# Tax Preparation Standard Terms and Conditions

#### Overview

This document describes our standard terms and conditions related to our provision of tax preparation services to you and is your agreement with us ("Agreement") regarding such services. For the purposes of these Tax Preparation Terms and Conditions, any reference to "firm," "we," "us," or "our" is a reference to Copper Crest Capital (which is a dba for Copper Crest CPAs LLP), and any reference to "you," or "your" is a reference to the party or parties that have engaged us to provide services.

#### Acceptance

It is anticipated that these Tax Preparation Terms and Conditions be provided to you prior to the start of the engagement, but no later than the date we deliver the tax returns for filing. If you are not in agreement with this agreement, please contact us before providing the data necessary for our services.

#### **Timing of the Engagement**

We expect to begin our services upon receipt of all documents necessary to complete the engagement. Our services will conclude upon the earlier of the filing and acceptance of the tax returns by the appropriate tax authorities and the mailing or delivery of non-electronically filed tax returns (if any) to you for your review and your filing with the appropriate tax authorities, or written notification by either party that the engagement is terminated.

#### The Firm's Engagement Responsibilities

Unless otherwise noted, we will perform our services in accordance with the Statements on Standards for Tax Services ("SSTSs") issued by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants ("AICPA") and U.S. Treasury Department Circular 230 ("Circular 230"). It is our duty to perform services with the same standard of care that a reasonable tax return preparer would exercise in this type of engagement.

Our engagement does not include any procedures designed to detect errors, fraud, or theft. Therefore, our engagement cannot be relied upon to disclose such matters.

#### Arguable positions

We will use our judgment to resolve questions in your favor where a tax law is unclear, provided that we have a reasonable belief that there is substantial authority for doing so. If there are conflicting interpretations of the law, we will explain the possible positions that may be taken on your return. We will follow the position you request, provided it is not inconsistent with our understanding of tax reference materials. Tax reference materials include but are not limited to, the Internal Revenue Code ("IRC"), tax regulations, Revenue Rulings, Revenue Procedures, Private Letter Rulings, court cases, and similar state and local guidance. If the IRS, state or local tax authorities later contest the position you select, additional tax, penalties, and interest may be assessed. We assume no liability, and you hereby release us from any liability, including but not limited to, additional tax, penalties, interest, and related professional fees.

#### Tax advice

Any advice we may provide is based upon tax reference materials, facts, assumptions, and representations that are subject to change. We will not update our advice after the conclusion of the engagement for subsequent legislative or administrative changes or future judicial interpretations.

# Estimated tax payments

You may be required to make quarterly estimated tax payments. We will calculate amounts for these payments for the following year based upon the information you provide to prepare your current return (the "safe harbor" rule). Updating recommended payments to more closely reflect your actual current year's income is not within the scope of this engagement. If you would like us to provide this service, and we agree to do so, we will confirm this additional service in writing.

#### **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. If you ask us to represent you, and we agree to represent you, we will confirm this additional service in writing.

# Third-party requests

We will not respond to any request from banks, mortgage brokers or others for verification of any information reported on these tax returns. We do not communicate directly with third parties or provide them with copies of tax returns. Any such correspondence from us will be securely to you and it is your responsibility to forward the information as necessary.

# **Client Engagement Responsibilities**

You will provide complete and accurate accounting reports and all related supporting data. If you are provided with an organizer or questionnaire to complete, you will provide such document with such reports and data. Income from all sources, including those outside the U.S., is required to be reported.

#### Documentation

We will rely upon the completeness and accuracy of the information and representations you provide to us to prepare your tax returns. We will not audit or otherwise verify the data you submit to us, although we may ask you to clarify certain information.

You are responsible for maintaining 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, deductions, and other information on your returns, as required under applicable tax laws and regulations. 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 documentation.

You are responsible for ensuring that personal expenses, if any, are segregated from business expenses and that expenses such as meals, travel, vehicle use, gifts, and related expenses are supported by documentation and records required by the IRS and other tax authorities.

#### Filing obligations

You are responsible for determining your tax filing obligations and deadlines with any Federal and state or local tax authorities, including, but not limited to income, franchise, sales, use, property or unclaimed property taxes. 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.

You are responsible for distributing a copy of the business entity's Schedule K-1s to each owner when applicable. You are also responsible for advising us of any changes in ownership, including the death of an owner, so we can properly reflect those on any business tax returns.

We will not prepare any tax returns, other than those you specifically identify for us to prepare, without your written request.

#### U.S. filing obligations related to foreign investments

You are responsible for informing us of all foreign assets owned directly or indirectly, including but not limited to financial accounts with foreign institutions, other foreign non-account investments, and ownership of any foreign entities, regardless of amount. 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.

Failure to timely file the required forms may result in substantial civil and/or criminal penalties. You agree to provide us with complete and accurate information regarding any foreign investments in which you have a direct or indirect interest, or over which you have signature authority, during the above referenced tax year.

The foreign reporting requirements are very complex. We assume no liability for penalties associated with the failure to file or untimely filing of any of these forms.

# Foreign filing obligations

You are responsible for complying with the tax filing requirements of any other country. You acknowledge and agree that we have no responsibility to raise these issues with you and that foreign filing obligations are not within the scope of this engagement.

## Virtual currency

The IRS considers virtual currency (e.g., Bitcoin) as property for U.S. federal income tax purposes. As such, any transactions in, or transactions that use, virtual currency are subject to the same general tax principles that apply to other property transactions. If you had virtual currency activity during the tax year, you may be subject to tax consequences associated with such transactions and may have additional reporting obligations.

# Penalties and Interest

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, and underpayment of taxes. You, as the taxpayer, remain responsible for the payment of all tax, penalties, and interest charges imposed by tax authorities.

#### Ultimate responsibility

You have final responsibility for the accuracy of 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, 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 completed e-file Signature Authorization forms before your returns can be filed electronically.

In the event that you do not wish to have your tax returns filed electronically, please contact our firm. Additional procedures will apply. You will be responsible for reviewing the paper returns for accuracy, signing them, and filing them timely with the tax authorities.

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

It may become necessary to apply for an extension of the filing deadline if there are unresolved issues or delays in processing, or if we do not receive all of the necessary information from you on a timely basis. Applying for an extension of time to file may extend the time available for a government agency to undertake an audit of your return or may extend the statute of limitations to file a legal action. All taxes owed are due by the original filing due date. Additionally, extensions may affect your liability for penalties and interest or compliance with governmental or other deadlines.

To the extent you wish to engage our firm to apply for extensions of time to file tax returns on your behalf, you must notify us of this request in writing. Failure to timely request an extension of time to file can result in substantial penalties for failure to file tax returns, which accrue from the original due date of the returns.

#### **Billing and Payment Terms**

We will bill you for our professional fees and out-of-pocket costs. Payment is due upon your receipt of invoice. You have thirty (30) days from the invoice date to review the invoice and to communicate to us in writing any disagreement with the charges, after which you waive the right to contest the invoice. We generally require that all outstanding invoices must be paid prior to the release of deliverables.

## **Electronic Data Communication and Storage**

In the interest of facilitating our services to you, we may send data over the Internet, temporarily store electronic data via computer software applications hosted remotely on the Internet, or utilize cloud-based storage. Your confidential electronic data may be transmitted or stored using these methods. In using these data communication and storage methods, our firm employs measures designed to maintain data security. We use reasonable efforts to keep such communications and electronic data secure in accordance with our obligations under applicable laws, regulations, and professional standards. You recognize and accept that we have no control over the unauthorized interception or breach of any communications or electronic data once it has been transmitted or if it has been subject to unauthorized access while stored, notwithstanding all reasonable security measures employed by us. You consent to our use of these electronic devices and applications during this engagement.

#### **Client Portals**

To enhance our services to you, we may utilize an online, secure portal provided by our tax and data management systems software. Our portals are utilized solely as a method of transferring data and are not intended for the storage of your information. If you decide to transmit your confidential information to us in a manner other than a secure portal, you accept responsibility for any and all unauthorized access to your confidential information. If you request that we transmit confidential information to you in a manner other than a secure portal, you agree that we are not responsible for any liability including but not limited to, (a) any loss or damage of any nature, whether direct or indirect, that may arise as a result of our sending confidential information in a manner other than a secure portal, and (b) any damages arising as a result of any virus being passed on or with, or arising from any alteration of, any email message.

#### **Third-Party Service Providers or Subcontractors**

In the interest of enhancing our availability to meet your professional service needs while maintaining service quality and timeliness, we may use a third-party service provider to assist us. This may include provision of your confidential information to the third-party service provider. By accepting the terms and conditions of our engagement, you are providing your consent and authorization to disclose your confidential information to a third-party service provider, if such disclosure is necessary to deliver professional services or provide support services to our firm.

#### **Records Management**

We will return any original records and documents you provide to us by the conclusion of the engagement. Our copies of your records and documents are for our documentation purposes only and are not a substitute for your own records and do not mitigate your record retention obligations under any applicable laws or regulations. You are responsible for maintaining complete and accurate books and records, which may include financial statements, schedules, tax returns and other deliverables provided to you by us. Professional standards restrict us from being the sole repository of your original data, records, or information.

Workpapers and other documents created by us are our property and will remain in our control. Copies are not to be distributed without your written request and our prior written consent. Our workpapers will be maintained by us in accordance with our firm's record retention policy and any applicable legal and regulatory requirements.

State, federal and foreign regulators may request access to or copies of certain workpapers pursuant to applicable legal or regulatory requirements. Requests also may arise with respect to peer review, an ethics investigation, the sale of your organization, or the sale of our accounting practice. If requested, access to such workpapers will be provided under the supervision of firm personnel. Regulators may request copies of selected workpapers to distribute the copies or information contained therein to others, including other governmental agencies.

If we receive a request for copies of selected workpapers, provided that we are not prohibited from doing so by applicable laws or regulations, we agree to inform you of such request as soon as practicable. You may, within the time permitted for our firm to respond to any request, initiate such legal action as you deem appropriate, at your sole expense, to attempt to limit the disclosure of information. If you take no action within the time permitted for us to respond, or if your action does not result in a judicial order protecting us from supplying requested information, we may construe your inaction or failure as consent to comply with the request.

If we are not a party to the proceeding in which the information is sought, you agree to reimburse us for our professional time and expenses, as well as the fees and expenses of our legal counsel, incurred in responding to such requests.

## Referrals

In the course of providing services to you, you may request referrals to products or professionals such as attorneys, brokers, or investment advisors. We may identify professional(s) or product(s) for your consideration. However, you are responsible for evaluating, selecting, and retaining any professional or product and determining if the professional or product can meet your needs. You agree that we will not oversee the activities of and have no responsibility for the work product of any professional or the suitability of any product we refer to you or that you separately retain. Further, we are not responsible for any services we perform that fail to meet the intended outcomes as a result of relying on the services of other professionals or products you may retain.

#### **Limitations on Oral and Email Communications**

We may discuss with you our views regarding the treatment of certain items or decisions you may encounter. We may also provide you with information in an email. Any advice or information delivered orally or in an email (rather than through a memorandum delivered as an email attachment) will be based upon limited research and a limited discussion and analysis of the underlying facts. Additional research or a more complete review of the facts may affect our analysis and conclusions. Due to these limitations and the related risks, it may or may not be appropriate to proceed with a decision solely on the basis of any oral or email communication from us. You accept all responsibility, except to the extent caused by our gross negligence or willful misconduct, for any liability including but not limited to additional tax, penalties or interest resulting from your decision (i) not to have us perform the research and analysis necessary to reach a more definitive conclusion and (ii) to instead rely on an oral or email communication.

#### **Electronic Signatures and Counterparts**

Each party hereto agrees that any electronic signature is intended to authenticate a written signature, shall be valid, and shall have the same force and effect as a manual signature. For purposes hereof, "electronic signature" includes, but is not limited to, a scanned copy of a manual signature, an electronic copy of a manual signature affixed to a document, a signature incorporated into a document utilizing touchscreen capabilities, or a digital signature. This agreement may be executed in one or more counterparts, each of which shall be considered an original instrument, but all of which shall be considered one and the same agreement.

## Limitation of Liability and Indemnification

COPPER CREST CAPITAL'S LIABILITY FOR ALL CLAIMS, DAMAGES, AND COSTS ARISING FROM THIS ENGAGEMENT IS LIMITED TO THE TOTAL AMOUNT OF FEES PAID BY YOU TO COPPER CREST CAPITAL FOR SERVICES RENDERED UNDER THIS AGREEMENT. NOTWITHSTANDING ANYTHING TO THE CONTRARY IN THIS AGREEMENT, COPPER CREST CAPITAL SHALL NOT BE LIABLE FOR ANY LOST PROFITS, INDIRECT, SPECIAL, INCIDENTAL, PUNITIVE OR CONSEQUENTIAL DAMAGES OF ANY NATURE.

You agree to indemnify, defend, and hold harmless Copper Crest Capital and any of its partners, principals, shareholders, officers, directors, members, employees, agents or assigns with respect to any and all claims made by third parties arising from this engagement, regardless of the nature of the claim, and including the negligence of any party, excepting claims arising from the gross negligence of Copper Crest Capital.

#### **Termination and Withdrawal**

We reserve the right to withdraw from the engagement without completing services for any reason, including, but not limited to, non-payment of fees, your failure to comply with the terms of these terms and conditions, or as we determine professional standards require. You also have the right to withdraw from any engagement we may have with you without completing such services for any reason.

If our work is suspended or terminated, you agree that we will not be responsible for your failure to meet governmental and other deadlines, or for any liability, including but not limited to, penalties or interest that may be assessed against you resulting from your failure to meet such deadlines. You also agree to compensate us for the services performed and expenses incurred through the effective date of termination.

## **Designation of Venue and Mediation**

In the event of a dispute, the courts of the state of California shall have jurisdiction. We also agree that the law of the state of California shall govern all such disputes.

If a dispute arises out of or relates to the Agreement including the scope of services contained herein, or the breach thereof, and if the dispute cannot be settled through negotiation, the parties agree first to try to settle the dispute by mediation administered by the American Arbitration Association ("AAA") under the AAA Accounting and Related Services Arbitration Rules and Mediation Procedures before resorting to arbitration, litigation, or some other dispute resolution procedure. The mediator will be selected by mutual agreement of the parties. If the parties cannot agree on a mediator, a mediator shall be designated by the AAA. The mediation will be conducted in California. The costs of any mediation proceedings shall be shared equally by all parties. Any costs for legal representation shall be borne by the hiring party.

#### Assignment

All parties acknowledge and agree that the terms and conditions of this Agreement shall be binding upon and inure to the parties' successors and assigns, subject to applicable laws and regulations.

#### Severability

If any portion of this Agreement is deemed invalid or unenforceable, said finding shall not operate to invalidate the remainder of the terms set forth in this Agreement.

Respectfully,

Copper Crest CPAs LLP