



SELF-DIRECTED IRA ACCOUNT HOLDER DISCLOSURE AND HOLD HARMLESS

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Important! This form contains important disclosures about your duties and responsibilities with regard to opening a Self-Directed Individual Retirement Account with Horizon Trust Company, as your custodian. You are responsible for the investment of all assets within your account. These investments may involve a high-degree of risk. Horizon Trust Company will make no investigation or conduct due diligence reviews as to the viability or safety of the investments that you select. You should seek the advice of legal counsel and other professional advisors with respect to your investments. Read this entire form carefully before you complete and sign it! By signing this form you consent to all terms and provisions shown on all pages.

ACCOUNTHOLDER _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY/STATE/ZIP _____

SSN _____

PHONE NUMBER _____

EMAIL ADDRESS _____

By this document and a Traditional/Roth/SIMPLE/SEP/CESA/HSA/Individual 401K plan agreement, I am naming Horizon Trust Company custodian for my Self Directed IRA. In directing this action, I hereby make the following certifications in accordance with my Horizon Trust Company custodial account agreement:

1. I understand the requirements put forth by the IRS to establish an IRA and certify that I am eligible to establish a Traditional/Roth/SIMPLE/SEP/CESA/HSA/Individual 401K account. Furthermore, I understand that it is not the responsibility of Horizon Trust Company to advise me as to the deductibility or non-deductibility of any contributions to my account. The reporting of my contributions and how they are handled are completely up to me.
2. I understand that my Account is self-directed. This means that I am responsible for the selection, management, and retention of all investments held within my Account. I understand that Horizon Trust Company is in no way responsible for providing investment advice or recommendations, and that Horizon Trust Company is not a “fiduciary” for my Account as such term is defined in the Internal Revenue Code (“IRC”), ERISA, Financial Institutions Division of the State of New Mexico, Blacks Legal Dictionary or any other applicable federal, state or local laws.
3. I understand that it is my sole responsibility to manage the investment held within my Account, and that Horizon Trust Company has no responsibility to question any investment directions given by me or my Designated Representative, (if I have appointed one), regardless of the nature of the investment. I understand that Horizon Trust Company is in no way responsible for monitoring the performance of the investment held within my Account.

I understand that Horizon Trust Company will not conduct a due diligence review of any investment, nor will Horizon Trust Company make any investigations with regard to any investment, any issuer or sponsor of any investment, or any officer, director, or other person or entity involved or affiliated with my investments. I understand that Horizon Trust Company will not review the prudence, viability or merits of any of my investments.

4. I understand that, if my Designated Representative or any other financial representative suggested that I retain Horizon Trust Company's services as custodian for investments made through my Account, such person is not in any way an agent, employee, representative, or affiliate of Horizon Trust Company. I acknowledge that Horizon Trust Company is not responsible for and is not bound by any representations, warranties, statements or agreements made by my Designated Representative or any financial representative beyond the terms and provisions contained in my Horizon Trust Company Custodial Account Agreement and other Horizon Trust Company forms and/or documents. I further understand that Horizon Trust Company has not made and will not make any recommendation or investigation with respect to my Designated Representative or any financial representative, nor does Horizon Trust Company compensate my Designated Representative or financial representative in any manner.

5. I understand that Horizon Trust Company does not make any determination as to whether an investment is acceptable under ERISA, the IRC, or any other applicable federal, state or local laws, including securities laws. I acknowledge that it is my responsibility to review any investments to ensure compliance with the above requirements and to avoid the occurrence of any prohibited transactions in my Account arising out of my investments. I understand that I should have all investments reviewed by my attorney and/or tax advisor prior to directing Horizon Trust Company to process any transaction on behalf of my account.

6. I understand that certain transactions are prohibited for tax-exempt retirement arrangements under IRC Section 4975. I further understand that the determination of whether the transactions directed by me within my account are prohibited transactions depends on the facts and circumstances that surround each transaction, and I understand that Horizon Trust Company makes no determination as to whether any transaction directed by me is a prohibited transaction. I understand that it is solely my responsibility to consult with advisors as I deem necessary and appropriate, and that I will warrant to Horizon Trust Company that the investments directed by me are not prohibited transactions as defined in IRC Section 4975. I understand that I may not invest with a "disqualified person" as defined in IRC Section 4975 or a "party in interest" as defined in IRC Section 4975. I understand that should my Account engage in a prohibited transaction, a taxable distribution equal to the fair market value on my Account will result and certain penalties may be incurred. I further understand that if such a deemed distribution takes place prior to my attaining 59 1/2, an additional premature distribution excise tax may be imposed.

7. I understand that I cannot make investments without having the liquid funds in my Account. In addition, if any investment contains provisions for future contractual payments or assessments, including margin calls, I acknowledge that such payments or assessments shall be borne solely by my Account to the extent such payment is authorized by me or my Designated Representative, and may reduce or exhaust the value of my Account. I further agree to indemnify Horizon Trust Company for any and all payments or assessments which may result from holding the investment within my Account, and I understand that Horizon Trust Company shall be under no obligation whatsoever to extend credit to my Account or otherwise disburse payment beyond the cash balance of my Account for any payment or assessment related to the investment.

8. I understand that if the investment contains any administrative requirements or duties beyond Horizon Trust Company's normal and customary services, then I agree to seek out suitable agents or counsel necessary to perform such duties and deliver written service agreements acceptable to Horizon Trust Company for execution on behalf of my account.

9. I understand that Horizon Trust Company has no responsibility or duty to notify me or to forward to me any notices, proxies, assessments or other documents received by Horizon Trust Company on behalf of my investments, unless I, or my Designated Representative, request each such document in writing.

10. I agree to furnish payment instructions to Horizon Trust Company regarding any invoice, assessment, fee or any other disbursement notification received by Horizon Trust Company on behalf of my investments, and I understand that Horizon Trust Company has no duty or responsibility to disburse any payment until such instructions are received from me, or my Designated Representative.

11. If I direct Horizon Trust Company to purchase a debt instrument as an investment, I agree to enter into an escrow servicing agreement with a third-party Agent on a form acceptable to Horizon Trust Company or to be my own agent in order to administer the terms of the note on behalf of my account. I understand that should I choose a third-party Agent it is still my responsibility to monitor the timeliness of payments and collection of payments. If I elect to renew or re-negotiate the terms of my instrument, I agree to notify the third-party agent and Horizon Trust Company as custodian of my account.

12. If any of the investments I purchase for my account are limited partnerships or limited liability companies, I understand that such investments may generate Unrelated Business Taxable Income, or "UBTI". I further understand that, if the UBTI attributable to my Account exceeds \$1,000 for any taxable year, an IRS Form 990-T tax form must be filed along with the appropriate amount of tax, payable from the assets of my account. I understand that Horizon Trust Company does not monitor the amount of UBTI in my Account and does not prepare Form 990-T. If the tax is applicable, I agree to prepare, or cause to have prepared, the proper 990-T tax form and forward it to Horizon Trust Company, along with authorization to pay the tax from my Account. If I am required to File IRS Form 990-T with regard to any UBTI, I understand that I must utilize an Employer Identification Number ("EIN"). I will not use Horizon Trust Company's EIN or my own social security number. I understand that I must apply for my own EIN prior to or in conjunction with requesting Horizon Trust Company to pay any taxes I may owe with regard to any UBTI that might be incurred.

13. I understand that Horizon Trust Company has no duty or responsibility to monitor the performance of my Investments or actions of the sponsor, nor to monitor the sufficiency or adequacy of my actions or duties or those of my heirs, successors, agents or assigns, and Horizon Trust Company will not be required to monitor the acts of any paid consultant to whom Horizon Trust Company may have contractually delegated any duties or responsibilities pursuant to my directions or the directions of my Designated Representative.

14. I understand that Horizon Trust Company must have an annual market value or good faith estimate (via an independent appraisal) of the value for all investments in my account and that it is my responsibility to provide such market value or good faith estimate. I further understand and acknowledge that if Horizon Trust Company has not been provided with an annual market value or good faith estimate, Horizon Trust may distribute that Investment in-kind to me at either the original acquisition cost or the last known value.

15. I agree to be responsible for any and all collection actions, including contracting with a collection agency or instituting legal action, and bringing any other suits or actions which may become necessary to protect the rights of my Account as a result of the operation or administration of my investments. I understand that any legal filings made on behalf of my investments are to be made in the name of "Horizon Trust Company Custodian for the Self-Directed IRA of (my Name)." I agree that I shall not institute legal action on behalf of my investments without Horizon Trust Company's written consent to litigate and that I shall prosecute any legal action at my own expense, including payment of attorney's fees and court costs. I agree that any such legal action will be carried out in a manner that does not cause Horizon Trust Company to incur any costs or legal exposure. I hereby agree to indemnify Horizon Trust Company for any loss, cost or expense, including attorney's fees that it may incur in any collection activity or legal proceeding.

16. I understand that should I choose to invest in precious metals it is my responsibility to perform adequate due diligence on the broker I choose to invest with and that the investment I make is an acceptable investment according to IRC 4975. Precious metal accounts are subject to additional fees due to storage costs.

17. I understand that Horizon Trust Company reserves the right to liquidate any and/or all investments in my account in order to satisfy any outstanding fees owed to Horizon and that Horizon may also at their discretion distribute my account to me due to non-payment of fees. The account will be distributed at the FMV as reflected on my latest Horizon account statement and I may have a tax liability because of this distribution, however, I agree to hold Horizon Trust Company harmless of said liability.

18. I understand that all investments held within my Account are not guaranteed by Horizon Trust Company and that my investments may lose value.

PROHIBITED TRANSACTIONS-SUMMARY

Below is a summary of the Internal Revenue Code Section 4975 and IRS publication 590 regarding IRA prohibited transactions and disqualified persons. This is a summary and not a comprehensive reproduction of both the Code and the publication. Before making an IRA investment, you should consult a tax professional to be certain you are not entering into a prohibited transaction which could disqualify your entire IRA.

General Statement: A prohibited transaction is any improper use of your IRA by you, your beneficiary, or any disqualified person.

Section 4975 (c) prohibited transactions include but are not limited to any direct or indirect -

- a. sale or exchange, or leasing, of any property between a plan and a disqualified person;
- b. lending of money or other extension of credit between a plan and a disqualified person;
- c. furnishing of goods, services, or facilities between a plan and a disqualified person;
- d. transfer to, or use by or for the benefit of, a disqualified person of the income or assets of a plan.

Disqualified person: your fiduciary, any members of your family including spouse, ancestor, lineal descendant, and any spouse of a lineal descendant.

*Remember that your Horizon Trust Company IRA is fully self-directed. **You are responsible for the selection, management, and retention time of your investment.** Horizon Trust Company will accept a direction of investment from you for any asset not specifically prohibited by the IRS. If you have any questions regarding any transaction in your IRA, seek help from a tax professional before instructing Horizon Trust Company.*

ARBITRATION AGREEMENT

In the event a claim or dispute of any kind or nature arises between the Depositor and Custodian, including the scope of this arbitration clause, it shall be resolved by arbitration conducted in Albuquerque, New Mexico, as follows:

- a. either party may submit the matter to arbitration by serving a complaint on the other party that sets forth the nature of the claim. Service may be made by certified mail to the designee. The parties shall mutually select an arbitrator who shall be a retired judge or an attorney licensed to practice law in the state of New Mexico, and shall have not less than ten years of experience in servicing as arbitrator or judge in disputes or litigation concerning the subject matter of the dispute.
- b. the arbitrator shall conduct an evidentiary hearing and issue a final award within 180 days of his or her appointment. The arbitrator shall be bound to follow and apply the substantive law of the state of New Mexico, and the procedural and evidentiary rules of the state of New Mexico in effect at the time of any arbitration proceeding hereunder.
- c. the arbitrator shall award reasonable attorney's fees and costs of arbitration to the prevailing party.
- d. If the parties cannot agree upon the appointment of an arbitrator, either party may file a petition in the Second Judicial District Court to appoint an arbitrator.

I acknowledge that I have sole responsibility for directing the investments of my Account. I understand that Horizon Trust Company may perform administrative review on any of my investments to determine if the investments are feasible for Horizon Trust Company to maintain appropriate records as to each investment. I acknowledge, however, that Horizon Trust Company will not perform a due diligence review, and will not undertake any investigation as to the prudence, viability, merits, or suitability of any investment in my Account. I agree to hold Horizon Trust Company harmless from any liability for any loss, damage, injury, or expense which may occur as a result of the execution of my direction of investment.

Account Holder Signature : _____ Date : _____

By my signature I acknowledge that I have read and understand this Account Holder Disclosure and Hold Harmless Agreement and specifically acknowledge that I have read and understand the Prohibited Transactions summary on page four of this document.

To help us manage our advertising efforts, please let us know how you heard about Horizon Trust Company.

- INTERNET
- TELEPHONE BOOK
- TV
- REFERRAL FROM A FRIEND
- REFERRAL FROM _____
- OTHER _____