

## Individual Income Tax Preparation

We appreciate the opportunity to work with you. To minimize the possibility of a misunderstanding between us, we are setting forth pertinent information about the services we will perform for you.

We will prepare your 2017 federal and state individual income tax returns from information you furnish us and we may process them with an outside computer service. We will not audit or otherwise verify the data you submit, although we may ask you to clarify some of the information. We will furnish you with organizers upon request to help you gather and organize the necessary information for us, in order to keep our fee to a minimum.

It is your responsibility to maintain, in your records, the documentation necessary to support the data used in preparing your tax returns, including but not limited to the auto, travel, entertainment, and related expenses and the required documents to support charitable contributions. If you have any questions as to the type of records required, please ask us for advice in that regard. It is also your responsibility to carefully examine and approve your completed tax returns. We are not responsible for the disallowance of doubtful deductions or inadequately supported documentation, nor for resulting taxes, penalties, and interest.

Taxing authorities now require us to electronically file all federal and state individual income tax returns. However, you do have the right to “opt out” of the e-filing program. Please notify our firm immediately should you desire not to have your return e-filed, so that we may provide you with the form(s) necessary for opting out of the e-file program.

Although e-filing requires both you and our firm to complete additional steps, the same filing deadlines will apply. You must therefore ensure that you complete the additional requirements well before the due dates in order for our firm to be able to timely transmit your return. We will provide you with a paper copy of the income tax returns for your review prior to electronic transmission. After you have reviewed the returns, you must provide us with a signed authorization indicating that you have reviewed the return and that, to the best of your knowledge, you feel it is correct. We cannot transmit the returns to the taxing authorities until we have the signed authorization. Therefore, if you have not provided our firm with your signed authorization by April 17, 2018, we will place your return on extension, even though it might already have been completed. In that event, you will be responsible for ensuring that any payment due with the extension is timely sent to the appropriate taxing authorities. You will also be responsible for any additional costs our firm incurs arising from the extension preparation. Please note that although our firm will use our best efforts to ensure that your returns are successfully transmitted to the appropriate taxing authorities, we will not be financially responsible for electronic transmission or other errors arising after your return has been successfully submitted from our office.

We are responsible for preparing only the returns listed above. Our fee does not include responding to inquiries or examination by taxing authorities. However, we are available to represent you. Our fees for such services are at our standard rates and would be covered under a separate engagement letter.

We will use our judgment to resolve questions in your favor where a tax law is unclear if there is a reasonable justification for doing so. Whenever we are aware that a possibly applicable tax law is unclear or that there are conflicting interpretations of the law by authorities (e.g., tax agencies and courts), we will explain the possible positions that may be taken on your return. In accordance with our professional standards, we will follow whatever position you request, as long as it is consistent with the codes, regulations, and interpretations that have been promulgated. If the IRS should later contest the position taken, there may be an assessment of additional tax plus interest and penalties. Currently, the IRS and state taxing agencies are aggressive in assessing penalties. We assume no liability for any such additional penalties or assessments. In the event, however, that you ask us to take a tax position that in our professional judgment will not meet the applicable laws and standards as promulgated, we reserve the right to stop work and shall not be liable for any damages that occur as a result of ceasing to render services.

If we are asked to disclose any privileged communication, unless we are required to disclose the communication by law, we will not provide such disclosure until you have had an opportunity to argue that the communication is privileged. You agree to pay any and all reasonable expenses that we incur, including legal fees, that are a result of attempts to protect any communication as privileged.

The Affordable Care Act (ACA) added various new health insurance mandates, penalties, and credits beginning in 2014. Our services in connection with this engagement are not designed to address the legal or regulatory aspects of your compliance with the Affordable Care Act. In preparing your individual tax returns, we will rely solely on the information you provide us regarding the ACA mandates and you agree to accept full responsibility for the accuracy and completeness of this information, as well as your compliance with the ACA. As such, we will not be responsible for any taxes, penalties, or interest that may be assessed.

It is our policy to keep records related to this engagement for 7 years. However, Carefree Accounting, P.C. does not keep any original client records, so we will return those to you at the completion of the services rendered under this engagement. When records are returned to you, it is your responsibility to retain and protect your records for possible future use, including potential examination by any government or regulatory agencies.

By your signature below, you acknowledge and agree that upon the expiration of the 7 year period, Carefree Accounting, P.C. shall be free to destroy our records related to this engagement.

If any dispute arises among the parties hereto, the parties agree to first try in good faith to settle the dispute by mediation under its applicable rules for resolving professional accounting and related services disputes before resorting to litigation. Costs of any mediation proceeding shall be shared equally by all parties.

Client and accountant both agree that any dispute over fees charged by the accountant to the client will be submitted for resolution by arbitration in accordance with the applicable rules for resolving professional accounting and related services disputes, except that under all circumstances the arbitrator must follow the laws of Colorado. Such arbitration shall be binding and final. IN AGREEING TO ARBITRATION, WE BOTH ACKNOWLEDGE THAT, IN THE EVENT OF A DISPUTE OVER FEES CHARGED BY THE ACCOUNTANT, EACH OF US IS GIVING UP THE RIGHT TO HAVE THE DISPUTE DECIDED IN A COURT OF LAW BEFORE A JUDGE OR JURY AND INSTEAD WE ARE ACCEPTING THE USE OF ARBITRATION FOR RESOLUTION. The prevailing party shall be entitled to an award of reasonable attorneys' fees and costs incurred in connection with the arbitration of the dispute in an amount to be determined by the arbitrator.

**If the above fairly sets forth your understanding, please sign the enclosed copy of this letter and return it to us. Please note that you are affirming to Carefree Accounting, P.C. your understanding of, and agreement to, the terms and conditions of this engagement letter.**

We appreciate your confidence in us. Please call 719-390-7009 if you have questions.

Sincerely,

Carol Flathers  
Carefree Accounting, P.C.

(Both spouses must sign for preparation of joint returns.)

Accepted By:

\_\_\_\_\_

Taxpayer

\_\_\_\_\_

Date

\_\_\_\_\_

Spouse

\_\_\_\_\_

Date