

SECTION III. PERDUE'S COLLECTION OBLIGATIONS

A. Perdue agrees to refer all payments and correspondence directly to the court that has assessed or levied the fines, fees, and court costs being collected pursuant to this Contract. Perdue reserves the right to return any accounts not collected within one (1) year of referral by the City. Neither party will have any obligation to the other with regard to returned accounts.

B. Perdue agrees to use its best efforts to collect the delinquent accounts received from the City and to comply with all provisions of state and federal law and regulations promulgated pursuant thereto in the rendition of collection services contemplated by this Contract.

C. If requested by the City, Perdue agrees to provide legal advice to the City on its delinquent accounts.

SECTION IV. COLLECTION FEE

The City agrees to pay Perdue as follows:

(1) No charge for the collected fines, fees, and court costs referred to Perdue by the City imposed on all unadjudicated offenses committed on or before June 18, 2003.

(2) Thirty percent (30%) of the collected fines, fees, and court costs referred to Perdue imposed on all adjudicated offenses committed on or before June 18, 2003; and

(3) Thirty percent (30%) of the collected fines, fees, and court costs referred to Perdue imposed on all offenses occurring after June 18, 2003.

The thirty percent (30%) collection fee shall be added to the amount owed by a defendant that is more than 60 days past due pursuant to Article 103.0031, Texas Code of Criminal Procedure.

SECTION V. EXCEPTIONS TO THE COLLECTION FEE

Pursuant to Article 103.0031(b), Texas Code of Criminal Procedure, Perdue cannot collect from a defendant the percentages referred to in Section IV. COLLECTION FEE if the defendant has been determined by the court of original jurisdiction to be indigent, or has insufficient resources or income, or is otherwise unable to pay all or part of the underlying fine or costs. The collection fee does not apply to a case that has been dismissed by a court of competent jurisdiction or to any amount that has been satisfied through time-served credit or community service.

The collection fee shall, however, be applied to any balance remaining after a partial credit for time served or community service if the balance is more than 60 days past due.

SECTION VI. METHOD OF PAYMENT

Absent an agreement otherwise, the City shall calculate and receive the amount of any collection fee due to Perdue. Said fee shall be paid to Perdue by check on a monthly basis. All compensation shall become the property of Perdue at the time of payment.

SECTION VII. COMMENCEMENT AND TERMINATION OF CONTRACT

This Contract shall commence on the ____ day of _____, 2023, and end when both parties mutually agree; provided, however, that either party to this agreement shall have the right to terminate this agreement by giving the other party thirty (30) days written notice of their desire and intention to terminate this Contract. Upon termination Perdue shall have an additional six (6) months to complete work on all delinquent accounts referred from the City prior to the notice of termination and will be entitled to compensation on such accounts if collected.

SECTION VIII. NOTICES

For purposes of sending notice under the terms of this Contract, all notices from the City shall be sent to Perdue by certified United States mail, or delivered by hand or courier, and addressed as follows:

Perdue, Brandon, Fielder, Collins & Mott, LLP
Attn: Patrick K. Woods
BY U.S. MAIL OR BY COURIER DELIVERY:
110 N. Broadway, Suite 1200
Tyler, Texas 75702
Telephone Number: 903-597-7664

All notices from Perdue shall be sent to the City by certified United States mail, or delivered by hand or courier, and addressed as follows:

City of Mount Vernon
Attn: Judge Kathy Lovier
109 North Kaufman Street
Mount Vernon, TX 75457

SECTION IX. VENUE AND CONTROLLING LAW

This Contract is made and is to be interpreted under the laws of the State of Texas. Venue for any disputes involving this Contract shall be in the appropriate courts in Franklin County, Texas.

SECTION X. ACCEPTANCE OF EMPLOYMENT

In consideration of the terms and compensation herein stated, Perdue hereby accepts said employment and undertakes performance of said Contract as set forth above.

SECTION XI. SEVERABILITY

Every provision of this Contract is intended to be severable. If any term or provision hereof is hereafter deemed by a court of competent jurisdiction to be illegal, invalid, void or unenforceable, for any reason or to any extent whatsoever, such illegality, invalidity, or unenforceability shall not affect the validity of the remainder of this Contract, it being intended that such remaining provisions shall be construed in a manner most closely approximating the intention of the parties with respect to the illegal, invalid, void or unenforceable provision or part thereof.

The Firm is compliant with and will comply with all provisions of Chapters 2252 Subchapter F, 2271 and 2274 of the Texas Government Code during the term of this Contract. The State Bar of Texas investigates and prosecutes professional misconduct committed by Texas attorneys. If you have a complaint against or dispute with this firm involving professional misconduct, the State Bar's Office of Chief Disciplinary Counsel will provide you with information about how to file a complaint.

In support of this contract the District has also adopted written findings pursuant to Section 2254.1036 of the Government Code.

This Contract is executed on behalf of the City by the presiding officer of its governing body who is authorized to execute this instrument by Ordinance heretofore passed and recorded in its minutes. This Contract may be executed in any number of counterparts, and each counterpart shall be deemed an original for all purposes. Signed facsimiles or electronically signed Contracts executed on behalf of the City by the presiding officer of its governing body authorized to execute this instrument shall be binding and enforceable.

WITNESS the signature of all parties hereto this 14th day of August, 2023.

CITY OF MOUNT VERNON, TEXAS

By: _____
Brad Hyman
Mayor

PERDUE BRANDON FIELDER COLLINS & MOTT, L.L.P.

By: _____
Patrick K. Woods
Partner