

- D. TIME OF THE ESSENCE. All time limits stated herein are of the essence of this Agreement.
- E. PREAMBLE, RECITALS AND EXHIBITS. The Preamble, Recitals and Exhibits hereto are a part of this Agreement and are incorporated herein by reference.
- F. SEVERABILITY. If any one or more of the provisions contained herein are for any reason held by any court of competent jurisdiction to be invalid, illegal or unenforceable in any respect, such invalidity, illegality or unenforceability will not affect any other provision hereof, and this Agreement will be construed as if such invalid, illegal or unenforceable provision had never been contained herein.
- G. CAPTIONS. The brief headings or titles preceding each provision hereof are for purposes of identification and convenience only and should be completely disregarded in construing this Agreement.
- H. GEORGIA AGREEMENT. This Agreement will be governed, construed under, performed and enforced in accordance with the laws of the State of Georgia. Any dispute arising from this contractual relationship shall be governed by the laws of the State of Georgia, and shall be decided solely and exclusively by the Superior Court of Fulton County, Georgia. LOCAL GOVERNMENT hereby consents to personal jurisdiction and venue in said court and waives any claim of inconvenient forum.
- I. COUNTERPARTS. This Agreement is executed in three (3) counterparts which are separately numbered but each of which is deemed an original of equal dignity with the other and which is deemed one and the same instrument as the other.
- J. INTERPRETATION. Should any provision of this Agreement require judicial interpretation, it is agreed that the court interpreting or construing the same shall not apply a presumption that the terms hereof shall be more strictly construed against one Party by reason of the rule of construction that a document is to be construed more strictly against the Party who itself or through its agent prepared the same, it being agreed that the agents of all Parties have participated in the preparation hereof.
- K. EXECUTION. Each of the individuals executing this Agreement represents that they are authorized to execute this Agreement on behalf of their respective entities. This Agreement may be executed in any number of counterparts, each of which so executed shall be deemed to be an original, and such counterparts shall together constitute but one and the same Agreement. The parties shall be entitled to sign and transmit an electronic signature of this Agreement (whether by facsimile, PDF, or other email transmission), which signature shall be binding on the party whose name is contained therein. Any party providing an electronic signature agrees to promptly execute and deliver to the other parties an original signed Agreement upon request.
- L. NO THIRD PARTY BENEFICIARIES. Nothing contained herein shall be construed as conferring upon or giving to any person, other than the Parties hereto, any rights or benefits under or by reason of this Agreement.
- M. ENTIRE AGREEMENT. This Agreement supersedes all prior negotiations, discussion, statements and agreements between the Parties and constitutes the full, complete and entire agreement between the Parties with respect hereto; no member, officer, employee or agent of either Party has authority to make, or has made, any statement, agreement, representation or contemporaneous agreement, oral or written, in connection herewith, amending, supplementing, modifying, adding to, deleting from, or changing the terms and conditions of this Agreement. No modification of or amendment to this Agreement will be binding on either Party hereto unless such modification or amendment will be properly authorized, in writing, properly signed by both Parties and incorporated in and by reference made a part hereof.

ARTICLE XVIII COMPLIANCE WITH APPLICABLE LAWS

- A. The undersigned, on behalf of the LOCAL GOVERNMENT, certify that the provisions of Section 45-10-20 through 45-10-28 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated relating to Conflict of Interest and State employees and officials trading with the State have been complied with in full.
- B. The LOCAL GOVERNMENT has read and understands the regulations for STATE AUDIT REQUIREMENT as stated in Appendix B of this Agreement and will comply in full with said provisions of O.C.G.A. § 36-81-7.