PRO BONO AGREEMENT

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (hereinafter called “the Client”) has asked the Christian Legal Aid of DC for legal assistance. The below named Attorney has agreed to supply legal services free of charge to the client because the client has indicated that his/her income and assets are within the published guidelines of the program.

NOW THIS AGREEMENT is the understanding between the client and (the Attorney) with respect to those legal services.

1. The Client hereby engages \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ to represent the Client in connection with \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

 2. Subject to the limitations set forth in paragraphs 3, 4, and 5 below, it is understood that no professional fees will be charged to the Client for services rendered in connection with the matters described in paragraph (1) above EXCEPT THAT THE ATTORNEY RESERVES THE RIGHT TO SEEK AN AWARD OF ATTORNEY'S FEES FROM AN AGENCY, BOARD, OR COURT IF APPROPRIATE AND TO CHARGE THE CLIENT THE AMOUNT OF ANY SUCH FEE ACTUALLY RECOVERED.

 3. IT IS FURTHER UNDERSTOOD THAT THE CLIENT IS RESPONSIBLE FOR PAYING ALL COSTS AND DISBURSEMENTS INCURRED BY THE ATTORNEY IN CONNECTION WITH THIS MATTER, THAT THE CLIENT IS RESPONSIBLE UNDER THE GUIDELINES GOVERNING VOLUNTEER LEGAL SERVICES REIMBURSEMENT OF EXPENSES, such disbursements to be billed to the Client on a regular basis as they become due, and the Client hereby authorizes the attorney to withhold from any award recovered in connection with this matter and amount equal to any unpaid costs or disbursements. IT IS FURTHER UNDERSTOOD THAT THE ATTORNEY IS NOT REQUIRED TO ADVANCE ANY COSTS WHICH ARE THE CLIENT’S RESPONSIBILITY UNDER STATE GUIDELINES AND MAY DEFER ANY ACTION ON THE MATTER UNTIL SUCH TIME AS THE CLIENT ADVANCES NECESSARY COSTS. THE ATTORNEY ESTIMATES THAT COSTS WILL BE APPROXIMATELY $ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. THERE IS NO GUARANTEE THAT THE ESTIMATE OF COSTS IS ACCURATE. Examples of such costs include filing fees, transcript fees, postage, service fees, etc.

4. SHOULD THE CLIENT'S FINANCIAL CONDITION CHANGE DURING THE COURSE OF THE ATTORNEY'S REPRESENTATION OF THE CLIENT SO THAT THE CLIENT IS NO LONGER WITHIN THE GUIDELINES OF THE PROGRAM, THE CLIENT MUST ADVISE THE ATTORNEY OF THE CLIENT'S NEW FINANCIAL CONDITION. AND THEN THAT PORTION OF THIS AGREEMENT RELATING TO FREE LEGAL SERVICES IS NO LONGER OF ANY FORCE AND EFFECT AND IS THEREAFTER NULL AND VOID, AND THE ATTORNEY MAY CHARGE TO THE CLIENT A REASONABLE FEE FOR ANY SERVICES PERFORMED THEREAFTER BY AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE PARTIES. IF THE CLIENT DOES NOT AGREE TO ANY PROPOSED FEE FORANY SERVICES TO BE RENDERED IN THE FUTURE, THIS ENTIRE AGREEMENT IS NULLAN d VOID AND OF NO FURTHER FORCE AND EFFECT AND THE CLIENT MAY SEEK LEGAL ASSISTANCE FROM ANY OTHER SOURCE. IF THE CLIENT DOES NOT AGREE TO THE REASONABLENESS OF ANY FEE CHARGED HEREUNDER, THEN THE CLIENT AND ATTORNEY AGREE TO SUBMIT SUCH FEE DISPUTE TO A BAR ASSOCIATION ARBITRATION COMMITTEE.

5. IN THE EVENT THAT IT SHOULD BE DETERMINED THAT THE CLIENT SUPPLIED THE PROGRAM OR TO THE ATTORNEY FALSE OR MISLEADING FINANCIAL INFORMATION WITH REFERENCE TO HIS ENTITLEMENT TO FEE FOR LEGAL SERVICES, THAN THIS AGREEMENT IS OF NO FURTHER FORCE AND EFFECT AND IS NULL AND VOID AT THE OPTION OF THE ATTORNEY.

I, the undersigned, in applying for legal services, do hereby affirm that the information furnished by me as to my financial status is true and correct as of this date. I UNDERSTAND THAT WILLFUL FALSIFICATION OF ANY STATEMENTS WILL BE GROUNDS FOR WITHDRAWING REPRESENTATION OR ASSESSING A STANDARD FEE IN THIS CASE. I AGREE TO REPORT ANY CHANGE IN MY FINANCIAL STATUS PRIOR TO THE TERMINATION OF THIS MATTER AND I UNDERSTANDTHAT IN THE EVENT OF SUCH A CHANGE, I MAY THEN BE REQUIRED TO CHOOSE BETWEEN CONTINUED REPRESENTATION AT A PRO RATA CHARGE OR SEEKING OTHER REPRESENTATION. It is understood that the Attorney’s representation is limited to the matters described above in Paragraph and does not include appeals. Any appeal must be the subject of a new agreement.

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CLIENT ATTORNEY

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

DATE DATE