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September 1, 2009

Board of Trustees Brackett Independent School District Brackettville, Texas 78832

Dear Board of Trustees:

Please let us take this opportunity to thank you for the professional relationship we have and to let you know we look forward to continue serving your district in the future.

At this time we would like to renew our audit contract for the 2009-2010, 2010-2011, 2011-2012, and 2012-2013 school years. Doing so now will facilitate our ability to respond to your needs and questions as they arise. A copy of the engagement letter is enclosed for acceptance by the board of trustees

We will be glad to answer any questions regarding this matter.

James C. Gruenwald, CPA

JCG/dr Enclosure COLEMAN, HORTON & COMPANY, LLP

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September 1, 2009

Board of Trustees Brackett Independent School District Brackettville, Texas 78832

Dear Members of the Board,

We are pleased to confirm our understanding of the services we are to provide Brackett Independent School District for the years ending June 30, 2010, 2011, 2012, and 2013. 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 Brackett Independent School District as of and for the years ending June 30, 2010, 2011, 2012, and 2013. 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 Brackett Independent School District's basic financial statements. As part of our engagement, we will apply certain limited procedures to Brackett Independent School District's RSI These limited procedures will consist primarily of inquiries of management regarding the methods of measurement and presentation, which management is responsible for affirming to us in its representation letter. Unless we encounter problems with the presentation of the RSI or with procedures relating to it, we will disclaim an opinion on it. 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.

Supplementary information other than RSI also accompanies Brackett Independent School District'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 will provide an opinion on it in relation to the basic financial statements:

1. Schedule of expenditures of federal awards.

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, Audit 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 program(s) 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 the preparation of your financial statements, schedule of expenditures of federal awards. 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 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 Brackett Independent School District 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 identifying significant vendor relationships in which the vendor has 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.

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 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

The General Accounting Office recently revised the generally accepted governmental auditing standards to include new independence rules These rules now include impairments to our independence which could be caused by your actions and thus cause us to lose our independence and withdraw from the audit engagement. If your actions should prompt or cause the above referenced actions on our part, we would expect to be compensated for time spent to date. Actions by your organization or employees are listed below:

- 1 Deterrence from exercising objectivity and professional skepticism by pressures, actual or perceived, from management and employees of the audited entity or oversight organizations.
- 2. Unreasonable restrictions on the time allowed to complete an audit or issue the report,

- 3. Restrictions on funds or other resources (i.e. your fee) provided to the audit organization that adversely affect the audit organization's ability to carry our its responsibilities,
- 4 Authority to overrule or to inappropriately influence the auditor's judgment as to the appropriate content of the report
- 5. External interference or influence that could improperly or imprudently limit or modify the scope of an audit or threaten to do so, including pressure to reduce inappropriately the extent of work performed in order to reduce costs or fees;
- 6. External interference with the selection or application of audit procedures or in the selection of transactions to be examined;
- 7. Threat of replacement over a disagreement with the contents of an audit report, the auditor's conclusions or the application of an accounting principle or other criteria, and
- 8. Influences that jeopardize the auditor's continued employment for reasons other than incompetence, misconduct, or the need for audit services.

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 and 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 a 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 misappropriation of assets that comes 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 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 also 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 Brackett Independent School District'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 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 Brackett Independent School District's major programs The purpose of these procedures will be to express an opinion on Brackett Independent School District'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 and sign the Data Collection Form that summarizes our audit findings. We will provide fifteen (15) copies of our reports to Brackett Independent School District; 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, 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. At the conclusion of the engagement, we will provide information to management as to where the reporting packages should be submitted and the number to submit. There will be no charge for reviews or preparation of the Data Control Form.

We will take responsibility for submitting the electronic submission of your annual financial and compliance report which consists of two parts, the Data Feed File and Portable Document Format (pdf). There will be a minimal charge for this service

The audit documentation for this engagement is the property of Coleman, Horton & Company, LLP and constitutes confidential information However, pursuant to authority given by law or regulation, we may be requested to make certain audit documentation available to an oversight agency for audit 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 as of any such request If requested, access to such audit documentation will be provided under the supervision of Coleman, Horton & Company, LLP 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 three years after the date the auditors' report is issued or for any additional period requested by the oversight agency for audit. 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 July and issue our reports no later than October Stephen L. Horton and James C. Gruenwald are the engagement partners and are 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 estimate that our gross fee, including expenses, should not exceed \$12,000 for 2010, \$12,500 for 2011, \$13,000 for 2012, and \$13,500 for 2013. 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 may be rendered each month as work progresses and are payable on presentation. In accordance with our firm policies, work may be suspended if you account becomes 30 days or more overdue and may not be resumed until your account is paid in full. If we elect to terminate our services for nonpayment, our engagement will be deemed to have been completed upon written notification of termination, even if we have not completed our report. You will be obligated to compensate us for all time expended and to reimburse us for all out-of-pocket costs through the date of termination 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.

If additional services are needed outside the scope of this engagement letter, those services will be billed at \$100 - \$150 per hour depending on the level of expertise necessary

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 2007 peer review report accompanies this letter

We appreciate the opportunity to be of service to Brackett Independent School District 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.

Sincerely,

Coleman Hoston a Company XZP

Certified Public Accountants

Response:

This letter correctly sets forth the understanding of Brackett Independent School District.

By:_____

Title:_____

Date:_____