

February 9, 2016

City of League City, TX  
300 W. Walker St.  
League City, TX 77573

Norton Rose Fulbright US LLP  
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Re: City of League City, Texas  
Certificates of Obligation, Series 2016  
General Obligation Refunding Bonds, Series 2016

Ladies and Gentlemen:

This letter confirms that Norton Rose Fulbright US LLP will represent the City of League City, Texas (the "Issuer"), as bond counsel in connection with the proposed authorization, sale, and issuance of one or more series of obligations (the "Obligations"), including the referenced obligations. Our acceptance of that representation (the "Representation") becomes effective upon the execution and return of the enclosed copy of this letter.

### **Terms of Engagement**

This letter sets out the terms of our engagement in the Representation. Certain of those terms are included in the body of this letter, and additional terms are contained in the attached document, entitled *Additional Terms of Engagement*. That document is expressly incorporated into this letter, and it should be read carefully. The execution and return of the enclosed copy of this letter constitutes an unqualified agreement to all the terms set forth in this letter and in the attached *Additional Terms of Engagement*.

It is understood and agreed that our engagement is limited to the Representation. We are not being retained as general counsel, and our acceptance of this engagement does not imply any undertaking to provide legal services other than those set forth in this letter.

As bond counsel, we expect to perform the following duties:

- (1) subject to completion of proceedings to our satisfaction, render our legal opinion (the "Bond Opinion") regarding the validity and binding effect of the Obligations, the source of payment and security for the Obligations, and the federal income tax treatment of interest on the Obligations;
- (2) prepare and review documents necessary or appropriate to the authorization, issuance, sale, and delivery of the Obligations, and coordinate the authorization and execution of such documents, and review;
- (3) assist you in seeking from other governmental authorities such approvals, permissions, and exemptions as we determine are necessary or appropriate in connection with the authorization, issuance, sale, and delivery of the Obligations;

Norton Rose Fulbright US LLP is a limited liability partnership registered under the laws of Texas.

Norton Rose Fulbright US LLP, Norton Rose Fulbright LLP, Norton Rose Fulbright Australia, Norton Rose Fulbright Canada LLP and Norton Rose Fulbright South Africa Inc are separate legal entities and all of them are members of Norton Rose Fulbright Verein, a Swiss verein. Norton Rose Fulbright Verein helps coordinate the activities of the members but does not itself provide legal services to clients. Details of each entity, with certain regulatory information, are available at [nortonrosefulbright.com](http://nortonrosefulbright.com).

- (4) review legal issues relating to the structure of the Obligations;
- (5) assist you in reviewing those sections of the official statement, private placement memorandum, or other form of offering or disclosure document which describe the terms of the Obligations and the Bond Opinion to be disseminated in connection with the sale of the Obligations; and
- (6) assist in presenting information relating to the legality of the Obligations to bond rating organizations and providers of credit enhancement.

The Bond Opinion will be based on facts and law existing as of its date. In rendering our Bond Opinion, we will rely upon the certified proceedings and other certifications of public officials and other persons furnished to us without undertaking to verify the same by independent investigation.

Our engagement is to advise you with respect to legal issues only; we understand that you have engaged Hilltop Securities Inc., a Hilltop Holding Company as your financial advisors, and unless otherwise instructed by you we will consult with and take direction from your financial advisor in the issuance of the Obligations. Our duties as Bond Counsel specifically do not include:

- (1) except as described in paragraph (6) above, or except as specifically engaged for such purpose, assisting in the preparation or review of an official statement or any other disclosure document with respect to the Bonds, or performing an independent investigation to determine the accuracy, completeness or sufficiency of any such document or rendering advice that the official statement or other disclosure document does not contain any untrue statement of a material fact or omit to state a material fact necessary to make the statements contained therein, in light of the circumstances under which they were made, not misleading;
- (2) preparing requests for tax rulings from the Internal Revenue Service;
- (3) preparing blue sky or investment surveys with respect to the Bonds;
- (4) drafting of state constitutional amendments or preparation of authorizing legislation;
- (5) making an investigation or expressing any view of the creditworthiness of you or of the Obligations or any obligor therefor;
- (6) except if specifically engaged for such purpose, assisting in the preparation of, or opining on, a continuing disclosure undertaking pertaining to the Obligations and, after initial delivery of the Obligations, providing advice concerning any actions necessary to assure compliance with any continuing disclosure undertaking;
- (7) responding to Internal Revenue Service audits or Securities and Exchange Commission investigations;
- (8) filings with EMMA or other continuing disclosure matters;
- (9) preparation of election proceedings; or

- (10) any other matter not specifically set forth above that is not required to render the Bond Opinion.

### **Our Personnel Who Will Be Working on the Obligations**

I will be working on the Obligations, and you may call, write, or e-mail me whenever you have any questions about the Representation. Other firm personnel, including firm lawyers and paralegals, will participate in the Representation if, in our judgment, their participation is necessary or appropriate.

### **Our Legal Fees and Costs**

Our fees for this engagement in the Representation will be equal to a base fee of \$10,000 per series, plus \$1 per \$1000 of principal amount. In addition, we will charge an additional \$10,000 for tax analysis and escrow preparation for refunding bonds. Our fees will be contingent upon, and will be billed and become due promptly after, the actual delivery of the Obligations to or for the account of the initial purchaser. If, however, you voluntarily choose not to proceed with or effectively abandon issuance of the Obligations, or terminate our services with respect prior to issuance of the Obligations, you will compensate us for professional services rendered at our standard hourly rates at the time of delivery of your next issue of obligations that are payable from the same sources of funds as the Obligations or within six months after the date of your decision or abandonment, whichever is earlier, from and to the extent of legally available funds.

If an election is held, election costs are not contingent, and we will charge an additional \$10,000 for preparation of election proceedings.

Our fees as Bond Counsel in this Representation are contingent on delivery of the Obligations.

In addition to our fees for rendering professional services, you will compensate us for expenses and non-professional services incurred incident to the performance of our legal services, such as photocopying, delivery charges, travel expenses, long-distance telephone calls, facsimile transmissions, overtime for secretaries and other nonlegal staff, specialized computer applications such as computerized legal research, and filing fees, whether or not the Obligations are issued.

### **Conflicts of Interest**

Before accepting the Representation, we have undertaken reasonable and customary efforts to determine whether there are any potential conflicts of interest that would bar our firm from representing you in connection with the issuance of the Obligations. Based on the information available to us, we are not aware of any potential disqualification. We reviewed that issue in accordance with the rules of professional responsibility adopted in Texas. We believe that those rules, rather than the rules of any other jurisdiction, are applicable to the Representation; and the execution and return of the enclosed copy of this letter by you represents an express agreement to the applicability of those rules.

**Conclusion**

This letter and the attached *Additional Terms of Engagement* constitute the entire terms of the engagement of Norton Rose Fulbright US LLP in the Representation. These written terms of engagement are not subject to any oral agreements or understandings, and they can be modified only by further written agreement signed both by you and Norton Rose Fulbright US LLP. Unless expressly stated in these terms of engagement, no obligation or undertaking shall be implied on the part of either City of League City, Texas or Norton Rose Fulbright US LLP.

Please carefully review this letter and the attached *Additional Terms of Engagement*. If both documents are acceptable, please sign and return the enclosed copy of this letter so that we may commence the Representation.

Very truly yours,



Neil Thomas  
Partner

TNT

City of League City, Texas Agrees to and Accepts this Letter and the Attached Terms of Engagement:

**CITY OF LEAGUE CITY, TEXAS**

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Title: \_\_\_\_\_  
Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## **NORTON ROSE FULBRIGHT US LLP**

### ***Additional Terms of Engagement***

This is a supplement to our engagement letter, dated February 9, 2016. The purpose of this document is to set out additional terms of our agreement to provide the representation described in our engagement letter (the "Representation") concerning representation of you in connection with the issuance of the Obligations described in the engagement letter. Because these additional terms of engagement are a part of our agreement to provide legal services, you should review them carefully and should promptly communicate to us any questions concerning this document. We suggest that you retain this statement of additional terms along with our engagement letter and any related documents.

### **The Scope of the Representation**

As lawyers, we undertake to provide representation and advice on the legal matters for which we are engaged. It is important for our clients to have a clear understanding of the legal services that we have agreed to provide. Thus, if there are any questions about the scope of the Representation that we are to provide in connection with issuance of the Obligations, please raise those questions promptly, so that we may resolve them at the outset of the Representation.

Any expressions on our part concerning the outcome of the Representation, or any other legal matters, are based on our professional judgment and are not guarantees. Such expressions, even when described as opinions, are necessarily limited by our knowledge of the facts and are based on our views of the state of the law at the time they are expressed.

Upon accepting this engagement on your behalf, Norton Rose Fulbright US LLP agrees to do the following: (1) provide legal counsel in accordance with these terms of engagement and the related engagement letter, and in reliance upon information and guidance provided by you; and (2) keep you reasonably informed about the status and progress of the Representation.

To enable us to provide effective representation, you agree to do the following: (1) disclose to us, fully and accurately and on a timely basis, all facts and documents that are or might be material or that we may request, (2) keep us apprised on a timely basis of all developments relating to the Representation that are or might be material, (3) attend meetings, conferences, and other proceedings when it is reasonable to do so, and (4) otherwise cooperate fully with us.

Our firm has been engaged to provide legal services as Bond Counsel in connection with the Representation, as specifically defined in our engagement letter. After completion of the Representation, changes may occur in the applicable laws or regulations that could affect your future rights and liabilities in regard to the Obligations. Unless we are actually engaged after the completion of the Representation to provide additional advice on such issues, the firm has no continuing obligation to give advice with respect to any future legal developments that may pertain to the Obligations, as specifically defined in our engagement letter.

It is further agreed that the attorney-client relationship terminates upon initial issuance of the Obligations.

### **Who Will Provide the Legal Services**

As our engagement letter confirms, Norton Rose Fulbright US LLP will represent the City of League City, Texas in the Representation. Norton Rose Fulbright US LLP is a registered limited liability partnership under Chapter 152 of the Texas Business Organizations Code.

Although our firm will be providing legal services, each client of the firm customarily has a relationship principally with one attorney, or perhaps a few attorneys. At the same time, however, the work required in the Representation, or parts of it, may be performed by other firm personnel, including lawyers and paralegals. Such delegation may be for the purpose of involving other firm personnel with experiences in a given area or for the purpose of providing services on an efficient and timely basis.

### **Our Relationships With Others**

Our law firm represents many companies and individuals. In some instances, the applicable rules of professional conduct may limit our ability to represent clients with conflicting or potentially conflicting interests. Those rules of conduct often allow us to exercise our independent judgment in determining whether our relationship with one client prevents us from representing another. In other situations, we may be permitted to represent a client only if the other clients consent to that representation.

Rules concerning conflicts of interest vary with the jurisdiction. In order to avoid any uncertainty, it is our policy that the governing rules will be those applicable to the particular office of our firm that prepares the engagement letter for a particular matter. The acceptance by you of our engagement letter constitutes an express agreement with that policy, unless the engagement letter specifically states that some other rules of professional responsibility will govern our attorney-client relationship.

If a controversy unrelated to the Obligations develops between you and any other client of the firm, we will follow the applicable rules of professional responsibility to determine whether we may represent either you or the other client in the unrelated controversy.

You understand that we represent many investment banking firms, commercial banks, and other parties to public finance transactions from time to time in connection with other issues, including your financial advisor and potential underwriters for your securities, and you do not object to our continued representation (in connection with other issues) of any such firm with respect to which you choose to do business in connection with issuance of the Obligations, since doing so is how we are able to gain the experience we need to represent you effectively.

In addition to our representation of other companies and individuals, we also regularly represent lawyers and law firms. As a result, opposing counsel to any party in connection with the issuance of the Obligations may be a lawyer or law firm that we may represent now or in the future. Likewise, opposing counsel to any party in connection with the issuance of the Obligations may represent our firm now or in the future. Further, we have professional and personal relationships with many other attorneys, often because of our participation in bar associations and other professional organizations. It is our professional judgment that such relationships with other attorneys do not adversely affect our ability to represent any client. The acceptance of these terms of engagement represents an unqualified consent to any such relationships between our firm and other lawyers or law firms, even counsel who is representing

a party that is adverse to you in connection with the issuance of the Obligations that is the subject of this engagement or in some other matter.

### **Communications and Confidentiality**

We have available Internet communication procedures that allow our attorneys to use e-mail for client communications in many instances. Accordingly, unless you specifically direct us otherwise, we may use unencrypted e-mail sent on the Internet to communicate with you and to send documents we have prepared or reviewed.

We recognize our obligation to preserve the confidentiality of attorney-client communications as well as client confidences, as required by the governing rules of professional responsibility. If the Representation involves transactions, litigation or administrative proceedings or like proceedings in which our firm appears as counsel of record for the Issuer in publicly available records, we reserve the right to inform others of the fact of our representation of the Issuer in the Representation and (if likewise reflected of record in publicly available records) the results obtained, unless the Issuer specifically directs otherwise.

Norton Rose Fulbright US LLP, Norton Rose Fulbright LLP, Norton Rose Fulbright Australia, Norton Rose Fulbright Canada LLP and Norton Rose Fulbright South Africa (incorporated as Deneys Reitz Inc.), each of which is a separate legal entity, are member firms in Norton Rose Fulbright Verein, a Swiss verein organization that does not itself provide legal services to anyone. Norton Rose Fulbright US LLP and the other member firms in the verein share non-privileged information about our respective clients for research, practice management, training and administrative purposes as a means of enhancing the quality and breadth of the services we are able to provide our clients; and, unless you direct us otherwise, we will share non-privileged information about you with those other member firms. Confidentiality agreements among the firms are in place to ensure maintenance of confidentiality with respect to such shared information.

### **Disclaimer**

Norton Rose Fulbright US LLP has made no promises or guarantees to you about the outcome of the Representation or the issuance of the Obligations, and nothing in these terms of engagement shall be construed as such a promise or guarantee. Our representation of you will not affect our responsibility to render an objective bond counsel Bond Opinion.

### **Termination**

At any time, you may, with or without cause, terminate the Representation by notifying us of your intention to do so. Any such termination of services will not affect the obligation to pay legal services rendered and expenses incurred before termination, as well as additional services and charges incurred in connection with an orderly transition of the matters relating to issuance of the Obligations.

We are subject to the codes or rules of professional responsibility for the jurisdictions in which we practice. There are several types of conduct or circumstances that could result in our withdrawing from representing a client, including, for example, the following: non-payment of fees or costs; misrepresentation or failure to disclose material facts; fraudulent or criminal conduct; action contrary to our advice; and conflict of interest with another client. We try to identify in advance and discuss with our clients any situation that may lead to our withdrawal.

A failure by you to meet any obligations under these terms of engagement shall entitle Norton Rose Fulbright US LLP to terminate the Representation. In that event, you will take all steps necessary to release Norton Rose Fulbright US LLP of any further obligations in the Representation or the issuance of the Obligations, including without limitation the execution of any documents necessary to effectuate our withdrawal from the Representation or the issuance of the Obligations. The right of Norton Rose Fulbright US LLP to withdraw in such circumstances is in addition to any rights created by statute or recognized by the governing rules of professional conduct.

### **Billing Arrangements and Terms of Payment**

Our engagement letter specifically explains our fees for services in connection with issuance of the Obligations. We will give notice if an account becomes delinquent, and it is further agreed that any delinquent account must be paid upon the giving of such notice. If the delinquency continues and you do not arrange satisfactory payment terms, we may withdraw from the Representation and pursue collection of our account.

### **Document Retention**

At the close of any matter, we send our files in that matter to a storage facility for storage at our expense. The attorney closing the file determines how long we will maintain the files in storage. After that time, we will destroy the documents in the stored files.

At the conclusion of the Representation, we return to the client any documents that are specifically requested to be returned. As to any documents so returned, we may elect to keep a copy of the documents in our stored files.

### **Charges for Other Expenses and Services**

Typically, our invoices will include amounts, not only for legal services rendered, but also for other expenses and services. Examples include charges for photocopying, long-distance telephone calls, travel and conference expenses, messenger deliveries, computerized research, and facsimile and other electronic transmissions. In addition, we reserve the right to send to you for direct payment any invoices delivered to us by others, including experts and any vendors.

It is not our policy to make any profit on any of these other expenses and services. Our invoices will reflect the cost to us of the products and services. In some situations, the actual cost of providing the product or service is difficult to establish, in which case we will use our professional judgment on the charges to be made. In some situations, we can arrange for ancillary services to be provided by third parties with direct billing to the client. Attached is a copy of our current recharge schedule for other expenses and services, which is subject to change from time to time.

### **Standards of Professionalism and Attorney Complaint Information**

Pursuant to rules promulgated by the Texas Supreme Court and the State Bar of Texas, we are to advise our clients of the contents of the Texas Lawyer's Creed, a copy of which is attached. In addition, we are to advise clients that the State Bar of Texas investigates and prosecutes complaints of professional misconduct against attorneys licensed in Texas. A brochure entitled *Attorney Complaint Information* is available at all of our Texas offices and is

likewise available upon request. A client that has any questions about State Bar's disciplinary process should call the Office of the General Counsel of the State Bar of Texas at 1-800-932-1900 toll free.

# THE TEXAS LAWYER'S CREED — A Mandate for Professionalism

*The Texas Supreme Court and the Texas Court of Criminal Appeals adopted this Creed, with the requirement that lawyers advise their clients of its contents when undertaking representation.*

I am a lawyer; I am entrusted by the People of Texas to preserve and improve our legal system. I am licensed by the Supreme Court of Texas. I must therefore abide by the Texas Disciplinary Rules of Professional Conduct, but I know that Professionalism requires more than merely avoiding the violation of laws and rules. I am committed to this Creed for no other reason than it is right.

**I. OUR LEGAL SYSTEM.** A lawyer owes to the administration of justice personal dignity, integrity, and independence. A lawyer should always adhere to the highest principles of professionalism. I am passionately proud of my profession. Therefore, "My word is my bond." I am responsible to assure that all persons have access to competent representation regardless of wealth or position in life. I commit myself to an adequate and effective pro bono program. I am obligated to educate my clients, the public, and other lawyers regarding the spirit and letter of this Creed. I will always be conscious of my duty to the judicial system.

**II. LAWYER TO CLIENT.** A lawyer owes to a client allegiance, learning, skill, and industry. A lawyer shall employ all appropriate means to protect and advance the client's legitimate rights, claims, and objectives. A lawyer shall not be deterred by any real or imagined fear of judicial disfavor or public unpopularity, nor be influenced by mere self-interest. I will advise my client of the contents of this Creed when undertaking representation. I will endeavor to achieve my client's lawful objectives in legal transactions and in litigation as quickly and economically as possible. I will be loyal and committed to my client's lawful objectives, but I will not permit that loyalty and commitment to interfere with my duty to provide objective and independent advice. I will advise my client that civility and courtesy are expected and are not a sign of weakness. I will advise my client of proper and expected behavior. I will treat adverse parties and witnesses with fairness and due consideration. A client has no right to demand that I abuse anyone or indulge in any offensive conduct. I will advise my client that we will not pursue conduct which is intended primarily to harass or drain the financial resources of the opposing party. I will advise my client that we will not pursue tactics which are intended primarily for delay. I will advise my client that we will not pursue any course of action which is without merit. I will advise my client that I reserve the right to determine whether to grant accommodations to opposing counsel in all matters that do not adversely affect my client's lawful objectives. A client has no right to instruct me to refuse reasonable requests made by other counsel. I will advise my client regarding the availability of mediation, arbitration, and other alternative methods of resolving and settling disputes.

**III. LAWYER TO LAWYER.** A lawyer owes to opposing counsel, in the conduct of legal transactions and the pursuit of litigation, courtesy, candor, cooperation, and scrupulous observance of all agreements and mutual understandings. Ill feelings between clients shall not influence a lawyer's conduct, attitude, or demeanor toward opposing counsel. A lawyer shall not engage in unprofessional conduct in retaliation against other unprofessional conduct. I will be courteous, civil, and prompt in oral and written communications. I will not quarrel over matters of form or style, but I will concentrate on matters of substance. I will identify for other counsel or parties all changes I have made in documents submitted for review. I will attempt to prepare documents which correctly reflect the agreement of the parties. I will not include provisions which have not been agreed upon or omit provisions which are necessary to reflect the agreement of the parties. I will notify opposing counsel, and, if

appropriate, the Court or other persons, as soon as practicable, when hearings, depositions, meetings, conferences or closings are canceled. I will agree to reasonable requests for extensions of time and for waiver of procedural formalities, provided legitimate objectives of my client will not be adversely affected. I will not serve motions or pleadings in any manner that unfairly limits another party's opportunity to respond. I will attempt to resolve by agreement my objections to matters contained in pleadings and discovery requests and responses. I can disagree without being disagreeable. I recognize that effective representation does not require antagonistic or obnoxious behavior. I will neither encourage nor knowingly permit my client or anyone under my control to do anything which would be unethical or improper if done by me. I will not, without good cause, attribute bad motives or unethical conduct to opposing counsel nor bring the profession into disrepute by unfounded accusations of impropriety. I will avoid disparaging personal remarks or acrimony towards opposing counsel, parties and witnesses. I will not be influenced by any ill feeling between clients. I will abstain from any allusion to personal peculiarities or idiosyncrasies of opposing counsel. I will not take advantage, by causing any default or dismissal to be rendered, when I know the identity of an opposing counsel, without first inquiring about that counsel's intention to proceed. I will promptly submit orders to the Court. I will deliver copies to opposing counsel before or contemporaneously with submission to the court. I will promptly approve the form of orders which accurately reflect the substance of the rulings of the Court. I will not attempt to gain an unfair advantage by sending the Court or its staff correspondence or copies of correspondence. I will not arbitrarily schedule a deposition, Court appearance, or hearing until a good faith effort has been made to schedule it by agreement. I will readily stipulate to undisputed facts in order to avoid needless costs or inconvenience for any party. I will refrain from excessive and abusive discovery. I will comply with all reasonable discovery requests. I will not resist discovery requests which are not objectionable. I will not make objections nor give instructions to a witness for the purpose of delaying or obstructing the discovery process. I will encourage witnesses to respond to all deposition questions which are reasonably understandable. I will neither encourage nor permit my witness to quibble about words where their meaning is reasonably clear. I will not seek Court intervention to obtain discovery which is clearly improper and not discoverable. I will not seek sanctions or disqualification unless it is necessary for protection of my client's lawful objectives or is fully justified by the circumstances.

**IV. LAWYER AND JUDGE.** Lawyers and judges owe each other respect, diligence, candor, punctuality, and protection against unjust and improper criticism and attack. Lawyers and judges are equally responsible to protect the dignity and independence of the Court and the profession. I will always recognize that the position of judge is the symbol of both the judicial system and administration of justice. I will refrain from conduct that degrades this symbol. I will conduct myself in court in a professional manner and demonstrate my respect for the Court and the law. I will treat counsel, opposing parties, the Court, and members of the Court staff with courtesy and civility. I will be punctual. I will not engage in any conduct which offends the dignity and decorum of proceedings. I will not knowingly misrepresent, mischaracterize, misquote or miscite facts or authorities to gain an advantage. I will respect the rulings of the Court. I will give the issues in controversy deliberate, impartial and studied analysis and consideration. I will be considerate of the time constraints and pressures imposed upon the Court, Court staff and counsel in efforts to administer justice and resolve disputes.