

APPENDIX B – Dual Representation Authorization

Dear Clients:

You and your spouse have indicated that you both wish to meet together with the same attorney to discuss your will and ancillary documents. Due to the potential for conflicts of interest, it is the policy of this office to raise this issue with you and require your informed consent to proceed. Therefore, your signature below will confirm the following:

(1) You have requested that the same legal assistance attorney represent each of you and advise you both on certain estate planning matters.

(2) It is contemplated that the matters to which this representation will extend will include the following:

- Analysis of the assets owned by each of you at the time of your marriage, including consideration of the fair market value of such property and the nature in which title was then held;
- Analysis of all property now owned by each of you, including consideration of its fair market value, the manner in which title to such property is now held, and a categorization of such property as separate, community, or quasi-community property;
- Discussions about the manner in which you wish to dispose of any property over which you may have any power of disposition at the time of your death; and
- Preparation of the documents necessary to accomplish the desired disposition, including the drafting of wills, trusts, property agreements, and other documents as may be required.

(3) You are aware that, during the course of the estate planning work, disagreements may arise between you and your spouse with respect to the ownership of your property (separate, community, or quasi-community property) and its desired disposition during your lifetimes and at your deaths. Differences of opinion on the disposition of the property, under ethical rules, do not prevent the same attorney from continuing to represent both of you. However, during the course of the estate planning, conflicts of interest between you and your spouse may also arise, such as issues regarding the ownership of certain property.

(4) Ordinarily, under such circumstances, one attorney cannot represent both of you. It may be better for each of you, under such circumstances, to have separate, independent counsel to avoid the possibility that my advice to one of you is influenced by my representation of the other. Nevertheless, you have requested, with a full understanding of your right to, and the advantages

of, independent counsel, that you both be represented by the same legal assistance attorney in all of the above matters.

(5) Although they rarely occur, if a conflict of interest does arise between the two of you of such a nature that I believe it impossible, in my judgment, for me to perform any obligations to either of you in accordance with this letter, I will withdraw from all further representation of either of you in this matter at that time and advise both of you to obtain independent counsel.

(6) You have each agreed that there will be complete and free disclosure and exchange of all information I receive from either or both of you in the course of my representation of you, and that such information shall not be confidential between you irrespective of whether I obtain such information in conferences with both of you or in private conferences with only one of you, including any conferences that may have taken place before the date of this letter.

Very respectfully,

Samuel R. Denton
Legal Assistance Attorney
Camp Mabry
Legal Assistance Office

We, (please print your names) _____

and _____, have read the foregoing letter, understand the same, consent to the disclosure and exchange of all information received by **Samuel R. Denton**, our legal assistance attorney from either one of us, with the other one of us, and consent to our legal assistance attorney representing each and both of us in the aforementioned estate planning services.

APPROVED THE _____ day of _____, 20____

Client

Client