RENEWAL AND AMENDMENT OF COMMON INTEREST AGREEMENT

BETWEEN

PARTICIPATING AGENCIES OF THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

AND

THE VERMONT DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Pursuant to the Period of Agreement section of the August 13, 2015 Common Interest Agreement made and entered into by and between participating agencies of the United States Department of Labor, specifically, the Wage and Hour Division and the Employee Benefits Security Administration (all represented by the Office of the Solicitor and hereinafter collectively referred to as the "USDOL"), and the Vermont Department of Labor (hereinafter referred to as the "VDOL"), is hereby renewed and will expire three (3) years from the renewal date below, subject to the following changes to the August 13, 2015 Agreement. The USDOL and the VDOL are collectively referred to as "the parties."

- 1. The first bulleted term in the Exchange of Information Section is hereby revised to read as follows:
 - To the extent permitted by law, the parties understand that in order to effectuate the purposes and provisions of this Agreement, it may be necessary, from time to time, to exchange information, some of which may be considered confidential. It is the policy of each of the parties to cooperate with other government agencies to the fullest extent possible under the law, subject to the general limitation that any such cooperation must be consistent with its own statutory obligations and enforcement efforts. It is the view of the parties that an exchange of information in which both entities are proceeding with a common legal interest is to their mutual benefit. The parties to this Agreement recognize the importance of being able to provide information to other law enforcement bodies without waiving the privilege of otherwise protected material or making a public disclosure.
- 2. The third bulleted term in the Exchange of Information Section is hereby revised to read as follows:
 - Confidential information means information that may be privileged or otherwise exempt from disclosure to the public or other unauthorized persons under state and federal statutes or law. Confidential information includes: the identity of persons who have given information to the parties in confidence or under circumstances in which confidentiality can be implied; any employee statements in enforcement files that were obtained under these conditions; internal opinions, policy statements, memoranda, and recommendations of federal or state employees, including (but not limited to) any records

that would otherwise not be subject to disclosure under law as non-final, intra- or interagency documents; information or records covered by the attorney-client privilege and the attorney-work-product privilege; personal information on living persons; individually identifiable health information; and confidential business information and trade secrets.

- 3. The seventh bulleted term in the Exchange of Information Section is hereby revised to read as follows:
 - In the event that there is a public proceeding, such as a trial, in which confidential information may be used, the USDOL requires that VDOL notify it of such circumstances. If testimony of any USDOL participating agency's employee is sought, VDOL will pursue the testimony in accordance with USDOL procedures at 29 C.F.R. Part 2 Subpart C—Employees Served with Subpoenas.
- 4. The Exchange of Information section is further revised to add the following paragraphs:
 - Should either party receive a request or subpoena that would, fairly construed, seek production of privileged information that it received pursuant to this agreement, the party receiving such a request or subpoena shall take reasonable measures, including but not limited to asserting the common interest privilege, to preclude or restrict the production of such information for ten (10) business days, and shall promptly notify the donor agency that such a request or subpoena has been received, so that the donor agency may file any appropriate objections or motions, or take any other appropriate steps, to preclude or condition the production of such information.
 - Neither party shall have authority to waive any applicable privilege or doctrine on behalf of the other party, nor shall any waiver of an applicable privilege or doctrine by the conduct of one party be construed to apply to the other party.
 - The agencies will notify one another, through the agency POC identified in this agreement, upon commencement of litigation, a hearing, or other proceeding that may involve the release, through subpoena, introduction of written evidence, or testimony, of information exchanged under this agreement.
 - Liability of the U.S. Government is governed by the Federal Torts Claims Act.

All other terms and conditions remain the same.

United States Department of Labor Wage and Hour Division

Vermont Department of Labor

By: Bryan Jarrett Keith Souderling Deputy Administrator	By Lindsay H. Kurrle Commissioner of Labor
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By: Mark H Watson In	

United States Department of Labor Employee Benefits Security Administration

Preston Rutledge
Assistant Secretary

Regional Administrator

<u>United States Department of Labor</u> <u>Office of the Solicitor</u>

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