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TALLAHASSEE OFFICE

123 S. Adams Street Tallahassee, FL 32301

MAILING ADDRESS

P.O. Box 10570 Tallahassee, FL 32302 **O:** 850.671.4401 **F:** 850.671.4402 thesoutherngroup.com

June 20, 2022

Mr. Terry Suggs County Administrator Putnam County 2509 Crill Avenue, Suite 200 Palatka, FL 32177

Dear Mr. Suggs:

Thank you very much for your continued interest in The Southern Group of Florida, Inc. (The Southern Group). We appreciate the opportunity to provide lobbying services to Putnam County in Tallahassee. The Southern Group is committed to providing the highest level of service in furtherance of your goals. This agreement will describe the terms under which that representation will occur.

You have asked that we represent Putnam County before the executive and legislative branches of Florida government regarding appropriation and state issues that directly affect Putnam County. The entire team of The Southern Group's lobbyists in Tallahassee will be available to advance Putnam County's interests. You may wish to review in detail the qualifications of the team at www.thesoutherngroup.com. However, in order to ensure that your needs are efficiently and fully addressed, I will be the primary contact for this representation. If I should ever be unavailable, I would encourage you to contact Clark Smith or Mercer Fearington.

In exchange for these services, Putnam County has agreed to pay The Southern Group, \$4,000 per month beginning October 1, 2022 and ending September 30, 2023. The Southern Group will send an invoice on the first of each month for the current month's services and payment is due by the end of each month. Our preferred method of payment is via ACH or wire transfer. Otherwise, all payments should be remitted to P.O. Box 10570, Tallahassee, FL 32302. This agreement may be terminated by either party upon receipt of 30 days written notice. Costs directly attributable to the performance of this work will be billed in addition to the monthly retainer, and these costs may include travel, lobbyist registration fees, and other expenses incurred on Putnam County's behalf. No monthly costs that in the aggregate exceed \$500 will be incurred without your prior approval.

Also, by signing below, you agree that you will complete any forms necessary to comply with lobbyist registration requirements under Florida law that may arise as a result of our representation of Putnam County during the term of this contract or after its termination should reporting periods overlap.

Please be aware that Florida has a lobbying fee disclosure law that requires quarterly disclosure of fees. It should also be noted that The Southern Group has affiliated offices in other states and within the state of Florida. The Southern Group has a policy of declining representation of clients when that representation would immediately create a direct conflict with other clients that The Southern Group currently represents. You have retained The Southern Group for representation in Florida, and we know of no conflicts with our current clients. In order to ensure the candor and trust in our relationship that forms the basis of effective representation, it is the policy of The Southern Group to keep confidential within each office all information about your business interests and strategies.

I believe the above reflects our understanding. If it does, please sign this agreement and return. I appreciate your attention to this matter and look forward to working with you. Please never hesitate to contact me if we can assist Putnam County in any way.

Sincerely,

David Browning

Enclosures

For Putnam County

Date

29/22