



**SAMPLE AGREEMENT FOR PROFESSIONAL
SERVICES BETWEEN THE
SOUTH JERSEY PORT CORPORATION
AND**

THIS PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT (hereinafter the “Agreement”) is made as of this ___ day of ___, **2023** (the “Effective Date”) by and between _____, with principal offices located at _____, hereinafter referred to as “Contractor,” and **SOUTH JERSEY PORT CORPORATION**, a public body corporate and politic constituting an instrumentality of the State of New Jersey, with principal offices located at Two Aquarium Drive, Suite 100, Camden, NJ 08103, hereinafter referred to as “SJPC”.

RECITALS

WHEREAS, there exists a need by the SJPC to contract for _____, as needed (hereinafter the “Project”), as per SJPC Request for Proposal Number _____ (hereinafter the “RFP”);

WHEREAS, pursuant to the RFP, and the Contractor’s proposal thereto dated _____ (hereinafter the “Proposal”), the SJPC has selected the Contractor to serve as _____ to and for the SJPC to provide _____, as outlined in the RFP, as and when determined and requested by the SJPC in its sole discretion (hereinafter the “Services”);

WHEREAS, Contractor represents that it is qualified to perform the Services, and desires to so perform pursuant to the terms and provisions of this Agreement; and,

WHEREAS, this Agreement is awarded pursuant to, and consistent with, the South Jersey Port Corporation Act, N.J.S.A. 12:11A-1, et seq., and any statutes, administrative regulations, rules, and internal procedures governing SJPC’s procurement process; and,

WHEREAS, pursuant to SJPC Board action on _____, the SJPC desires to engage, and the Contractor desires to accept the engagement to provide the Services, all as more particularly set forth in this Agreement.

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the mutual covenants and agreements contained herein, and for other good and valuable consideration the receipt of which is hereby

acknowledged, the SJPC and the Contractor intending to be legally bound, hereby agree as follows:

TERMS OF AGREEMENT

1. **TERM.** The initial term of this Agreement shall commence on the Effective Date and shall expire _____ year thereafter (hereinafter the “Termination Date”), unless terminated sooner by SJPC as set forth in this Agreement; provided however, that this Agreement shall remain in full force and effect for any Services requested by SJPC prior to the Termination Date and performed with the written consent of SJPC by the Contractor after the Termination Date (“Post Termination Services”). The SJPC shall have the option in its sole discretion to extend the term of this Agreement for _____ under the same terms and conditions by providing written notice to the Contractor prior to the Termination Date.

2. **SERVICES AND COMPENSATION IN GENERAL.** Copies of the RFP and the Proposal are annexed hereto as **Exhibits A and B** respectively. By this reference, the RFP and the Proposal are incorporated in and made a part of this Agreement, as if set forth herein in full. In case of conflict or inconsistency between the provisions of the RFP and Proposal on the one hand, and this Agreement on the other hand, the provisions of this Agreement shall govern to the extent of such conflict or inconsistency. In the event of an inconsistency between the RFP and the Proposal, the RFP shall govern.

The Contractor, in consideration of the execution and delivery of this Agreement, agrees to render the Services, as more fully described in the RFP and the Proposal. Contractor shall hold available to SJPC all officers, employees and facilities of Contractor to perform all the Services, as required and requested by SJPC, as more fully set forth in the RFP and Proposal. The employees listed in the Proposal will be the employees primarily responsible for SJPC matters, although other employees of the Contractor may work on SJPC matters. The SJPC shall compensate Contractor for the Services requested by SJPC, and performed by Contractor, in accordance with the terms of this Agreement, and as set forth in the Proposal.

3. **COMPENSATION.** Contractor shall be compensated in a total amount *not to exceed* _____ per year at hourly rates set forth in the Proposal.

Contractor shall be paid in accordance with this Agreement upon receipt and processing of an invoice as set out herein. Each invoice shall contain an itemized, detailed description of all work performed during the billing period. Failure to provide sufficient

specificity shall be cause for rejection of the invoice until the necessary details are provided.

All costs and expenses incurred by Contractor shall be borne solely by Contractor unless specifically reimbursable under another provision of this Agreement, or specifically authorized in writing by the SJPC.

All services rendered by the Contractor will be compensated on the basis of the hourly rates for personnel performing the services, as set forth in the Proposal.

The SJPC will make payment to the Contractor for services rendered on SJPC matters at the rates described in the Proposal. The SJPC will be billed for all time spent on its behalf. The Contractor's invoices shall set forth the time spent by each employee, a detailed description of all work performed, and the amount of the fees and certain other charges that are reimbursable under the Proposal. Invoices normally will be rendered monthly for work performed, and any reimbursable charges and expenses recorded during the previous month. The SJPC will pay each invoice after approval by the SJPC Board of Directors and expiration of the Governor's veto period, unless the SJPC disputes the invoice, in which event the SJPC will notify the Contractor of such dispute within twenty (20) days of expiration of the Governor's veto period.

The Contractor shall not charge, and the SJPC shall not be obligated to pay, any fees, costs or expenses not detailed in this Agreement unless pre-approved by the SJPC in writing. SJPC shall not be obligated or liable under this Agreement to any party, other than the Contractor, for the payment of any monies or the provision of any goods or services.

It is understood and agreed that the acceptance of the final payment by Contractor shall be considered a release in full of all claims against the SJPC arising out of, or by reason of, the Services furnished under this Agreement.

4. **DUTIES OF CONTRACTOR.** Contractor shall, at the request of the SJPC, provide the Services as specified in the RFP and Proposal. Contractor's Services are for the sole and exclusive benefit of the SJPC, and no third-party beneficiary is intended. The provision of these Services by Contractor shall not relieve others of their responsibility to the SJPC. Contractor agrees that it has or will comply with, and where applicable shall continue throughout the period of this Agreement to comply with, all of the requirements of the RFP, and this Agreement. Pursuant to the RFP, Contractor may be requested to prepare design documents, or other such drawings and/or written specifications for a project, all of which will be subject to SJPC's review and reasonable approval. If SJPC requests revisions to the design documents, drawings or written specifications prepared by Contractor, and if same is within the Contractor's scope of services as described in the RFP, Contractor shall make the requested revisions without additional compensation, such that Contractor performs the Services, and prepares the design documents, drawings and/or written specifications in accordance with this Agreement.

The Contractor shall respond to only those requests for Services made by the SJPC's authorized representatives; but in no case shall respond to, or provide any Services hereunder, upon the request of any private citizen, person, firm, or other entity, except as expressly authorized by the SJPC.

The original files pertaining to SJPC matters in the possession of the Contractor, including, but not limited to, finished or unfinished data compilations, drawings, engineering plans, specifications, studies, and all such other documents/materials prepared for SJPC, shall be the property of SJPC; and same shall all be promptly delivered by Contractor to the SJPC upon termination of this Agreement.

5. **EEO OBLIGATIONS OF THE CONTRACTOR.** During the performance of this Agreement, the Contractor agrees as follows:

The Contractor or subcontractor, where applicable, will not discriminate against any employee or applicant for employment because of age, race, creed, color, national origin, ancestry, marital status, affectional or sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, disability, nationality or sex. Except with respect to affectional or sexual orientation and gender identity or expression, the Contractor will ensure that equal employment opportunity is afforded to such applicants in recruitment and employment, and that employees are treated during employment, without regard to their age, race, creed, color, national origin, ancestry, marital status, affectional or sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, disability, nationality, or sex. Such equal employment opportunity shall include, but not be limited to, the following: employment, upgrading, demotion or transfer; recruitment or recruitment advertising; layoff or termination; rates of pay or other forms of compensation; and selection for training, including apprenticeship. The Contractor agrees to post in conspicuous places, available to employees and applicants for employment, notices to be provided by the SJPC's Compliance Officer setting forth provisions of this nondiscrimination clause.

The Contractor or subcontractor, where applicable will, in all solicitations or advertisements for employees placed by or on behalf of the Contractor, state that all qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to age, race, creed, color, national origin, ancestry, marital status, affectional or sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, disability, nationality, or sex.

The Contractor or subcontractor, where applicable will send to each labor union with which it has a collective bargaining agreement, a notice, to be provided to the SJPC's contracting officer, advising the labor union of the Contractor's commitments under this chapter and shall post copies of notice in conspicuous places available to employees and applicants for employment.

The Contractor or subcontractor, where applicable agrees to comply with any regulations promulgated by the Treasurer pursuant to N.J.S.A. 10:5-31, et. seq., as amended and supplemented from time to time and the Americans with Disabilities Act.

The Contractor or subcontractor, where applicable agrees to make good faith efforts to meet targeted county employment goals established in accordance with N.J.A.C. 17:27-5.2.

The Contractor or subcontractor, where applicable agrees to inform in writing its appropriate recruitment agencies, including, but not limited to, employment agencies, placement bureaus, colleges, universities labor unions, that it does not discriminate on the basis of age, race, creed, color, national origin, ancestry, marital status, affectional or sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, disability, nationality, or sex, and that it will discontinue the use of any recruitment agency which engages in direct or indirect discriminatory practices.

The Contractor or subcontractor, as applicable agrees to revise any of its testing procedures, if necessary, to assure that all personnel testing conforms with the principles of job-related testing, as established by the statutes and court decisions of the State of New Jersey and as established by applicable Federal law and applicable Federal court decisions.

In conforming with the targeted employment goals, the Contractor or subcontractor, where applicable agrees to review all procedures relating to transfer, upgrading, downgrading and layoff to ensure that all such actions are taken without regard to age, race, creed, color, national origin, ancestry, marital status, affectional or sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, disability, nationality or sex, consistent with the statutes and court decisions of the State of New Jersey, and applicable Federal law and applicable Federal court decisions.

The Contractor shall submit to the SJPC after notification of award, but prior to execution of a goods and services contract, one of the following three documents:

Letter of Federal Affirmative Action Plan Approval;
Certificate of Employee Information Report; or,
Employee Information Report Form AA-302.

The Contractor and its subcontractors, if any, shall furnish such reports or other documents to the Division of Purchase and Property, CCAU, EEO Monitoring Program as may be requested by the office from time to time in order to carry out the purposes of these regulations, and the SJPC shall furnish such information as may be requested by the

Division of Purchase and Property, CCAU, EEO Monitoring Program for conducting a compliance investigation pursuant to N.J.A.C. 17:27-1.1, et seq.

6. **LICENSING.** If the Contractor, or any of its employees, is required to maintain a license or certification in order to perform the Services which are the subject of this Agreement, then prior to the effective date of this Agreement, and as a condition precedent to it taking effect, Contractor and its employees shall maintain, hold, and have in place all such current licenses and certifications required to do business and/or operate in the State of New Jersey, and to perform all the Services hereunder. Contractor shall provide to SJPC upon request a copy of all its and its employees said current licenses and/or certifications. All current licenses and/or certifications of the Contractor, or its employees, shall be in good standing, and shall not be subject to any current action to revoke or suspend; and shall remain so throughout the term of this Agreement, and any extensions.

The Contractor shall notify the SJPC immediately in the event of suspension, revocation or any change in status (or in the event of the initiation of any action to accomplish such suspension, revocation and/or change in status) of the license or certification held by Contractor, or any of its employees.

7. **TERMINATION.** This Agreement may be terminated, as follows:
 - (a) Pursuant to the termination provisions set forth in the RFP, if any.
 - (b) If Contractor and/or its employees is required to be licensed or to maintain any certification in order to perform the Services, then this Agreement may be terminated by the SJPC in the event that the appropriate governmental entity with jurisdiction has instituted an action to have the Contractor's or its employees license or certification suspended or revoked. Notice of termination pursuant to this provision shall be effective immediately upon giving of the written notice.
 - (c) If, through any cause, the Contractor shall fail to fulfill in timely and proper manner its obligations under this Agreement, or if the Contractor shall violate any of the covenants, agreements or stipulations of this Agreement, the SJPC shall thereupon have the right to terminate this Agreement by giving written notice to the Contractor of such termination and specifying the effective date thereof.
 - (d) The SJPC may terminate this Agreement for public convenience at any time by giving written notice to the Contractor of such termination and specifying the effective date thereof. If this Agreement is terminated by the SJPC pursuant to this provision, the Contractor will be paid for the Services rendered to the time of termination.
 - (e) Notwithstanding any of the above, the Contractor shall not be relieved of liability to the SJPC for damages sustained by the SJPC by virtue of any breach of this

Agreement by the Contractor; and the SJPC may withhold any payments to the Contractor for the purpose of set-off until such time as the exact amount of damages due the SJPC from the Contractors is determined.

- (f) Termination by the SJPC of this Agreement shall not affect the validity of the indemnification provisions of this Agreement, nor prevent the SJPC from pursuing any claims, causes of action, relief, damages or remedies to which it may be entitled, either at law or in equity.
- (g) Termination of this Agreement shall not affect any right or obligation of any party which is accrued or vested prior to the termination, and any provision of this Agreement relating to any such right or obligation shall be deemed to survive the expiration or earlier termination of this Agreement.

8. **NO ASSIGNMENT OR SUBCONTRACT.** This Agreement may not be assigned nor subcontracted by the Contractor, except as otherwise agreed in writing by both parties. Any attempted assignment or subcontract without such written consent shall be void with respect to the SJPC, and no obligation on the SJPC's part to such assignment or subcontract shall arise, unless the SJPC shall elect to accept and consent to in writing, such assignment or subcontract

9. **CONFLICTS OF INTEREST.** The Contractor represents that it does not have an existing financial interest, and will not acquire any such interest, direct or indirect, which could conflict in any manner or degree with the performance of Services under this Agreement; and that no person having any such interest shall be subcontracted in connection with this Agreement or employed by the Contractor. The Contractor will also take all necessary steps to avoid the appearance of a conflict of interest and shall have the duty to disclose to the SJPC prior to entering into, and during the term of, this Agreement any and all circumstances existing at such time which pose a potential conflict of interest.

The Contractor warrants that it has not directly or indirectly offered or given and will not directly or indirectly offer or give to any employee, agent, servant or representative of the SJPC any cash or non-cash gratuity or payment with view toward securing any business from SJPC or influencing such person with respect to conditions, or performance of any agreements with or orders from SJPC, including without limitation this Agreement. Any breach of this warranty shall be a material breach of this Agreement, and each and every other agreement between SJPC and the Contractor.

Should a conflict-of-interest issue arise, the Contractor agrees to fully cooperate in any inquiry, and to provide SJPC or its designee with all documents and other information reasonably necessary to enable SJPC, or its designee, to determine whether or not a conflict of interest existed or exists. Failure to comply with the provisions of this

paragraph shall constitute grounds for immediate termination of this Agreement, in addition to whatever other remedies the SJPC may have.

10. INDEMNIFICATION. Contractor agrees to indemnify and hold harmless the SJPC, its respective directors, officers, and employees from and against any and all losses, claims, causes of action, damages, liabilities, obligations, penalties, judgements, awards, costs expenses and disbursements, including attorneys' fees and other legal expenses and costs, arising directly or indirectly from or in connection with, caused by, relating to, or based upon, any (i) any negligent, careless, reckless, or intentionally wrongful act or omission of the Contractor or Contractor's assistants, employees, contractors, servants or agents, (ii) a determination by a court or agency that the Contractor is not an independent contractor, (iii) any breach by the Contractor, or the Contractor's assistants, employees, contractors, servants or agents of this Agreement, (iv) any willful misconduct or gross negligence by the Contractor or the Contractor's assistants, employees, contractors, servants or agents under this Agreement, (v) any failure of the Contractor, or the Contractor's assistants, employees, contractors, servants or agents to perform the Services in accordance with all applicable laws, rules and regulations; or, (vi) any act by Contractor or the Contractor's assistants, employees contractors, servants, or agents in connection with Contractor's engagement by SJPC that is outside the scope of Contractor's authority hereunder.

This provision shall survive and continue in full force and effect after any expiration or earlier termination of this Agreement.

11. GOOD STANDING. By signing this Agreement, the Contractor certifies that the Contractor, and any of its principals (i) are not presently debarred, suspended, proposed for debarment, or declared ineligible for the award of agreements by any public agency, (ii) have not within a five-year period preceding this Agreement been convicted of or had a civil judgement rendered against them for: commission of fraud or a criminal offense in connection with obtaining, attempting to obtain, or performing a federal, state or local government agreement or subcontract; violation of federal or state antitrust statutes relating to the submission of offers; or commission of embezzlement, theft, forgery, bribery, falsification or destruction of records, making false statements, tax evasion, or racing stolen property; and are not present indicted for, or otherwise criminally or civilly charged by a government entity with, commission of any of these offenses.

12. INSURANCE. The Services shall not commence until the Contractor has obtained, at its own expense, all of the insurance required hereunder, and until such insurance has been approved in writing by the SJPC, or its designee. The Contractor shall not allow any subcontractor to commence work on any projects hereunder until all insurance required of the subcontractor has been so obtained and approved by the Contractor and provided to

and approved by the SJPC. Approval of the insurance required of the Contractor hereunder will be granted only after submission to SJPC of original Certificates of Insurance signed by authorized representatives of insurers or, at SJPC's request, after submission of certified copies of the required insurance policies, inclusive of additional insured and other required endorsements.

All insurance required hereunder shall be issued by insurance carriers rated A-, Class VIII, or better, by A.M. Best and Company, and licensed to do business in the State of New Jersey. All policies of insurance shall be endorsed to provide that the policy is not subject to cancellation, non-renewal, or material reduction in coverage until thirty (30) days prior written notice is given to the SJPC. The SJPC, and its board members, directors, officers, employees and agents shall be named as *Additional Insureds* on all policies and certificates of insurance for General Liability, Automobile Liability and Umbrella Liability required hereunder. All coverage provided by the policies required hereunder must be primary and non-contributory as to all insureds and *Additional Insureds*. The policies shall contain a waiver of subrogation in favor of the *Additional Insureds*.

Contractor agrees to continue the policies of insurance required hereunder in full force and effect during the term of this Agreement, any extensions, and for the period of the applicable statutes of limitation following termination of this Agreement.

No acceptance and/or approval of any insurance by the SJPC shall be construed as relieving or excusing the Contractor from any liability of obligation imposed upon them by the provisions of this Agreement, relieving the Contractor of the obligation to obtain and maintain the types and amounts of insurance coverage required hereunder.

The Contractor shall purchase and maintain the insurance types and minimum coverages as set forth in the RFP. Contractor shall furnish to SJPC with its signed original of this Agreement, an original Certificate of Insurance that evidence Contractor has met the insurance requirements of the RFP, as more particularly set forth on the **EXHIBIT C** attached hereto and incorporated herein by reference. SJPC may in its sole discretion make request for the Contractor to also submit certified copies of the required policies, as set forth hereunder.

13. **SET-OFF.** Should Contractor either refuse or neglect to perform the Services which Contractor is required to perform in accordance with the terms of this Agreement, and if expense is incurred by the SJPC by reason of Contractor's failure to perform, then in that event, such expenses shall be deducted from any payment due Contractor. Exercise of such right of set-off shall not operate to prevent the SJPC from pursuing any other remedy to which it may be entitled.

- 14. PREVENTION OF PERFORMANCE.** In the event that the SJPC is prevented from performing this Agreement by circumstances beyond its control, then any obligations owing by the SJPC to the Contractor shall be suspended without liability for the period during which the SJPC is so prevented.
- 15. INDEPENDENT CONTRACTOR STATUS.** Contractor is acting solely as an independent contractor hereunder, and has no authority to bind, represent, obligate or act on behalf of the SJPC. Contractor shall not be entitled to any benefits afforded by SJPC to its employees or to workers' compensation or similar benefits or insurance protection. Contractor, as an independent contractor, shall determine the method, details and means of performing any Services furnished pursuant to this Agreement, but the Services contemplated herein shall meet the approval of SJPC, and subject to the right of inspection for SJPC to secure satisfactory completion thereof.
- 16. MISCELLANEOUS.**
- (a) *Governing Law; Consent to Personal Jurisdiction.* This Agreement shall be governed by the laws of the State of New Jersey without regard to the conflicts of law provisions of any jurisdiction. The parties hereto hereby irrevocably and unconditionally consent to the exclusive jurisdiction and venue of the federal and state Courts located in Camden County, New Jersey for any action, suit or proceeding arising out of or related hereto. Each of the parties agrees not to commence any legal proceeding related hereto except in such Courts. Each of the parties irrevocably waives any objection which it may now or hereafter have to the laying of venue of any such proceeding in any such Courts, and hereby further irrevocably and unconditionally waives and agrees not to plead or claim in any such Courts that any such action, suit or proceeding brought in any such Court has been brought in an inconvenient forum. Each of the parties hereby irrevocably waives any right it may have to a trial by jury in any such action, suit or proceeding.
 - (b) *Binding Effect.* This Agreement shall inure to the benefit of, and be binding on the Contractor, the SJPC, and their respective permitted heirs, successors, assigns, administrators and other legal representatives. There are no third-party beneficiaries to this Agreement, except as expressly stated.
 - (c) *Entire Agreement.* This Agreement, together with the RFP and the Proposal, constitutes the entire agreement between the parties hereto, and supersedes any prior or contemporaneous written or oral understandings or agreements, and may be amended only by written amendment executed by both parties, and approved by the SJPC Board of Directors. This Agreement shall become effective and legally binding upon the signing of the Agreement by all parties hereto.
 - (d) *Disclosure.* Neither Contractor, nor any person or entity acting on behalf of Contractor, shall issue any press release or other public statement with respect to this Agreement, the terms hereof, or the Services contemplated hereunder.

- (e) *Notices.* All notices required or permitted to be given under this Agreement will be deemed sufficiently and validly made if given by certified mail, postage pre-paid, return receipt requested and regular mail, first-class **or** by overnight courier service, and addressed to the parties at their respective addresses set forth below:

As to SJPC: South Jersey Port Corporation
2 Aquarium Drive, Suite 100
Camden, NJ 08103
Attention: Andrew Saporito, Executive Director/CEO

As to Contractor:

- (f) *Modification, Waiver.* No modification of or amendment to this Agreement, nor any waiver of any rights under this Agreement, shall be effective unless in writing signed by all the parties. Waiver by the SJPC of a breach of any provision of this Agreement will not operate as a waiver of any other or subsequent breach, nor a bar to any subsequent enforcement.
- (g) *Taxes.* Contractor agrees that Contractor is solely responsible for paying when due all income taxes, including estimated taxes, payroll taxes, insurance, and other taxes incurred as a result of or in connection with the compensation paid by SJPC to Contractor for the Services under this Agreement; and no income or employment tax withholdings will be deducted from such payments.
- (h) *Headings.* Headings are used in this Agreement for reference only and shall not be considered when interpreting this Agreement.
- (i) *Severability.* If a Court or other body of competent jurisdiction finds, or the Parties mutually believe, any provision of this Agreement, or portion thereof, to be invalid or unenforceable, such provision will be enforced to the maximum extent permissible so as to affect the intent of the Parties, and the remainder of this Agreement will continue in full force and effect.
- (j) *Counterparts.* This Agreement may be signed in one (1) or more counterparts (whether original, facsimile or electronic copies), each of which when executed and delivered will constitute an original, but all of which will constitute one and the same Agreement.
- (k) *Construction.* Each of the parties agrees that it has had the opportunity to have this Agreement reviewed by their respective legal counsel. Accordingly, the rule of construction that any ambiguity in this Agreement is to be construed against the drafting party shall not apply.
- (l) *Survival.* All terms of this Agreement that expressly extend or by their nature should extend beyond termination or expiration of this Agreement, shall survive and

continue in full force and effect after any expiration or earlier termination of this Agreement.

THIS AGREEMENT is effective as of the date first above written.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties hereto have caused this Agreement to be executed and delivered by their duly authorized signatories as of the day and year first above written.

SOUTH JERSEY PORT CORPORATION

By: _____

Name: *Andrew Saporito*

Title: *Executive Director and CEO*

WITNESS:

By: _____

Name: _____

Title: _____

[INSERT FIRM NAME]

By: _____

Name: _____

Title: _____

WITNESS:

By: _____

Name: _____

Title: _____

EXHIBIT A

{RFP}

EXHIBIT B

{PROPOSAL}

EXHIBIT C

{INSURANCE REQUIREMENTS}