

PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT

This Professional Services Agreement ("the Agreement") is made and entered into by and between the City of Broken Arrow, a municipal corporation (City), and John Barnhart, P.C., Attorneys and Counselors at Law ("Outside Counsel"), 7711 East 111th Street, Suite 104, Tulsa, Oklahoma 74133-2562.

I. PURPOSE OF REPRESENTATION

City has retained Outside Counsel to provide counsel and legal advice to the City of Broken Arrow regarding workers' compensation matters.

II. OUTSIDE COUNSEL REPORTS TO THE CITY AND ITS DESIGNATED THIRD-PARTY ADMINISTRATOR

Outside Counsel agrees to keep City and its designated Third-Party Administrator (TPA) informed of the status of the matters covered by this Agreement by:

- A. Communicating orally with the City representatives and designated TPA as needed and as requested by City;
- B. Providing timely copies of all pleadings, discovery, and correspondence to City representatives and its designated TPA;
- C. Submitting invoices for services to the City's designated TPA in the format and schedule set forth by said TPA.

All written communications required by this Agreement should be sent to the Human Resources Department, City of Broken Arrow, City Hall, 220 South 1st Street, Broken Arrow, Oklahoma 74012.

III. CONFLICT OF INTEREST

Outside Counsel must conduct a conflicts check covering potential and actual conflicts of interest before accepting a specific case or engagement. Outside Counsel must promptly notify the City Attorney in writing of all actual or potential conflicts. Outside Counsel must disclose past or present representation of a client associated directly, indirectly, actually, or potentially with the subject of the representation. No waiver of an actual or potential conflict will be valid unless in writing and executed by the identified conflict Party(ies). Outside Counsel must all obtain any necessary third-party waivers in writing prior to representing the Employee/Employees. Outside Counsel will monitor whether any actual or potential conflicts arise in connection with Outside Counsel's proposed representation of other defendants while representing the Employee/Employees and shall promptly notify the City Attorney in writing of any such conflicts.

IV. TIMELY ACTION BY OUTSIDE COUNSEL

By executing this Agreement, Outside Counsel agrees to act in a timely manner in conducting work under this Agreement.

V. FEES AND EXPENSES

City agrees to pay Outside Counsel a reasonable fee based on the following hourly rates, billed in 1/10 of an hour increment (i.e., every six minutes of work is billed at 0.10) for work reasonably incurred to perform under this contract:

John G. Barnhart	\$125.00 per hour
Associates:	\$100.00 per hour
Paralegals	\$80.00 per hour

Outside Counsel agrees to remit invoices on a monthly, or as-needed basis.

VI. SETTLEMENT

Settlement possibilities should be identified and considered early and at subsequent stages in the proceedings. Outside Counsel must promptly report settlement overtures to the City and its designated TPA. Cases may be settled only with the prior approval of the City Attorney and appropriate City officials and/or its designated TPA.

VII. MALPRACTICE INSURANCE

Outside Counsel shall maintain professional liability insurance acceptable to the City Attorney with appropriate and adequate coverage. Upon request, Outside Counsel shall submit a certificate from its insurance carrier that provides that written notice will be provided to the City Attorney before cancellation of the insurance is effective. Outside Counsel shall promptly advise the City if its insurance is canceled or lapses.

VIII. RIGHT TO AUDIT

The City shall have the right by use of internal or external resources to audit Outside Counsel's time records and billings, upon reasonable notice provided in writing to Outside Counsel. Outside Counsel will cooperate with an audit request by providing reasonable access to appropriate records and personnel necessary to conduct an audit. The City reserves the right to challenge, or otherwise dispute, the amount billed, or any part thereof, by Outside Counsel to the City as unreasonable or not actually incurred.

IX. RETENTION OF OUTSIDE COUNSEL

Outside Counsel is being retained because of Outside Counsel's experience and expertise in the area of workers compensation litigation. The goal of the City Attorney's office is to meet all ethical and professional standards applicable to government lawyers and to meet mandates of the City of Broken Arrow Code of Ordinances with regard to the City Attorney. In appropriate instances, screening measures will be created and used with policies and procedures and

restricting the flow of and access to information regarding the representation between the Staff Attorney and other attorneys within the office of the City Attorney representing the City. The City Attorney's office and Outside Counsel will in such instances discuss appropriate procedures to accomplish ethical representation and will comply with all professional rules of conduct. Outside Counsel will be required in such circumstances to identify all concerns with such process immediately and prior to commencing representation.

Nothing in this Agreement alters, modifies, or eliminates the standard of care or duties imposed upon Outside Counsel as members of the bar of the State of Oklahoma.

X. ACCEPTANCES

This Agreement constitutes the entire agreement between the City and Outside Counsel and supersedes all prior agreements, written or oral, relating to the subject matter. Any change must be made or confirmed in writing, duly executed by both parties.

XI. ASSIGNABILITY OF AGREEMENT

This Agreement is personal in nature and may not be assigned by Outside Counsel.

XII. INDEPENDENT CONTRACTOR.

Outside Counsel agrees and acknowledges that during the existence of this Agreement, it acts in the capacity of an independent contractor and that Outside Counsel is not an employee of the City of Broken Arrow.

XIII. APPLICABLE LAW AND VENUE.

This Agreement and its incorporated documents shall be governed by and construed in accordance with the laws of the State of Oklahoma. The venue of any suit brought concerning this Agreement or its incorporated documents is fixed in any court of competent jurisdiction in Tulsa County, Oklahoma.

XIV. TERMINATION

The City may terminate this Agreement upon providing thirty (30) days written notice to Outside Counsel.

XV. TERM

Unless terminated prior to the stated expiration date, this Agreement shall commence on the date below and shall remain in full force and effect through June 30, 2025. The Parties may renew this Agreement yearly by written instrument, to be applicable for the period beginning July 1 of the year executed through June 30 of the following year and subject to the same termination provision in Paragraph XIV, above.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, this Agreement has been executed in multiple copies and is effective as of THIS 4th day of June 2024.

JOHN BARNHART, P.C.

By: 
John Barnhart, Managing Partner

CITY OF BROKEN ARROW, a municipal corporation

By: _____
Debra Wimpee, Mayor

ATTEST:

City Clerk

Date: _____

APPROVED AS TO FORM:


City Attorney

AFFIDAVIT

STATE OF OKLAHOMA)
) ss.
COUNTY OF TULSA)

The undersigned person, John Barnhart, of lawful age, being first duly sworn on oath, says that all invoices to be submitted pursuant to this agreement with the City of Broken Arrow will be true and correct. Affiant further states that the work, services or materials furnished will be completed or supplied in accordance with the plans, specifications, orders, requests or contract furnished or executed by the affiant. Affiant further states that he has made no payment directly or indirectly to any elected official, officer or employee of the City of Broken Arrow or of any public trust where the City of Broken Arrow is a beneficiary, of money or any other thing of value to obtain payment of the invoice or procure the contract or purchase order pursuant to which an invoice is submitted. Affiant further certifies that he has complied with all applicable laws relating to equal employment opportunity.

JOHN BARNHART, P.C.

By: 
John Barnhart, Managing Partner

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 4th day of June, 2024.


Notary Public

My commission expires: 1-18-2026

My commission number: 22000749



THIS SIGNED AFFIDAVIT MUST BE RETURNED WITH THE AGREEMENT