

**PRIVACY – DISCLOSURE CONSENT POLICY
FOR TAX, ACCOUNTING, AND REPRESENTATION SERVICES**

Filing Season: _____

Taxpayer: _____

Client Ref #: _____

Joint

Taxpayer: _____

Date: _____

Dear Valued Client: **Beard & Associates, LLC, aka, Your Tax Pro**, (B&A) values your business, confidence, and trust in our services. Your privacy is important to us. Please read this Privacy Statement describing the privacy practices of our Firm as required by Section 6103 of the Internal Revenue Code.

Our Privacy Commitment: **Beard & Associates, LLC**, does not disclose or share your personal taxpayer information to anyone or other entity unless required to do so by law, or without your written permission as require by Section 6103 the Internal Revenue Code (IRC). **(a)** By signing this Privacy Policy, you consent to our using your personal, private, taxpayer information in our software, in our working with our software company, any taxing authority for the completion and electronic filing of your tax return(s) and the courts. **(b)** We restrict access to personal information concerning you, except to our employees who need such information in order to provide products or services to you. We maintain physical, electronic, and procedural safeguards that comply with federal regulations to guard your personal information. **(c)** This is our privacy policy. We encourage you to read this document and contact us if you have any questions.

B&A Services Defined: **(a) Tax Services:** The services B&A makes available to individual & business tax clients include: preparation of business and individual federal, state, local income tax, and amended tax returns; and preparation of material prior to entry on to tax forms; certain material to be entered on to 1040 business forms, amended tax returns, and correspondence and IRS Correspondence or office audits. **(b) Accounting Services:** These services B&A provides to business entities and individuals to assist in keeping business and certain personal records in the format required by the federal, state, and local taxing agencies. **(c) Representation:** Representation is a group of services we offer to both businesses and individuals who have tax and audit issues with the IRS and involve the retaining of an Enrolled Agent, who is trained to work with the IRS on behalf of a client, to resolve the prevailing issues.

Privacy General Rule: (a) B&A does not disclose your personal taxpayer information to anyone or other entity without your written permission, as required by Sec. 6103 of the Internal Revenue Code (IRC). (b) Additional permission may be obtained by e-mail, fax, or secure file transmission. (c) This means we will not give out copies of your tax return to anyone but you. With the following exceptions: we are required, by law, to give your information to the Internal Revenue Service, State and local income tax authorities, and the Courts. (d) Other than to those stated, we must have your signed release to give someone your private information. (e) In addition, B&A by policy and practice takes all reasonable precautions (electronic and paper) to secure your personal information which is contained within our paper and electronic files.

Return Preparation: (a) In order to prepare and electronically file your tax return you consent for us to use your personal information to do so. We are using Drake Software and other Drake services. We will use Drake services to electronically transmit your tax return data to IRS, State, and local tax authorities through our tax preparation software providers. They are bound by the same Federal law prohibiting disclosure of your tax return information without your consent. (b) Our policy applies to this year's returns and all prior tax returns we may have prepared for you or are preparing this tax season. (c) However, if you have asked us to prepare your individual tax returns which requires that we obtain information from a third party you consent that we may use your personal information for that purpose. At the same time, certain aspects of individual tax returns may affect the business tax return(s) and vice-versa.

Other Provisions:

1. **May we contact you during the year?** (a) We also ask that we be able to contact you during the year with newsletters and other announcements which might affect your tax return. (b) We also ask for permission to contact you about such other products we come across which we feel might be of benefit to you or your immediate family. (c) By default, we specify that this consent is valid for one (1) year.
2. **Improper Usage Notification:** If you believe that your tax return information has been disclosed or used improperly in a manner unauthorized by law or without your permission, you may contact the Treasury Inspector General for Tax Administration (TIGTA) by telephone at 1-800-366-4484, or by email at complaints@tigta.treas.gov.

Initial: Taxpayer _____ Joint Taxpayer _____

3. **Your consent as evidenced by your signature on this document:**

- a. We may contact another tax professional, such as an attorney or other enrolled tax return preparer, for the purpose of performing services that assist us in the preparation of your tax return(s). Such individuals are also covered by Federal law prohibiting disclosure of your tax return information without further written consent by you.
- b. We may prepare the individual tax returns of those individuals identified as part of the business without causing a conflict of interest on the part of this organization or its

preparers. We will ask each individual involved in your business to sign a conflict-of-interest waiver.

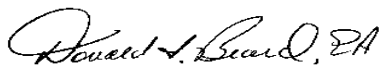
You are not required to complete this form: a. If you do not sign this form, we may decline to provide you with service or change the terms of service that we provide to you. If you agree to the disclosure of your information or our ability to prepare involved individual returns, your consent is valid for the length of time you specify. b. By default, we specify that the consent is valid for one (1) year (January 1st through December 31st, of the year evidenced by the signature date below and previous years as evidenced by the signature date on the appropriately signed service agreement.

Duration: This agreement letter covers the tax filing season beginning on January 1st of the year you sign this agreement and **a)** the Privacy, Disclosure and Consent expires or ends on the date your tax material is, by policy, removed from our system; and **b)** Consent to share, except as required by law, ends when your return is properly filed and accepted by the Internal Revenue Service. It includes any and all information we have on hand for previous tax years in which we prepared your returns.

Copy of agreement: This page and the previous pages are the entire agreement between us. Certain common practices in the trade also apply by implication. By signing this agreement, each acknowledges receipt of a copy of this agreement. Individuals signing on behalf of any stated business entity represent they have authority to bind the entity and further individually guarantee payment for fees and costs.

This policy statement is not complete or legal unless this signature page is signed and attached to this document.

Signing for: *Beard & Associates, LLC,*
aka Your Tax Pro: By:



Donald I Beard, E.A.

Taxpayer

Joint Taxpayer

***** END OF PRIVACY POLICY *****
Please keep all three (3) pages of the Privacy Policy together