

COUNTY COMMISSION BALDWIN COUNTY

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www.baldwincountyal.gov

January 27, 2020

Anu Gary Administrative Services Manager agary@baldwincountyal.gov (251) 580-2564

Monica English Assistant Administrative Services Manager mtaylor@baldwincountyal.gov (251) 580-1696

The Honorable Teddy J. Faust, Jr. Revenue Commissioner Baldwin County, Alabama Post Office Box 1389 Bay Minette, Alabama 36507

RE: Renewal of Reciprocal Agreement between Baldwin County, Alabama and the Revenue Commission of Baldwin County - Exchange of Tax Returns and Information

Dear Revenue Commissioner Faust:

Please find enclosed a **fully executed <u>copy</u>** of the *Reciprocal Agreement* approved during the December 17, 2019, Baldwin County Commission meeting, between Baldwin County, Alabama and the Revenue Commission, related to the cooperative exchange of information between the governmental agencies. The *Agreement* became effective on December 17, 2019, for a period of three (3) years and automatically renews annually thereafter. Either party may terminate the *Agreement*, with or without cause or reason, by giving thirty (30) days written notice of such termination to the other party.

If you have any questions or need further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact Ron Cink, Budget Director, at (251) 580-1646.

Sincerely,

Nicu English MONICA ENGLISH

Assistant Administrative Services Manager Baldwin County Commission

ME/vk Item BE18

cc: Ron Cink Heather Gwynn Debbie West

ENCLOSURE(S)

RECIPROCAL AGREEMENT BETWEEN BALDWIN COUNTY, ALABAMA, AND REVENUE COMMISSION OF BALDWIN COUNTY PROVIDING FOR THE EXCHANGE OF TAX RETURNS AND INFORMATION

I. <u>AUTHORITY</u>

This Reciprocal Agreement Providing for the Exchange of Tax Returns and Information (the "Agreement") is made between Baldwin County, Alabama, a political subdivision of the State of Alabama, by and through the Baldwin County Commission, and the Revenue Commission of Baldwin County through their duly authorized representatives, pursuant to the <u>Code of Alabama</u> 1975 § 40-2A-10, as amended.

II. <u>PURPOSE</u>

The parties agree to exchange tax returns and/or information under the terms and conditions described herein, subject to all applicable laws, rules and regulations, as the same may be amended from time to time. It is understood and agreed that all information in any form whatsoever exchanged shall be employed solely by the parties for the purposes of tax administration. It is understood that tax administration purposes are collecting taxes due, ascertaining the amount of taxes due from any person, and determining whether a person is liable for, or whether there is probable cause for believing a person might be liable for, the payment of any tax to a federal, state, county, municipal, or foreign government agency.

III. <u>DEFINITIONS</u>

Party: Baldwin County, Alabama, or the Revenue Commission of Baldwin County.

<u>Return</u>: Any tax application, tax or information return or report, declaration of estimated tax, claim or petition of refund or credit, or petition for reassessment or protest that is required by, or provided for, or permitted, under the provisions of the tax laws.

Return

Information: A taxpayer's identity with physical and mailing addresses, FEIN or Social Security Number, the nature, source or amount of income, gains, losses, formulary apportionments facts, payments, receipts, deductions, exemptions, credits, assets, liabilities, net worth, tax liability, deficiencies, over assessments, or tax payments, whether the taxpayer's return was, is being, or will be, examined or subject to other investigation for processing; or any other data received, recorded by, prepared by, furnished to, or collected by the parties with respect to a tax return or with respect to the determination of the existence, or possible existence of liability (or the amount thereof), or by any person under the laws of either party for administration, collection or enforcement of the tax laws of each party's respective governmental unit, including additions to tax, penalty, interest, fine, or other imposition, or offense. "Return Information" does not include, however, data in a form which cannot be associated with, or otherwise identify, directly or indirectly, with a particular taxpayer.

For the purposes of sales and use tax, "return information" shall also include whether the taxpayer is authorized to use a direct pay permit and any information related thereto and the names of the customers and any other relevant information related to specific sales and use tax transactions.

IV. SCOPE OF INFORMATION SUBJECT TO REQUEST

This Agreement shall apply to all tax applications, tax returns and/or return information received or collected by either party.

Neither party will be required to audit a taxpayer at the request of the other party.

Each party agrees not to charge the other for the costs of routine reproduction of returns and information which is mutually exchanged. The providing party may charge a reasonable fee for furnishing tax returns and/or return information in electronic file transmittal or other nonroutine circumstances. Such costs shall be agreed upon by both parties before such costs are incurred.

V. CONFIDENTIALITY OF EXCHANGED INFORMATION

Each party agrees that no tax return and/or return information obtained pursuant to this Agreement shall be disclosed in any manner other than as is authorized by the laws concerning confidentiality of tax information.

Nothing herein shall be construed so as to prohibit disclosure of any information obtained by virtue of this Agreement by either party to the party's proper legal representatives for use in administrative, civil or criminal proceedings concerning tax administration purposes.

VI. <u>PROCEDURE</u>

Tax returns and/or return information may be exchanged upon request or voluntarily transmitted where the providing party believes that such information will be useful to the other party for tax administration purposes.

- A. Requests for information shall be in writing or by verifiable electronic means and must indicate the tax administration reason for the exchange.
- B. Each request shall also specify, to the extent such information is known and available, the following:
 - (1) the name and address of each taxpayer for whom tax returns and/or return information is requested;
 - (2) the taxable period or periods for which information is desired and requested;
 - (3) the taxpayer's social security number and/or federal identification number, if available; and
 - (4) any other information which may help facilitate the exchange.

C. Each party agrees to furnish the other a list showing the names and official titles of all personnel authorized to request, receive, and/or disclose information under this Agreement and to keep the list current by periodic updates.

VII. COMMENCEMENT/TERMINATION OF AGREEMENT

This Agreement shall become effective on December 17, 2019, and shall be in effect for a period of three (3) years. Upon the expiration of the initial term, this Agreement shall automatically renew for one year term on an annual basis, unless and until one of the parties elects to terminate the Agreement as set forth below.

Additions and changes in the provisions of this Agreement may be made by mutual written consent of the proper officials of the parties and shall become an attachment to this Agreement.

Both parties acknowledge that this Agreement is subject to statutory amendments. Both parties agree to promptly inform each other of any proposed changes in their respective tax confidentiality laws. In the event that the laws of either party which relate to this Agreement are repealed or substantially amended, the other party may suspend or terminate this Agreement upon written notice.

Any unauthorized use or disclosure of information obtained by virtue of this Agreement shall constitute grounds for either party to terminate this Agreement immediately upon the mailing of written notice to the other party. Notwithstanding the foregoing, either party may terminate this agreement, with or without cause or reason, by giving thirty (30) days written notice of such termination to the other party.

APPROVED:

REVENUE COMMISSION, BALDWIN COUNTY

Teddy J. Fa

BALDWIN COUNTY COMMISSION

Billie Jo Underwood, Chairman

ATTEST:

Susan B. Nill 1/15/20

Date

ATTEST:

Wayne Dyess, County Administrator D



STATE OF ALABAMA

COUNTY OF BALDWIN

HOVIN Key, a Notary Public, in and for said County in said State, hereby certify that BILLIE JO UNDERWOOD, as Chairman of the Baldwin County Commission, and WAYNE DYESS, as County Administrator of the Baldwin County Commission, whose names are signed to the foregoing instrument and who are known to me, acknowledged before me and on this day that, being informed of the contents of said instrument, they, as such Chairman and County Administrator of the Baldwin County Commission, and with full authority, executed the same voluntarily on the day the same bears date for and as an act of said Baldwin County Commission.

Given under my hand and seal this the 21^{St} day of January ,2019. 2020.

Notary Public, Baldwin County, Alabama My Commission Expire My Commission expires: September 7, 202

STATE OF ALABAMA

COUNTY OF BALDWIN

In the man and the second I <u>Susan B. Hill</u>, a Notary Public, in and for said County in said State, hereby certify that TEDDY J. FAUST, as Revenue Commissioner of the Revenue Commission of Baldwin County, and SUSAN HILL, as Chief Administrative Assistant of the Revenue Commission of Baldwin County, whose names are signed to the foregoing instrument and who are known to me, acknowledged before me and on this day that, being informed of the contents of said instrument, they, as such Revenue Commissioner and Chief Administrative Assistant of the Revenue Commission of Baldwin County, and with full authority, executed the same voluntarily on the day the same bears date for and as an act of said Revenue Commission of Baldwin County.

Given under my hand and seal this the 15th day of Januaren 2019.

con B. Hill

Notary Public, Baldwin County, Alabama My Commission expires:



My Commission Expires July 1, 2023



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Attachment to the Agreement Between the Revenue Commission and Baldwin County Providing for the Exchange of Tax Returns and Information

December 17, 2019

Baldwin County Commission

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312 Courthouse Square, Suite 12 Bay Minette, AL

Budget, Purchasing & Grants Department

Ronald J. Cink, Budget Director

Finance and Accounting Department

Cian Harrison, Clerk/Treasurer

Sales & Use Tax / License Inspection Department

P O Box 189 Robertsdale, AL 36567

Heather Gwynn, Sales & Use Tax Coordinator Susan McCaw, Senior Revenue Clerk Jerry Green, Audit Compliance Officer Amber Riley, Audit Compliance Officer Marcia Ward, Audit Compliance Officer Debbie West, Audit Compliance Officer

Sharon Hunt, Chief Deputy License Inspector Dana Long, Deputy License Inspector II Susanne Spears, Deputy License Inspector II Ebony Yelding, Deputy License Inspector I

Revenue Commission

P O Box 1549 Bay Minette, AL 367507

Honorable Teddy J. Faust, Revenue Commissioner Walt Lindsey, Chief Appraiser Candice Dominy, Real Property Appraisal Supervisor Lee Ann Raley, Assistant Administrator of Personal Property Sonia Hicks, Personal Property Appraiser