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February 26, 2020

**DELIVERED VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL ONLY**

Joan T. Velasco  
Asst. Superintendent Business Services  
Fullerton Joint Union High School District  
1051 West Bastanchury Road  
Fullerton, CA 92833

Email: [jvelasco@fjuhsd.org](mailto:jvelasco@fjuhsd.org)

Re: **Engagement Letter**

Dear Ms. Velasco:

Please allow this correspondence to serve as an engagement letter between Everett Dorey LLP and Fullerton Joint Union High School District ("FJUHS"). Upon signing this correspondence, the purpose of this agreement is to: 1) establish an attorney client relationship between Everett Dorey LLP (hereinafter "Everett Dorey" or "the Firm") and Fullerton Joint Union High School District (hereinafter "You"); 2) define the scope of the Firm's representation of You; and 3) establish other material terms and conditions of the representation, including but not limited to the financial terms. This correspondence may be referred to as the "Engagement Letter" or "Agreement."

Please read the Engagement Letter before signing. By executing this Engagement Letter, You are entering into a contract that is binding on both the Firm and You, on the following terms and conditions.

**1. PARTIES TO ENGAGEMENT LETTER**

The parties to the Agreement are Everett Dorey and Fullerton Joint Union High School District. No other person or entity shall be entitled to claim an attorney client relationship with the Firm with respect to the legal services to be provided pursuant to the Engagement Letter.

**2. INCEPTION OF ATTORNEY CLIENT RELATIONSHIP**

Everett Dorey has agreed to waive a retainer fee. An engagement email was previously sent confirming hourly rates and retention.

**3. SCOPE OF REPRESENTATION: SCHEDULE A**

Everett Dorey will perform only those legal services set forth in the Scope of Representation attached as Schedule A. You shall have no expectation that the Firm will provide legal services beyond those set forth in Schedule A, unless Everett Dorey and You amend the Engagement Letter in writing or execute a separate agreement with respect to any such additional legal services. You are generally required by law to retain documents, including electronically stored information ("ESI"), which may be relevant to the matter which is the subject of the representation. Preservation of documents including ESI is Your responsibility, and it is important that You take all necessary and reasonable steps to preserve this information. The Firm is available to discuss the scope of Your obligations and to provide advice or recommendations in this regard. Nothing in this paragraph shall in any way limit Your obligation to pay for, or the Firm's right to receive, payment for any services provided by the Firm at Your request.

**4. DUTIES OF CLIENT/YOU**

You agree to provide Everett Dorey with complete and accurate information and documents, cooperate, keep us informed of relevant developments, abide by this Agreement, and pay our statements on time. In addition, You will advise us of any changes to Your address and telephone number.

**5. LEGAL FEES**

Everett Dorey will charge You for the services provided pursuant to the Agreement based on the amount of time (including travel) we devote to the matter at the hourly rates for the particular professionals involved as are set forth in Schedule B. We bill in minimum units of 6 minutes, or .1 hours. We reserve the right to reasonable annual rate increases, subject to Your consent, which shall not be unreasonably withheld. We reserve the right to staff the handling of the matter with the partners, associates, paralegals, and/or other personnel of our choice, at the rate we establish for each such timekeeper, although we will discuss the staffing of Your matter with You at any time, and will consider Your input in the staffing of the matter.

**6. COSTS, EXPENSES, AND OTHER CHARGES**

**A. COSTS AND EXPENSES: SCHEDULE B**

Everett Dorey will incur on Your behalf various costs and expenses in performing legal services under the Agreement. You agree to pay for those costs and expenses, in addition to the hourly fees. Schedule B, attached, includes a non-exhaustive list of costs we may incur on Your behalf.

Everett Dorey estimates fees and costs in the amount of \$15,000 as follows:

- \$10,000 for expert services provided by Forensic Analytical Consulting Services
- \$5,000 incurred on behalf of the Firm

**B. OUTSIDE CONSULTANTS/OTHER VENDORS**

In addition to the costs of the type set forth in Schedule B, it may become necessary to hire persons or entities outside Everett Dorey, including but not limited to consultants, experts, investigators, co-counsel, or other professionals. We will select any consultants or investigators to be hired after notice to and consultation with You, and You agree to honor the terms and conditions of any agreement that we enter into on Your behalf with any such outside person or entity.

**C. REIMBURSEMENT OR DIRECT PAY**

Everett Dorey reserves the right in our sole discretion to either pay directly any of the costs incurred such as those set forth in Schedule B, and/or for outside consultants or other vendors, or to ask You to pay any such expense directly. If we exercise our right to require You to pay an outside vendor invoice directly, and You fail to do so, You agree to defend and indemnify the Firm with respect to any claim, demands, or suit brought against the Firm as a result of Your failure to pay such invoice. Payment directly by the Firm of any such expense shall not be construed as a waiver of our right to require You in the future to pay any similar expense directly.

**7. PERIODIC STATEMENTS AND BILLING TERMS**

Everett Dorey's practice is to send periodic statements for services rendered and for costs incurred during the previous month or months on our client's behalf. The detail in the periodic statement will inform You of both the nature and progress of work and of the fees and costs being incurred.

Our fee structure is based upon Your promise to pay all statements no later than 30 days after receipt.

We do our best to see that our clients are satisfied not only with our services, but also with the reasonableness of the fees and costs. Therefore, while we urge You to raise any question about or objection to a fee statement, You must do so promptly. Such inquiry shall be timely only if made, in writing, within thirty (30) days after the date of the invoice. In the absence of a timely written inquiry, You will be deemed to have accepted the invoice and to have acknowledged that You are satisfied with it, in the absence of good cause for not having objected more timely.

In the event You fail to pay any invoice within thirty (30) days of the statement date, You agree to pay interest at the maximum rate allowed by law on the amount of such invoice, from the statement date until paid in full. If we accept late payment of any invoice without interest, we shall not be deemed to have waived any claim in the future for interest on other invoices. If You timely object in writing to a portion of a statement, You agree to pay the remainder of the statement which is not in dispute. We agree to accept such partial payment without claiming You have waived Your right to contest the unpaid portion of the bill.

Failure to pay the undisputed amount of any invoice in full within 30 days shall constitute grounds for termination of this Engagement Letter and withdrawal of the Firm from representation, as more fully discussed in Paragraph 11 below.

#### **8. ATTORNEY LIEN**

You hereby grant Everett Dorey a lien on any and all claims or causes of action that are the subject of the representation under this Agreement. The lien will be in the amount of sums owing to Everett Dorey at the conclusion of services performed plus any costs, attorney's fees, or interest to which Everett Dorey may be entitled. The lien will attach to any recovery You may obtain, whether by arbitration award, judgment, order, settlement, or otherwise arising out of or relating to all claims or causes of action that are the subject of the representation under this Agreement. The effect of such a lien is that Everett Dorey may be able to compel payment of fees and costs from any such funds recovered by You even if Everett Dorey has been discharged before the end of the case. As noted in Paragraph 15, You have the right to seek the advice of separate counsel with respect to this Agreement. This right applies to all of the provisions of this Agreement, but is especially important with respect to this paragraph granting the Firm lien rights which may affect Your property rights.

**9. TERMINATION OF THE FIRM BY YOU**

You shall have the right to terminate this Engagement Letter and discharge the Firm at any time. However, to be effective, termination or discharge of the Firm must be in writing. In such an event, You authorize the Firm to make and retain a duplicate of Your file.

You shall bear all reasonable costs of transferring the new matter to counsel chosen by You.

The attorney client relationship between the Firm and You shall end upon discharge of the Firm by You pursuant to this paragraph. However, such discharge shall not relieve You of any obligation to pay fees and costs incurred prior to the discharge, as well as any fees and costs expended after the discharge to the extent reasonably required in the Firm's sole discretion to protect Your interests prior to court order substituting new counsel or permitting withdrawal of the Firm from the litigation.

**10. WITHDRAWAL FROM REPRESENTATION BY THE FIRM**

The Firm shall be permitted to withdraw from representation whenever required or permitted to do so by law. In addition, the Firm may withdraw as counsel at any time if withdrawal can be accomplished without material adverse effects on the interests of You, or if: 1) You persist in a course of action involving a lawyer's services that the lawyer reasonably believes to be criminal or fraudulent; 2) You have used the lawyer's services to perpetrate a crime or fraud; 3) You insist upon pursuing an objective that the lawyer considers repugnant or imprudent; 4) You fail substantially to fulfill an obligation to Everett Dorey regarding the Firm's services (including, but not limited to, Your financial obligations under this Engagement Letter) after reasonable warning from the lawyer that the lawyer will withdraw unless the obligation is fulfilled; 5) the representation will result in an unreasonable financial burden on the lawyer or has been rendered unreasonably difficult by You; or 6) where other good cause for withdrawal exists.

**11. DOCUMENT STORAGE POLICY**

On termination of a matter, the Firm will maintain file documents for 10 years, or any alternate period as determined by California law. Upon termination of the matter, You have the right to take possession of the file. If You choose to take possession of the file, the firm may copy all or any part of the file. If You choose not to take possession of the file, the firm will retain the file pursuant to its document storage policy stated above.

**12. CHOICE OF LAW/FORUM SELECTION**

This Agreement is deemed to have been executed, and is intended to be performed in, the state of California, subject to its laws, regardless of whether services are actually rendered outside of the State. Any dispute arising from this Agreement shall be governed by the laws of the state of California. The venue for the judicial resolution of such disputes shall be proper only within the state of California.

**13. NO PROMISES OR GUARANTEES**

You understand that Everett Dorey has made no representation or guarantee concerning the outcome of the matter set forth in the attached Schedule A.

**14. RIGHT TO SEPARATE COUNSEL**

You acknowledge having had the opportunity to seek the advice of separate counsel with respect to this Agreement.

**15. LEGAL MALPRACTICE INSURANCE**

As of the date of this letter, Everett Dorey has errors and omissions (legal malpractice) insurance applicable to the services to be rendered pursuant to this Agreement, subject to any applicable deductible or self-insured retention.

**16. MODIFICATION IN WRITING ONLY**

No change to this Agreement shall be effective unless and until confirmed in writing and signed and acknowledged by the Firm and You making express reference to this Agreement. This Engagement Letter embodies the whole agreement of the parties. There are no promises, terms, conditions, or obligations other than those contained herein, and this contract shall supersede all previous communications, representations, or other agreements, either oral or written, between the Firm and You.

**17. COUNTERPARTS AND FACSIMILES EFFECTIVE**

This Agreement may be signed in counterpart. Facsimile or imaged signature pages executed by the Firm or You shall be effective as original signatures.

Thank You for choosing Everett Dorey as Your counsel with respect to the matter set forth in Schedule A.

Joan T. Velasco  
February 26, 2020  
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We look forward to working with You and thank You once again for the opportunity to serve You, upon execution of this Engagement Letter.

Dated: \_\_\_\_\_

Accepted and agreed to by:

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: Joan T. Velasco

Title: Asst. Superintendent Business Services

Address: Fullerton Joint Union High School District  
1051 W. Bastanchury Rd  
Fullerton, CA 92833

Phone: (714) 870-2810

Fax: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail jvelasco@fjuhsd.org

Very truly yours,



Seymour B. Everett, III of  
EVERETT DOREY LLP

SBE

Joan T. Velasco  
February 26, 2020  
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**SCHEDULE "A":**

SCOPE OF REPRESENTATION

Fullerton Joint Union High School District

Assist with legal issues affecting Fullerton Joint Union High School District related to the District Education Center.

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**SCHEDULE "B":**

RATE SCHEDULE AND COST/EXPENSE ITEMS SCHEDULE

**A. Identification**

Client(s): Fullerton Joint Union High School District

Matter: General Legal Assistance

**B. Hourly rates for legal personnel**

\$275 Partners

\$230 Associates

\$130 Paralegals

**C. Standard charges**

We charge for our time in minimum units of .1 hours (6 minutes).

**D. Costs and expenses incurred on Your behalf may include but are not limited to:**

<b>Process server fees</b>	<b>At cost</b>
Filing fees or other fees fixed by law or assessed by public agencies	At cost
Meals	At cost
Parking	At cost
Travel expenses, including lodging, air fare, taxis, public transportation, car rental, and meals	At cost
Facsimiles	\$.25 per page
Deposition costs	At cost
Experts, consultants, or investigators	At cost
Computer Research	At cost, plus facilities surcharge (approximately \$5.00/minute)
Word processing support	\$35.00 per hour

<b>Process server fees</b>	<b>At cost</b>
Mileage	At the Internal Revenue Service's business mileage reimbursement guidelines
Messenger and other delivery fees	At cost
Photocopying and other reproduction costs	In-house - \$0.10 per page Outside service-At cost
After hours building services (when dictated by special client need)	At cost