



Board of Trustees of the Food Employers
Labor Relations Association
and United Food and Commercial Workers VEBA Fund
c/o Anne-Marie Simms – Account Executive
Associated Administrators, LLC
911 Ridgebrook Road
Sparks, MD 21152

March 8, 2023

DECEMBER 31, 2022 – AUDIT ENGAGEMENT LETTER

We are pleased to confirm our understanding of the services we are to provide for the Food Employers Labor Relations Association and United Food and Commercial Workers VEBA Fund (FELRA and UFCW VEBA Fund) for the year ending December 31, 2022, in connection with its annual reporting obligation under the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA).

Audit Scope and Objectives

We will audit the financial statements of the Food Employers Labor Relations Association and United Food and Commercial Workers VEBA Fund, which comprise the statement of net assets available for benefits and Plan benefit obligations for the Food Employers Labor Relations Association & United Food and Commercial Workers VEBA Fund as of December 31, 2022, and the related statement of changes in net assets available for benefits and changes in the Plan's benefit obligations for the year then ended, and the related notes to the financial statements and report on the supplemental schedules of the Fund for the year ending December 31, 2022. Also, the following supplementary information accompanying the financial statements, as applicable, will be subjected to the auditing procedures applied in our audit of the 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 (GAAS), and we will report on whether the information is fairly stated in all material respects in relation to the financial statements as a whole in a separate written report accompanying our auditor's report on the financial statements:

- 1) Assets (Held at End of Year).
- 2) Loans or Fixed Income Obligations.
- 3) Leases in Default or Classified as Uncollectible.
- 4) Reportable Transactions.
- 5) Nonexempt Transactions.
- 6) Employer Contributions.
- 7) Administrative Expenses.



Audit Scope and Objectives (continued)

These financial statements and supplemental schedules "1-5" are required to be included in the Fund's Form 5500 filing with the Employee Benefits Security Administration (EBSA) of the Department of Labor (DOL). The supplemental schedules are presented for the purpose of additional analysis and are not a required part of the financial statements but are supplementary information required by the DOL's Rules and Regulations for Reporting and Disclosure under ERISA.

The objectives of our audit are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion about whether your financial statements are fairly presented, in all material respects, in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not absolute assurance and therefore is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with GAAS will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements, including omissions, can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if there is a substantial likelihood that, individually or in the aggregate, they would influence the judgment of a reasonable user made based on the financial statements.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

We will conduct our audit in accordance with GAAS and will include tests of the accounting records of the Fund and other procedures we consider necessary to enable us to express such an opinion. As part of an audit in accordance with GAAS, we exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit.

We will evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management. We will also evaluate the overall presentation of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and determine whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation. We will plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable 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, including prohibited transactions with parties in interest or other violations of ERISA rules and regulations, that are attributable to the Fund or to acts by management or employees acting on behalf of the Fund.

Because of the inherent limitations of an audit, combined with the inherent limitations of internal control, and because we will not perform a detailed examination of all transactions, there is an unavoidable risk that some material misstatements may exist and



Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements (continued)

not be detected by us, even though the audit is properly planned and performed in accordance with GAAS. 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. However, we will inform the appropriate level of management of any material errors, fraudulent financial reporting, or misappropriation of assets that comes to our attention. We will also inform the appropriate level of management of any violations of laws or governmental regulations that come to our attention, unless clearly inconsequential and will include prohibited transactions in the supplemental schedule of nonexempt transactions as required by the instructions to Form 5500. 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.

We will obtain an understanding of the Fund and its environment, including internal control relevant to the audit, sufficient to identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to error or fraud, and to design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks and obtain evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentation, or the override of internal control. An audit is not designed to provide assurance on internal control or to identify deficiencies in internal control. Accordingly, we will express no such opinion. However, during the audit, we will communicate to you and those charged with governance internal control related matters that are required to be communicated under professional standards.

We will also conclude, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the Fund's ability to continue as a going concern for a reasonable period of time.

Our procedures will include tests of documentary evidence supporting the transactions recorded in the accounts and direct confirmation of investments, Fund obligations, and certain other assets and liabilities by correspondence with financial institutions, actuaries and other third parties. We will also request written representations from your attorneys as part of the engagement.

In addition, we will perform certain procedures directed at considering the Fund's compliance with applicable Internal Revenue Service (IRS) requirements for tax exempt status and ERISA plan qualification requirements. However, you should understand that our audit is not specifically designed for and should not be relied upon to disclose matters affecting Fund qualifications or compliance with the ERISA and IRS requirements.



Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements (continued)

If during the audit we become aware of any instances of any such matters or ways in which management practices can be improved, we will communicate them to you.

We will not disclose information regarding the Fund or its participants ("Fund Information") to parties other than the Fund except as necessary to perform services under this Agreement, or as required by law with advance notice to the Fund and consistent with the terms of this letter. We will take all appropriate and reasonable measures to ensure and maintain confidentiality regarding Fund Information and all matters involving the Fund. In the event of any disclosure of Fund Information inconsistent with the preceding sentence, or any unauthorized access by a third party of Fund Information maintained by Calibre, we shall notify the Fund of the disclosure or unauthorized access immediately, and in no event later than ten (10) days after discovery of the disclosure or unauthorized access of Fund Information. Such notice will be in writing and will include all relevant details of the disclosure or unauthorized access, including but not limited to the date on which the disclosure or unauthorized access occurred, the information that was disclosed or accessed, the number of Fund participants and beneficiaries affected, if applicable, the steps being taken to remedy the effects of the disclosure or unauthorized access, and any other information required to be disclosed to the Fund under any applicable state or federal law. We will provide the Fund with new information regarding the disclosure or unauthorized access immediately upon learning or receiving such information. To help respond to the disclosure or unauthorized access of Fund information that was caused by us, we will maintain, in full force and effect, cyber liability insurance in the amount of \$5 million that covers costs under applicable state or federal law, including costs for providing notice of the disclosure or unauthorized access to any affected individuals. To the extent the Fund pays any amount, whether characterized as a cost, penalty, fine or otherwise, relating to a disclosure of, or unauthorized access to, Fund Information that was caused by Calibre, Calibre will reimburse the Fund for the full amount of any such expense.

We shall indemnify, defend, and hold harmless the Fund, its Board of Trustees, and agents from and against any and all claims, actions, demands, costs, and expenses, including reasonable attorneys' fees and disbursements, as a result of Calibre CPA Group, PLLC's gross negligence, willful misconduct, or fraud as finally determined by a court of competent jurisdiction, arbitrator, or other trier of fact.

Other Services

We will prepare the Fund's Form 5500 and 990, including required schedules, for the year ending December 31, 2022, based on information provided by you. After we have completed the Fund's Form 5500 and required schedules, we will authorize the Fund to include our auditor's report on the financial statements and supplemental schedules with the Fund's Form 5500 filing.



Other Services (continued)

The Form 5500 and 990 will be electronically filed by Calibre CPA Group, PLLC, in coordination with proper Trustee obtained signing credentials. We will assist the Fund with preparation of the summary annual report (SAR). We will assist in preparing the financial statements of the Fund in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America based on information provided by you.

We will perform the services in accordance with applicable professional standards, including the Statements on Standards for Tax Services issued by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants. The other services are limited to the financial statement and Form 5500 services previously defined. We, in our sole professional judgment, reserve the right to refuse to perform any procedure or take any action that could be construed as assuming management responsibilities. We will advise management with regard to the preparation of the Form 5500, but management must make all decisions with regard to those matters.

Responsibilities of Management for the Financial Statements

Our audit will be conducted on the basis that you acknowledge and understand your responsibility for establishing, implementing, and maintaining internal controls relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, including monitoring ongoing activities; for the selection and application of accounting principles; for establishing an accounting and financial reporting process for determining appropriate fair value measurements; for the acceptance of the actuarial methods and assumptions used by the actuary and for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. You are also responsible for making all financial records and related information available to us and for the accuracy and completeness of that information (including information from outside of the general and subsidiary ledgers). You are also responsible for providing us with (1) access to all information of which you are aware that is relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements, such as records, documentation, identification of all related parties, parties in interest, and all related-party and party-in-interest relationships and transactions, and other matters; (2) additional information that we may reasonably request for the purpose of the audit; and (3) unrestricted access to employees of the Fund's third party administrator, from whom we determine it necessary to obtain audit evidence. You are also responsible for maintaining a current plan instrument, including all plan amendments; for administering the plan and determining that the plan's transactions that are presented and disclosed in the financial statements are in conformity with the plan's provisions, including maintaining sufficient records with respect to each of the participants to determine the benefits due or which may become due to such participants.



Responsibilities of Management for the Financial Statements (continued)

At the conclusion of our audit, we will require certain written representations from you about the financial statements and related matters. We will advise management about appropriate accounting principles and their application and, as requested by the Trustees, we will assist in the preparation of the financial statements, but the responsibility for the financial statements remains with management.

We understand that while the Board of Trustees is responsible for the Plan's financial statements, the Trustees have delegated the record keeping tasks, including the establishment and maintenance of adequate records, to a third-party administrator. The third-party administrator is responsible for adjusting the financial statements, to correct material misstatements and confirming to us in the management 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 affecting the Fund involving (1) Fund management, (2) employees who have significant roles in internal control, and (3) others where the fraud 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 Fund received in communications from employees, former employees, regulators, or others. In addition, you are responsible for identifying and ensuring that the Fund complies with applicable laws and regulations. You are responsible for the fair presentation of the supplemental schedules and the form and content of the supplemental schedules in conformity with the DOL's Rules and Regulations for Reporting and Disclosure under ERISA. 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.

You agree to assume management responsibilities for the tax services (Form 5500) and any other non-attest services we provide by accepting responsibility for the non-attest services once the services are determined by a designated individual with suitable skill, knowledge and experience evaluating the adequacy of the results of the non-attest services to be true, correct, and complete, to the best of your knowledge.



Engagement Administration, Fees, and Other

We understand that your third-party administrator – Associated Administrators, LLC – will assist us in preparing schedules, analyses, and confirmations for mailing, as well as assist us in locating any invoices or other documents selected for testing.

The audit documentation for this engagement is the property of Calibre CPA Group, PLLC and constitutes confidential information. However, we may be requested to make certain audit documentation available to the U.S. Department of Labor pursuant to authority given to it by law. If the Department of Labor asks to review audit documentation relating to the Fund that is the property of Calibre CPA Group, PLLC, we will notify the Fund at least 5 business days in advance of any disclosure to the Department of Labor. Access by the Department of Labor to the aforementioned audit documentation will be provided under the supervision of Calibre CPA Group, PLLC personnel. Calibre CPA Group, PLLC will not provide to the Department of Labor any information that is the property of the Fund unless the Fund has given Calibre express written permission to do so.

Our firm, as well as other accounting firms, participates in the AICPA's peer review program covering our audit and accounting practices. Under this program, our system of quality control is subjected to a peer review by a team of certified public accountants by the state administering entity. As part of this peer review, the team will review a sample of our work. It is possible that the work we perform for you may be selected for their review. If it is, the team is bound by professional standards to keep all information confidential.

Joseph M. Herishen, CPA, is the engagement partner and is responsible for supervising the engagement and signing the report.

We estimate that our fee range for our services under this engagement letter for the year ending December 31, 2022, will not exceed \$90,400 (a \$5,400 increase over prior-year; 6 %). There were several factors used in determining the one-time fee cap adjustment. Calibre is respectfully requesting the noted Fee cap increase for YE 2022. The public accounting profession continues to experience unprecedented staffing demands (salary increases etc.) and overall market inflationary pressures. In addition, the audits of employee benefit plans are now subject to ASU 136 which has implemented significant changes to certain audit workpapers, control assessments, documentation and most importantly the independent auditor's report (for attachment to the 5500. The above increase is respectfully requested to partially offset these market conditions. Should actual hours produce a lower fee, we will, of course, bill you for the lesser amount.



Engagement Administration, Fees, and Other (continued)

The fee estimate 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. Our invoices for these fees may be rendered as work progresses and, to the extent undisputed, are payable within ninety (90) days after presentation. Should the Board of Trustees desire any additional accounting, tax or consulting services rendered outside of the scope of the annual audit, these services will be billed at the appropriate rate for the personnel used for the engagement, as outlined below.

Our professional hourly rate structure for our services under this engagement letter for the Year End December 31, 2022, is as follows:

Partners	\$365.00
Managers	\$270.00 to \$300.00
Staff Accountants	\$155.00 to \$269.00
Paraprofessionals	\$ 90.00

Our fees for these services will be based on the actual time spent at our standard hourly rates, plus out-of-pocket costs. 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 services will be rendered as work progresses. We will not subcontract any of our services for this engagement without the written authorization of the Fund's Board of Trustees.

This Engagement Letter will be governed by ERISA, and to the extent not preempted, the laws of the State of Maryland. This Engagement Letter embodies the entire agreement and understanding between the parties hereto and supersedes all prior oral and written communications between them. The terms hereof may be modified or amended only by a written agreement signed by each of the parties hereto. This Engagement Letter may not be assigned without the express advance written approval of each of the parties hereto.





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Reporting

We will issue a written report upon completion of our audit of the Fund's financial statements. Our report will be addressed to the Board of Trustees of the Food Employers Labor Relations Association and United Food and Commercial Workers VEBA Fund. Circumstances may arise in which our report may differ from its expected form and content based on the results of our audit. Depending on the nature of these circumstances, it may be necessary for us to modify our opinion or add an emphasis-of-matter or other-matter paragraph to our auditor's report. If our opinion is other than unmodified, we will discuss the reasons with you in advance. If, for any reason circumstances occur related to the condition of your records, the availability of sufficient, appropriate audit evidence, or the existence of a significant risk of material misstatement of the financial statements caused by error, fraudulent financial reporting, or misappropriation of assets, which in our professional judgment prevent us from completing the audit or forming an opinion on the financial statements, we retain the right to take any course of action permitted by professional standards, including declining to express an opinion or issue a report as a result of this engagement.

We appreciate the opportunity to be of service to the Food Employers Labor Relations Association and United Food and Commercial Workers VEBA Fund 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,



Calibre CPA Group, PLLC





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RESPONSE:

This letter correctly sets forth the understanding of the Food Employers Labor Relations Association and United Food and Commercial Workers VEBA Fund.

Signature: _____

Signature: _____

Title: _____

Title: _____

Date: _____

Date: _____

