thereto; that the Auditor will make a written report, which may or may not be a part of the written report of audit, to the Governing Board setting forth his findings, together with his recommendations for improvement. That written report must include all matters defined as "significant deficiencies and material weaknesses" in AU-C 265 of the *AICPA Professional Standards (Clarified)*. The Auditor shall file a copy of that report with the Secretary of the LGC.
8. All local government and public authority contracts for audit or audit-related work require the approval of the Secretary of the LGC. This includes annual or special audits, agreed upon procedures related to internal controls, bookkeeping or other assistance necessary to prepare the Governmental Unit's records for audit, financial statement preparation, any finance-related investigations, or any other audit-related work in the State of North Carolina. Invoices for services rendered under these contracts shall not be paid by the Governmental Unit until the invoice has been approved by the Secretary of the LGC. (This also includes any progress billings.) [G.S. 159-34 and 115C-447] All invoices for Audit work must be submitted by email in PDF format to the Secretary of the LGC for approval. The invoices must be sent to: lgc.invoice@nctreasurer.com. Subject line should read "Invoice - [Unit Name]. The PDF invoice marked 'approved' with approval date will be returned by email to the Auditor to present to the Governmental Unit for payment. Approval is not required on contracts and invoices for system improvements and similar services of a non-auditing nature.
9. In consideration of the satisfactory performance of the provisions of this contract, the Governmental Unit shall pay to the Auditor, upon approval by the Secretary of the LGC, the following fee, which includes any cost the Auditor may incur from work paper or peer reviews or any other quality assurance program required by third parties (Federal and State grantor and oversight agencies or other organizations) as required under the Federal and State Single Audit Acts:

Year-end bookkeeping assistance -- [*For audits subject to Government Auditing Standards, this is limited to bookkeeping services permitted by revised Independence Standards*]

Audit \$42,200

Preparation of the annual financial statements \$9,800

Prior to submission of the completed audited financial report, applicable compliance reports and amended contract (if required) the Auditor may submit invoices for approval for services rendered, not to exceed 75% of the total of the stated fees above. If the current contracted fee is not fixed in total, invoices for services rendered may be approved for up to 75% of the prior year audit fee. The 75% cap for interim invoice approval for this audit contract is \$ 39,000 ** NA if no interim billing

10. If the Governmental Unit has outstanding revenue bonds, the Auditor shall include documentation either in the notes to the audited financial statements or as a separate report submitted to the SLGFD along with the audit report, a calculation demonstrating compliance with the revenue bond rate covenant. Additionally, the Auditor should be aware that any other bond compliance statements or additional reports required in the authorizing bond documents need to be submitted to the SLGFD simultaneously with the Governmental Unit's audited financial statements unless otherwise specified in the bond documents.
11. After completing the audit, the Auditor shall submit to the Governing Board a written report of audit. This report shall include but not be limited to the following information: (a) Management's Discussion and Analysis, (b) the financial statements and notes of the Governmental Unit and all of its component units prepared in accordance with GAAP, (c) supplementary information requested by the client or required for full disclosure under the law, and (d) the Auditor's opinion on the material presented. The Auditor shall furnish the required number of copies of the report of audit to the Governing Board as soon as practical after the close of the accounting period.
12. If the audit firm is required by the NC CPA Board or the Secretary of the LGC to have a pre-issuance review of their audit work, there must be a statement added to the engagement letter specifying the pre-issuance review including a statement that the Governmental Unit will not be billed for the pre-issuance review. The pre-issuance review must be performed prior to the completed audit being submitted to the LGC. The pre-issuance report must accompany the audit report upon submission to the LGC.
13. The Auditor shall electronically submit the report of audit to the LGC when (or prior to) submitting the invoice for services rendered. The report of audit, as filed with the Secretary of the LGC, becomes a matter of public record for inspection, review and copy in the offices of the SLGFD by any interested parties. Any subsequent revisions to these reports must be sent to the Secretary of the LGC. These audited financial statements are used in the preparation of official statements for debt offerings (the Auditors' opinion is not included) by municipal bond rating services to fulfill secondary market disclosure requirements of the Securities and Exchange Commission and other lawful purposes of the Governmental Unit without subsequent consent of the

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Auditor. If it is determined by the LGC that corrections need to be made to the Governmental Unit's financial statements, they should be provided within three days of notification unless, another time frame is agreed to by the LGC.

If the OSA designates certain programs to be audited as major programs, as discussed in item #2, a turnaround document and a representation letter addressed to the OSA shall be submitted to the LGC.

The LGC's process for submitting contracts, audit reports and Invoices is subject to change. Auditors should use the submission process in effect at the time of submission. The most current instructions will be found on our website: <https://www.nctreasurer.com/slg/Pages/Audit-Forms-and-Resources.aspx>

14. Should circumstances disclosed by the audit call for a more detailed investigation by the Auditor than necessary under ordinary circumstances, the Auditor shall inform the Governing Board in writing of the need for such additional investigation and the additional compensation required therefore. Upon approval by the Secretary of the LGC, this contract may be varied or changed to include the increased time and/or compensation as may be agreed upon by the Governing Board and the Auditor
15. If an approved contract needs to be varied or changed for any reason, the change must be made in writing, signed and dated by all parties and pre-audited if the change includes a change in audit fee. This document and a written explanation of the change must be submitted by email in PDF format to the Secretary of the LGC for approval. The portal address to upload your amended contract and letter of explanation documents is <http://nctreasurer.slgfd.leapfile.net> No change shall be effective unless approved by the Secretary of the LGC, the Governing Board, and the Auditor.
16. Whenever the Auditor uses an engagement letter with the Governmental Unit, Item #17 is to be completed by referencing the engagement letter and attaching a copy of the engagement letter to the contract to incorporate the engagement letter into the contract. In case of conflict between the terms of the engagement letter and the terms of this contract, the terms of this contract will control. Engagement letter terms are deemed to be void unless the conflicting terms of this contract are specifically deleted in Item #23 of this contract. Engagement letters containing indemnification clauses will not be approved by the LGC.
17. Special provisions should be limited. Please list any special provisions in an attachment. See attached engagement letter.
18. A separate contract should not be made for each division to be audited or report to be submitted. If a DPCU is subject to the audit requirements detailed in the Local Government Budget and Fiscal Control Act and a separate audit report is issued, a separate audit contract is required. If a separate report is not issued and the DPCU is included in the primary government audit, the DPCU must be named along with the parent government on this audit contract. Signatures from the DPCU Board chairman and finance officer also must be included on this contract.
19. The contract must be executed, pre-audited, physically signed by all parties including Governmental Unit and Auditor signatures and submitted in PDF format to the Secretary of the LGC. The current portal address to upload your contractual documents is <http://nctreasurer.slgfd.leapfile.net> Electronic signatures are not accepted at this time. Included with this contract are instructions to submit contracts and invoices for approval as of April, 2014. These instructions are subject to change. Please check the NC Treasurer's web site at www.nctreasurer.com for the most recent instructions.
20. The contract is not valid until it is approved by the LGC Secretary. The staff of the LGC shall notify the Governmental Unit and Auditor of contract approval by email. The audit should not be started before the contract is approved.
21. There are no other agreements between the parties hereto and no other agreements relative hereto that shall be enforceable unless entered into in accordance with the procedure set out herein and approved by the Secretary of the LGC.
22. Municipal & County Contracts: The Auditor acknowledges that any private employer transacting business in this State who employs 25 or more employees in this State must, when hiring an employee to work in the United States, use E Verify to verify the work authorization of the employee in accordance with N.C.G.S. §64 26(a). The Auditor acknowledges further that any such private employer and its subcontractors must comply with all of the requirements of Article 2 of Chapter 64 of the North Carolina General Statutes (North Carolina's E-verify law), and that such private employer has a duty under the law to ensure compliance by its subcontractors. The Auditor further acknowledges that this contract is of the type governed by S.L. 2013-418, which makes it unlawful for a local government to enter into certain types of contracts unless the contractor and its subcontractors comply with North Carolina's E-verify law, and that failure to comply with such law could render this contract void. The Auditor hereby covenants, warrants and represents for itself and its subcontractors that with respect to this contract the Auditor and its subcontractors shall comply with the provisions of North Carolina's E-verify law and that failure to comply with such law shall be deemed a breach of this contract and may render this contract void.
23. All of the above paragraphs are understood and shall apply to this contract, except the following numbered paragraphs shall be deleted: (See Item 16 for clarification).

Contract to Audit Accounts (cont.) Chatham County, NC
Name of Governmental Unit and Discretely Presented Component Unit's (DPCU) if applicable

Communication regarding audit contract requests for modification or official approvals will be sent to the email addresses provided in the spaces below.

Audit Firm Signature:

Martin Starnes & Associates, CPAs, P.A.
Name of Audit Firm

By Amber Y. McGhinnis, Audit Manager
Authorized Audit firm representative name: Type or print

Amber Y. McGhinnis
Signature of authorized audit firm representative

amcghinnis@martinstarnes.com
Email Address of Audit Firm:

Date January 28, 2015

Governmental Unit Signatures:

By James Crawford, Chairman
Mayor / Chairperson: Type or print name and title

James Crawford
Signature of Mayor/Chairperson of governing board

Date 3/26/15

By N/A
DPCU Chairperson: Type or print name and title

N/A
Signature of Chairperson of DPCU if applicable

Date N/A

Unit Signatures (continued):

By N/A
Chair of Audit Committee - Type or print name

N/A **
Signature of Audit Committee Chairperson

Date N/A
** If Governmental Unit has no audit committee, this section should be marked "N/A."

PRE-AUDIT CERTIFICATE: Required by G.S. 159-28 (a)
This instrument has been preaudited in the manner required by The Local Government Budget and Fiscal Control Act or by the School Budget and Fiscal Control Act. Additionally, the following date is the date this audit contract was approved by the governing body.

By Vicki McConnell, Assistant County Manager & Finance Officer
Governmental Unit Finance Officer: Type or print name

Vicki McConnell
Finance Officer Signature

vicki.mcconnell@chathamnc.org
Email Address of Finance Officer

Date 3/24/15
(Pre-audit Certificate must be dated.)

Date Governing Body Approved Audit Contract - G.S. 159-34(a) 3/16/15

Board Approval Date - Primary Government

N/A

Board Approval Date - DPCU



Koonce, Wooten & Haywood, LLP
CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

SYSTEM REVIEW REPORT

May 22, 2012

Martin, Starnes & Associates, CPAs, PA and the
Peer Review Committee, North Carolina Association
of Certified Public Accountants

We have reviewed the system of quality control for the accounting and auditing practice of Martin, Starnes & Associates, CPAs, PA (the firm) in effect for the year ended December 31, 2011. 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. 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 the *Government Auditing Standards* and audits of employee benefit plans.

In our opinion, the system of quality control for the accounting and auditing practice of Martin, Starnes & Associates, CPAs, PA, in effect for the year ended December 31, 2011, 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*. Martin, Starnes & Associates, CPAs, PA has received a peer review rating of *pass*.

Koonce, Wooten & Haywood, LLP

Koonce, Wooten & Haywood, LLP

Raleigh
4060 Barrett Drive
Post Office Box 17806
Raleigh, North Carolina 27619
919 782 9265
919 783 8937 FAX

Durham
3511 Shannon Road
Suite 100
Durham, North Carolina 27707
919 354 2584
919 489 8183 FAX

Pittsboro
10 Sanford Road
Post Office Box 1399
Pittsboro, North Carolina 27312
919 542 6000
919 542 5764 FAX

Tracie Dagenhart

From: Steven Holmberg <Steven.Holmberg@nctreasurer.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 21, 2015 8:44 AM
To: Amber McGhinnis; Tracie Dagenhart; vicki.mcconnell@chathamnc.org
Subject: 2015 Chatham County Audit Contract - Approved

This is your official notification that the **2015 audit contract** between Chatham County and Martin Starnes & Associates, CPAs, PA **has been approved** by the Secretary of the Local Government Commission as required in G.S.159-34 or G.S.115-C-447. Please call or email me if you have any questions or need clarification.

Steven Holmberg
Contributing Accountant
State and Local Government Finance Division
Department of State Treasurer
Phone: (919) 807-2394
Fax: (919) 807-2398
steven.holmberg@nctreasurer.com
www.nctreasurer.com
Find us on Facebook 



DEPARTMENT OF STATE TREASURER

Janet Cowell, State Treasurer of North Carolina
325 N. Salisbury St. | Raleigh, NC 27603-1385

E-mail correspondence to and from this address may be subject to the North Carolina Public Records Law. It may be subject to monitoring and disclosed to third parties, including law enforcement personnel, by an authorized state official.
IMPORTANT: When sending confidential or sensitive information, encryption should be used.

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