

**CONTRACT TO AUDIT ACCOUNTS**  
of Buncombe County  
Governmental Unit

On this 5th day of March, 2012, Gould Killian CPA Group, P.A.

Auditor

100 Coxe Avenue, Asheville, NC 28801

Mailing Address

\_\_\_\_\_, hereinafter referred to as

the Auditor, and Board of County Commissioners of Buncombe County, hereinafter referred to as the Governing Board of Governmental Unit, agree as follows:

1. The Auditor shall audit all statements and disclosures required by generally accepted accounting principles and additional required legal statements and disclosures of all funds and/or divisions of the Governmental Unit for the period beginning July 1, 2011, and ending June 30, 2012. 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 discretely presented component units, 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 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 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.
3. This contract contemplates an unqualified opinion being rendered. If financial statements are not prepared in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP), or the statements fail to include all disclosures required by GAAP, please provide an explanation for that departure from GAAP in an attachment.
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*, July 2007 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 Local Government Commission prior to the execution of the audit contract. (See Item 21) If the audit firm received a peer review rating other than pass, the auditor shall not contract with any Local Government Units without first contacting the Secretary of the Local Government Commission for a peer review analysis that may result in additional contractual requirements.  
  
If the audit engagement is not subject to *Government Accounting Standards*, 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 SLGFD within four months of fiscal year end: audit report is due on: October 31, 2012. 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 Local Government Commission for approval.
7. It is agreed that generally accepted auditing standards include a review of the Governmental Unit's systems of internal control and accounting as the systems relate to accountability of funds, adherence to budget requirements, and adherence to law requirements. In addition, 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 325 of the *AICPA Professional Standards*. The Auditor shall file a copy of that report with the Secretary of the Local Government Commission.
8. All local government and public authority contracts for audit or audit-related work require the approval of the Secretary of the Local Government Commission. This includes annual or special audits, agreed upon procedures related to Internal Control, bookkeeping or other assistance necessary to prepare the 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

## Contract to Audit Accounts (cont.) Buncombe County

(Name of unit)

shall not be paid by the Governmental Unit until the invoice has been approved by the Secretary of the Local Government Commission. (This also includes any progress billings.) [G.S. 159-34 and 115C-447] The process for invoice approval has changed. All invoices for Audit work must be submitted by email in PDF format to the Secretary of the Local Government Commission for approval. The invoices must be emailed to: [lge.invoice@nctreasurer.com](mailto:lge.invoice@nctreasurer.com). Email Subject line should read "unit name – invoice." The PDF invoice marked approved with approval date will be returned by email to the Auditor for them to present to the Local Government 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 agreement, the Governmental Unit shall pay to the Auditor, upon approval by the Secretary of the Local Government Commission, 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]* 0

Audit \$84,500

Preparation of the annual financial statements \$11,000 Total \$95,500

10. The auditor working with a local governmental unit that has outstanding revenue bonds will include in the notes to the audited financial statements, whether or not required by the revenue bond documents, 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 Local Government Commission simultaneously with the local government'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 generally accepted accounting principles, (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 Local Government Commission 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 Unit of Government 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 Local Government Commission. The pre-issuance report must accompany the audit report upon submission to the Local Government Commission.
13. The Auditor shall electronically submit the report of audit to the Local Government Commission when (or prior to) submitting the invoice for services rendered. The report of audit, as filed with the Secretary of the Local Government Commission, becomes a matter of public record for inspection and review in the offices of the Secretary by any interested parties. Any subsequent revisions to these reports must be sent to the Secretary of the Local Government Commission. 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 government, without subsequent consent of the auditor. If it is determined by the Local Government Commission that corrections need to be made to the unit's financial statements they should be provided within three days of notification unless, another time frame is agreed to by the Local Government Commission.

The Local Government Commission's process for submitting audit reports is subject to change. Auditors should use the submission process in effect at the time of submission.

In addition, if the North Carolina Office of the State Auditor designates certain programs to be audited as major programs, a turnaround document and a representation letter addressed to the State Auditor shall be submitted to the Local Government Commission.

14. The auditor can be reached for matters concerning this contract at the following email address: [dyelton@gk-cpa.com](mailto:dyelton@gk-cpa.com)

The finance officer or other responsible employee/official can be reached for matters concerning this contract at the following email address: [donna.clark@buncombecounty.org](mailto:donna.clark@buncombecounty.org)

15. 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 Local Government Commission, this agreement

# Contract to Audit Accounts (cont.) Buncombe County

(Name of unit)

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.

16. 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 Local Government Commission 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 Local Government Commission, the Governing Board, and the Auditor.
17. Whenever the Auditor uses an engagement letter with the client, Item 18 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 Local Government Commission.
18. Special provisions should be limited. Please list any special provisions in an attachment.  
The attached engagement letter is part of this contract and is incorporated herein by reference.
19. A separate contract should not be made for each division to be audited or report to be submitted. A separate contract must be executed for each component unit which is a local government and for which a separate audit report is issued.
20. The contract must be executed, pre-audited, physically signed by all parties and submitted in PDF format including unit and auditor signatures to the Secretary of the Local Government Commission. The portal address to upload your contractual documents is <http://nctreasurer.slgfd.leapfile.net> Electronic signatures are not accepted at this time.
21. The contract is not valid until it is approved by the Local Government Commission. The staff of the Local Government Commission shall notify the unit and auditor of contract approval by email. The audit should not be started before the contract is approved.
22. 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 Local Government Commission.
23. All of the above paragraphs are understood and shall apply to this agreement, except the following numbered paragraphs shall be deleted: (See Item 17.)

## Audit Firm Signature:

Firm Gould Killian CPA Group, P.A.

By Charles E. Killian

(Please type or print name)

Charles E. Killian

(Signature of authorized audit firm representative)

Email Address: ckillian@gk-cpa.com

Date March 5, 2012

## Unit Signatures:

By David Gantt

(Please type or print name and title)

David Gantt

(Signature of Mayor/Chairperson of governing board)

Date 3/20/2012

Email Address Commissioner @ davidgantt.com

Date Governing Body Approved Audit Contract

\_\_\_\_\_

## Unit Signatures (continued):

By Ernest Ferguson

(Chair of Audit Committee- please type or print name)

Ernest E. Ferguson

(Signature of Audit Committee Chairperson)

Date 3/27/2012

(If unit has no audit committee, this section should be marked "N/A.")

Email address N/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.

Donna B. Clark

Governmental Unit Finance Officer (Please type or print name)

Donna B. Clark

(Signature)

Date 3/20/2012

(Preaudit Certificate must be dated.)

Email address donna.clark@buncombecounty.org

Jeffrey A. Gould  
Charles E. Killian  
Harold C. Cole  
K. Wayne Marshall  
G. Edward Towson, II  
Harvey W. Jenkins  
Shon P. Norris

# *Gould Killian CPA Group, P.A.*

CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS AND CONSULTANTS

100 Coxe Avenue  
Asheville, North Carolina 28801

Telephone:  
(828) 258-0363

FAX:  
(828) 252-0528

Email Address:  
group@ek-cpa.com

March 5, 2012

Board of County Commissioners  
Buncombe County  
Asheville, North Carolina

We are pleased to confirm our understanding of the services we are to provide Buncombe County for the year ended June 30, 2012. We will audit the financial statements of the governmental activities, the business-type activities, the aggregate discretely presented component units, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information, which collectively comprise the basic financial statements, of Buncombe County as of and for the year ended June 30, 2012. Accounting standards generally accepted in the United States provide for certain required supplementary information (RSI), such as management's discussion and analysis (MD&A), to accompany Buncombe County's basic financial statements. As part of our engagement, we will apply certain limited procedures to Buncombe County's RSI. These limited procedures will consist of inquiries of management regarding 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 basic financial statements. We will not express an opinion or provide any assurance on the information because the limited procedures do not provide us with sufficient evidence to express an opinion or provide any assurance. The following RSI is required by generally accepted accounting principles and will be subjected to certain limited procedures, but will not be audited:

- 1) Management's Discussion and Analysis.
- 2) Required Schedules for Law Enforcement Officers' Special Separation Allowance.
- 3) Required Schedules for the Funding Progress of Other Post Employment Benefits.

Supplementary information other than RSI also accompanies Buncombe County's basic financial statements. We will subject the following supplementary information to the auditing procedures applied in our audit of the basic financial statements and certain additional procedures, including comparing and reconciling such information directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the financial statements or to the financial statements themselves, and other additional procedures in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and will provide an opinion on it in relation to the financial statements as a whole:

- 1) Schedule of expenditures of federal awards.
- 2) Individual fund and account group combining statements required for inclusion in the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report.

The following other information accompanying the financial statements will not be subjected to the auditing procedures applied in our audit of the financial statements, and for which our auditor's report will not provide an opinion or any assurance.

- 1) Introductory Section.
- 2) Statistical Section.

### **Audit Objectives**

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 first paragraph 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 laws, regulations, and the provisions of contracts or grant agreements, 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*.

The reports on internal control and compliance will each include a statement that the report is intended solely for the information and use of management, the body or individuals charged with governance, others within the entity specific legislative or regulatory bodies, federal awarding agencies, and if applicable, pass-through entities and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties.

Our audit will be conducted in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America; the standards for financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States; the Single Audit Act Amendments of 1996; and the provisions of OMB Circular A-133, and will include tests of accounting records, a determination of major programs in accordance with OMB Circular A-133, and other procedures we consider necessary to enable us to express such opinions and to render the required reports. If our opinions on the financial statements or the Single Audit compliance opinions are other than unqualified, 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 to issue a report as a result of this engagement.

### **Management Responsibilities**

Management is responsible for the basic financial statements and all accompanying information as well as all representations contained therein. Management is also responsible for preparation of the schedule of expenditures of federal awards in accordance with the requirements of OMB Circular A-133. As part of the audit, we will assist with preparation of your financial statements, schedule of expenditures of federal awards, and related notes. You are responsible for making all management decisions and performing all management functions relating to the financial statements, schedule of expenditures of federal awards, and related notes and for accepting full responsibility for such decisions. You will be required to acknowledge in the management representation letter our assistance with preparation of the financial statements and the schedule of expenditures of federal awards and that you have reviewed and approved the financial statements, schedule of expenditures of federal awards, and related notes prior to their issuance and have accepted responsibility for them. Further, you are required to designate an individual with suitable skill, knowledge, or experience to oversee any nonaudit services we provide and for evaluating the adequacy and results of those services and accepting responsibility for them.



Management is responsible for establishing and maintaining effective internal controls, including internal controls over compliance, and for monitoring ongoing activities, to help ensure that appropriate goals and objectives are met. You are also responsible for the selection and application of accounting principles; for the fair presentation in the financial statements of the respective financial position of the governmental activities, the business-type activities, the aggregate discretely presented component units, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the Buncombe County and the respective changes in financial position and, where applicable, cash flows in conformity with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles; and for compliance with applicable laws and regulations and the provisions of contracts and grant agreements.

Management is also responsible for making all financial records and related information available to us and for ensuring that management and financial information is reliable and properly recorded. Your responsibilities also include, including identifying significant vendor relationships in which the vendor has responsibility for program compliance and for the accuracy and completeness of that information. Your responsibilities include adjusting the financial statements to correct material misstatements and confirming to us in the representation letter that the effects of any uncorrected misstatements aggregated by us during the current engagement and pertaining to the latest period presented are immaterial, both individually and in the aggregate, to the financial statements taken as a whole.

You are responsible for the design and implementation of programs and controls to prevent and detect fraud, and for informing us about all known or suspected fraud or illegal acts affecting the government involving (1) management, (2) employees who have significant roles in internal control, and (3) others where the fraud or illegal acts could have a material effect on the financial statements. Your responsibilities include informing us of your knowledge of any allegations of fraud or suspected fraud affecting the government received in communications from employees, former employees, grantors, regulators, or others. In addition, you are responsible for identifying and ensuring that the entity complies with applicable laws, regulations, contracts, agreements, and grants. Additionally, as required by OMB Circular A-133, it is management's responsibility to follow up and take corrective action on reported audit findings and to prepare a summary schedule of prior audit findings and a corrective action plan. You are responsible for the preparation of the supplementary information in conformity with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles. You agree to include our report on the supplementary information in any document that contains and indicates that we have reported on the supplementary information. You also agree 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 responsible for establishing and maintaining a process for tracking the status of audit findings and recommendations. Management is also responsible for identifying for us previous financial audits, attestation engagements, performance audits, or other 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, attestation engagements, performance audits, 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, for the report, and for the timing and format for providing that information.

#### **Audit Procedures—General**

An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements; therefore, our audit will involve judgment about the number of transactions to be examined and the areas to be tested. We will plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable rather than absolute assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement, whether from (1) errors, (2) fraudulent financial reporting, (3) misappropriation of assets, or (4) violations of laws or

governmental regulations that are attributable to the entity or to acts by management or employees acting on behalf of the entity. Because the determination of abuse is subjective, *Government Auditing Standards* do not expect auditors to provide reasonable assurance of detecting abuse.

Because an audit is designed to provide reasonable, but not absolute assurance and because we will not perform a detailed examination of all transactions, there is a risk that material misstatements or noncompliance may exist and not be detected by us. In addition, an audit is not designed to detect immaterial misstatements or violations of laws or governmental regulations that do not have a direct and material effect on the financial statements or major programs. However, we will inform you of any material errors and any fraudulent financial reporting or misappropriation of assets that come to our attention. We will also inform you of any violations of laws or governmental regulations that come to our attention, unless clearly inconsequential. We will include such matters in the reports required for a Single Audit. Our responsibility as auditors is limited to the period covered by our audit and does not extend to any later periods for which we are not engaged as auditors.

Our procedures will include tests of documentary evidence supporting the transactions recorded in the accounts, and may include tests of the physical existence of inventories, and direct confirmation of receivables and certain other assets and liabilities by correspondence with selected individuals, funding sources, creditors, and financial institutions. We will request written representations from your attorneys as part of the engagement, and they may bill you for responding to this inquiry. At the conclusion of our audit, we will require certain written representations from you about the financial statements and related matters.

#### **Audit Procedures—Internal Controls**

Our audit will include obtaining an understanding of the entity and its environment, including internal control, sufficient to assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements and to design the nature, timing, and extent of further audit procedures. Tests of controls may be performed to test the effectiveness of certain controls that we consider relevant to preventing and detecting errors and fraud that are material to the financial statements and to preventing and detecting misstatements resulting from illegal acts and other noncompliance matters that have a direct and material effect on the financial statements. Our tests, if performed, will be less in scope than would be necessary to render an opinion on internal control and, accordingly, no opinion will be expressed in our report on internal control issued pursuant to *Government Auditing Standards*.

As required by OMB Circular A-133, we will perform tests of controls over compliance to evaluate the effectiveness of the design and operation of controls that we consider relevant to preventing or detecting material noncompliance with compliance requirements applicable to each major federal award program. However, our tests will be less in scope than would be necessary to render an opinion on those controls and, accordingly, no opinion will be expressed in our report on internal control issued pursuant to OMB Circular A-133.

An audit is not designed to provide assurance on internal control or to identify significant deficiencies. However, during the audit, we will communicate to management and those charged with governance internal control related matters that are required to be communicated under AICPA professional standards, *Government Auditing Standards*, and OMB Circular A-133.

#### **Audit Procedures—Compliance**

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement, we will perform tests of Buncombe County's compliance with applicable laws and regulations and the provisions of contracts and agreements, including grant agreements. However, the objective of those procedures will not be to provide an opinion on overall compliance and we will not express such an opinion in our report on compliance issued pursuant to *Government Auditing Standards*.

OMB Circular A-133 requires that we also plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the auditee has complied with applicable laws and regulations and the provisions of contracts and grant agreements applicable to major programs. Our procedures will consist of tests of transactions and other applicable procedures described in the *OMB Circular A-133 Compliance Supplement* for the types of compliance requirements that could have a direct and material effect on each of Buncombe County's major programs. The purpose of these procedures will be to express an opinion on Buncombe County's compliance with requirements applicable to each of its major programs in our report on compliance issued pursuant to OMB Circular A-133.

#### **Engagement Administration, Fees, and Other**

We understand that your employees will prepare all cash, accounts receivable, or other confirmations we request and will locate any documents selected by us for testing.

At the conclusion of the engagement, we will complete the appropriate sections of the Data Collection Form that summarizes our audit findings. 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, auditors' reports, and corrective action plan) along with the Data Collection Form to the federal audit clearinghouse. We will coordinate with you the electronic submission and certification. If applicable, we will provide copies of our report for you to include with the reporting package you will submit 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 auditors' reports or nine months after the end of the audit period, unless a longer period is agreed to in advance by the cognizant or oversight agency for audits.

The audit documentation for this engagement is the property of Gould Killian CPA Group, P.A. and constitutes confidential information. However, pursuant to authority given by law or regulation, we may be requested to make certain audit documentation available to a cognizant or oversight agency or its designee, a federal agency providing direct or indirect funding, or the U.S. Government Accountability Office for purposes of a quality review of the audit, to resolve audit findings, or to carry out oversight responsibilities. We will notify you of any such request. If requested, access to such audit documentation will be provided under the supervision of Gould Killian CPA Group, P.A.'s personnel. Furthermore, upon request, we may provide copies of selected audit documentation to the aforementioned parties. These parties may intend, or decide, to distribute the copies or information contained therein to others, including other governmental agencies.

The audit documentation for this engagement will be retained for a minimum of five years after the report release or for any additional period requested. If we are aware that a federal awarding agency, pass-through entity, or auditee is contesting an audit finding, we will contact the party(ies) contesting the audit finding for guidance prior to destroying the audit documentation.

We expect to begin our audit in May 2012 and to issue our reports no later than October 31, 2012. Charles E. Killian is the engagement partner and is responsible for supervising the engagement and signing the reports or authorizing another individual to sign them. Our fee for these services will be at our standard hourly rates plus out-of-pocket costs (such as report reproduction, word processing, postage, travel, copies, telephone, etc.) except that we agree that our gross fee, including expenses, will not exceed \$95,500. Our standard hourly rates vary according to the degree of responsibility involved and the experience level of the personnel assigned to your audit. Our invoices for these fees will be rendered each month as work progresses and are payable on presentation. The above fee is based on anticipated cooperation from your personnel and the assumption that unexpected circumstances will not be encountered during the audit. If significant additional time is necessary, we will discuss it with you and arrive at a new fee estimate before we incur the additional costs.



Buncombe County

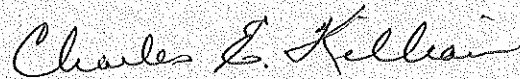
March 5, 2012

Page 6

*Government Auditing Standards* require that we provide you with a copy of our most recent external peer review report and any letter of comment, and any subsequent peer review reports and letters of comment received during the period of the contract. Our 2011 peer review report accompanies this letter.

We appreciate the opportunity to be of service to Buncombe County and believe this letter accurately summarizes the significant terms of our engagement. If you have any questions, please let us know. If you agree with the terms of our engagement as described in this letter, please sign the enclosed copy and return it to us.

Very truly yours,



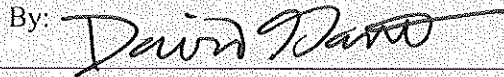
Charles E. Killian  
Certified Public Accountant

CEK/dry  
Enclosure

RESPONSE:

This letter correctly sets forth the understanding of Buncombe County.

By:



Title:

Chairman

Finance Director

Date:

3/20/2012

# SHARRARD, MCGEE & CO., P.A.

CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS • CONSULTANTS

1321 LONG STREET • POST OFFICE BOX 5869 • HIGH POINT, NORTH CAROLINA 27262

(336) 884-0410  
FAX (336) 884-1580

OFFICES  
HIGH POINT  
GREENSBORO

## System Review Report

July 13, 2011

To the Owners of  
Gould Killian CPA Group, P.A. and the  
Peer Review Committee of the North Carolina Association of Certified Public Accountants

We have reviewed the system of quality control for the accounting and auditing practice of Gould Killian CPA Group, P.A. (the firm) in effect for the year ended January 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](http://www.aicpa.org/prsummary).

As required by the standards, engagements selected for review included engagements performed under *Government Auditing Standards* and audits of employee benefit plans.

In our opinion, the system of quality control for the accounting and auditing practice of Gould Killian CPA Group, P.A. in effect for the year ended January 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*. Gould Killian CPA Group, P.A. has received a peer review rating of *pass*.

*Sharrard, McGee & Co., P.A.*