

**THE** \_\_\_\_\_ **AND**

**JOINT LIVING TRUST**

**Dated** \_\_\_\_\_

This Joint Living Trust Agreement (this "Agreement"), dated \_\_\_\_\_, is between \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ (the "Grantors" or "Beneficiaries") and \_\_\_\_\_ (the "Trustee").

In consideration of the mutual covenants and promises set forth in this Agreement, the Grantors and the Trustee agree as follows:

**I. PURPOSE.** The purpose of this Agreement is to establish a Trust to receive and manage assets for the benefit of the Grantors during the Grantors' lifetimes, and to further manage and distribute the assets of the Trust upon the death of the surviving Grantor.

**II. FUNDING OF TRUST.** This Trust shall be funded with assets transferred to this Trust by either or both of the Grantors at the time of creating this Trust, or at any later time. Any community property transferred into or out of this Trust shall remain community property until the death of either Grantor and such property, including undistributed income that it generates, shall not be commingled. This Trust may also receive property from any person or entity who is acting under the authority granted to that person or entity by the Grantors. It is also expected that this Trust may receive assets pursuant to the terms of either Grantors' Last Will and Testament.

**III. MANAGEMENT OF TRUST ASSETS.** The Trustee shall manage and distribute the trust assets for the benefit of the Grantors and their successor(s) in interest in accordance with the terms of this Agreement.

**IV. PAYMENTS DURING THE LIFETIMES OF THE GRANTORS.** During the joint or survivor lifetimes of the Grantors, the Trustee shall pay all of the net income of this Trust, and also such sums from principal as either Grantor may request at any time in writing, to or for the benefit of the Grantors, or as either Grantor may designate. Such payments shall be made at least \_\_\_\_\_. The Grantors may change the amount of the payments at any time by providing written notice to the Trustee. Any excess income shall be added to principal at the discretion of the Trustee.

*A. Payments During a "Disability" of a Grantor.* During any period that a Grantor has a "disability", the Trustee may pay to or for the benefit of such Grantor such amounts of income and principal as the Trustee believes in the Trustee's sole discretion to be required for (i) such Grantor's support, comfort and welfare, (ii) such Grantor's accustomed manner of living, or (iii) any purpose that the Trustee believes to be in the best interest of such Grantor.

*B. Disability Defined.* For the purposes of this Trust, "disability" shall mean a legal disability or the inability to provide prompt and intelligent consideration to financial matters by reason of illness or mental or physical disability. The determination of whether a Grantor has a disability shall be made by such Grantor's most recent attending physician. The Trustee shall be entitled to rely on written notice of that determination.

**V. DEATH OF A GRANTOR.** Upon the death of the first of the Grantors to die (the "Decedent"), the Trust shall become irrevocable with respect to the property contributed to the Trust by the Decedent (including accumulated income on that property, but excluding trust property given to the surviving Grantor) and shall continue for the benefit of the surviving Grantor (the "Surviving Grantor"), subject to distributions (if any) that may be required (i) by this Agreement, or (ii) to pay the just debts, funeral expenses, and expenses of last illness of the Decedent.

*A. Distributions of Specific Amounts or Items of Personal Property.* Distributions of the following specific amounts or items of personal property shall be made from the assets of the Trust. Each amount or item listed shall be distributed to the corresponding "Primary Beneficiary". If the Primary Beneficiary is not living at the designated time, the amount or item shall be distributed to the corresponding "Contingent Beneficiary". If the Contingent Beneficiary is not living at the designated time, or if none has been specified, the amount or item shall be distributed with the residuary assets of this Trust.

1. Amount or Item: \_\_\_\_\_  
Primary Beneficiary: \_\_\_\_\_  
This amount or item shall be distributed upon the death of \_\_\_\_\_.  
Contingent Beneficiary: \_\_\_\_\_

2. Tangible Personal Property.

Upon the death of the Surviving Grantor and subject to the preceding provisions of this Trust, all of \_\_\_\_\_'s clothing, jewelry, automobiles, household furniture and furnishings, recreational equipment, personal effects used by \_\_\_\_\_ about \_\_\_\_\_'s person or home, and other items of tangible personal property shall be distributed to \_\_\_\_\_'s children in equal shares. If a child does not survive to the time of distribution, such deceased child's share shall be distributed in equal shares to the children of such deceased child who survive to the time of distribution, by right of representation. If a child does not survive to the time of distribution and has no children who survive to the time of distribution, such deceased child's share shall be distributed in equal shares to \_\_\_\_\_'s other children, if any, or to their respective children by right of representation. If no child of \_\_\_\_\_ survives to the time of distribution, and if none of \_\_\_\_\_'s deceased children are survived by children, \_\_\_\_\_'s tangible personal property shall be distributed to the same persons and in the same manner as provided for the distribution of the residuary assets of this Trust.

**VI. DISTRIBUTION OF RESIDUARY TRUST ASSETS UPON THE SURVIVING GRANTOR'S DEATH.** Upon the death of the second of the Grantors to die (the "Surviving Grantor"), the residuary assets of this Trust shall be distributed to the Grantors' children in equal shares. If a child does not survive the Surviving Grantor, such deceased child's share shall be distributed in equal shares to the children of such deceased child who survive by right of representation. If a child does not survive the Surviving Grantor and has no children who so survive, such deceased child's share shall be distributed in equal shares to the Grantors' other children, if any, or to their respective children by right of representation. If no child of the Grantors survives the Surviving Grantor, and if none of the

Grantors' deceased children are survived by children, the residuary assets of this Trust shall be distributed \_\_\_\_ % to the heirs-at-law of \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_ % to the heirs-at-law of \_\_\_\_\_, their identities and respective shares to be determined under the laws of the State of \_\_\_\_\_, then in effect, as if each Grantor, respectively, had died intestate at the time fixed for distribution under this provision and not survived by the other Grantor.

**VII. TRUSTEE POWERS.** The Trustee, in addition to other powers and authority granted by law or necessary or appropriate for proper administration of the Trust, shall have the following rights, powers, and authority without order of court and without notice to anyone:

*A. Receive Assets.* To receive, hold, maintain, administer, collect, invest and reinvest the trust assets, and collect and apply the income, profits, and principal of the Trust in accordance with the terms of this instrument.

*B. Receive Additional Assets.* To receive additional assets from other sources, including assets received under the Will of a Grantor or any other person.

*C. Standard of Care.* To acquire, invest, reinvest, exchange, retain, sell, and manage estate and trust assets, exercising the judgment and care, under the circumstances then prevailing, that persons of prudence, discretion and intelligence exercise in the management of their own affairs, not in regard to speculation but in regard to the permanent disposition of their funds, considering the probable income as well as the probable safety of their capital. Within the limitations of that standard, the Trustee is authorized to acquire and retain every kind of property, real, personal or mixed, and every kind of investment, specifically including, but not by way of limitation, bonds, debentures and other corporate obligations, and stocks, preferred or common, that persons of prudence, discretion, and intelligence acquire or retain for their own account, even though not otherwise a legal investment for trust funds under the laws and statutes of the United States or the state under which this instrument is administered.

*D. Retain Assets.* To retain any asset, including uninvested cash or original investments, regardless of whether it is of the kind authorized by this instrument for investment and whether it leaves a disproportionately large part of the estate or trust invested in one type of property, for as long as the Trustee deems advisable.

*E. Dispose of or Encumber Assets.* To sell, option, mortgage, pledge, lease, or convey real or personal property, publicly or privately, upon such terms and conditions as may appear to be proper, and to execute all instruments necessary to effect such authority.

*F. Settle Claims.* To compromise, settle, or abandon claims in favor of or against the Trust.

*G. Manage Property.* To manage real estate and personal property, borrow money, exercise options, buy insurance, and register securities as may appear to be proper.

*H. Allocate Between Principal and Income.* To make allocations of charges and credits as between principal and income as in the sole discretion of the Trustee may appear to be proper.

*I. Employ Professional Assistance.* To employ and compensate counsel and other persons deemed necessary for proper administration and to delegate authority when such delegation is advantageous

to the Trust.

*J. Distribute Property.* To make division or distribution in money or kind, or partly in either, including disproportionate in-kind distributions, at values to be determined by the Trustee, and the Trustee's judgment shall be binding upon all interested parties.

*K. Enter Contracts.* To bind the Trust by contracts or agreements without assuming individual liability for such contracts.

*L. Exercise Stock Ownership Rights.* To vote, execute proxies to vote, join in or oppose any plans for reorganization, and exercise any other rights incident to the ownership of any stocks, bonds, or other properties of the Trust.

*M. Duration of Powers.* To continue to exercise the powers provided in this Agreement after the termination of the Trust until all the assets of the Trust have been distributed.

*N. Hold Trust Assets as a Single Fund.* To hold the assets of the Trust, shares, or portions of the Trust created by this instrument as a single fund for joint investment and management, without the need for physical segregation, dividing the income proportionately among them. Segregation of the various trust shares need only be made on the books of the Trustee for accounting purposes.

*O. Loans to Beneficiaries.* To make loans to any trust beneficiary for the purpose of providing the beneficiary with the funds necessary to take advantage of exceptional business opportunities or to provide for the needs of the beneficiaries and their families.

*P. Methods of Distribution.* To make payments to or for the benefit of any beneficiary (specifically including any beneficiary under any legal disability) in any of the following ways: (a) directly to the beneficiary; (b) directly for the maintenance, welfare and education of the beneficiary; (c) to the legal or natural guardian of the beneficiary; or (d) to anyone who at the time shall have custody and care of the person of the beneficiary. The Trustee shall not be obliged to see to the application of the funds so paid, but the receipt of the person to whom the funds were paid shall be full acquittance of the Trustee.

**VIII. ADDITIONAL TRUSTEE PROVISIONS.** These additional provisions shall apply regarding the Trustee.

*A. Grantor(s) as Trustee.* If at any time the Grantors or either of them shall be acting as Trustee, such Grantor(s)/Trustee may appoint a successor trustee, to become effective immediately or upon any stated contingency, by making such designation in writing. Such designee shall become the successor Trustee upon acceptance of the terms and conditions of this Agreement.

*B. Successor Trustee.* If at any time the Trustee cannot serve because of the Trustee's disability (as previously defined), death, or other reason, \_\_\_\_\_, of \_\_\_\_\_, is designated as the successor Trustee, without bond. If such designee(s) is/are unable to serve for any reason, \_\_\_\_\_, of \_\_\_\_\_, is designated as the alternate successor Trustee, without bond. Such designee(s) shall become the successor Trustee(s) upon acceptance of the terms and conditions of this Agreement.

*C. Resignation of Trustee.* Any Trustee may resign by giving written notice to the beneficiaries to whom income could then be distributed. Such resignation shall take effect on such date specified in the notice, but not earlier than thirty (30) days after the date of delivery of such written resignation unless an earlier effective date shall be agreed to by the income beneficiaries.

*D. Adult Beneficiary Rights.* If the Trustee resigns or for any reason ceases to serve as Trustee, and if the successor Trustee(s) designated by the Grantors, if any, fail or cease to serve as Trustee, then the adult beneficiaries to whom income could then be distributed, together with the adult beneficiaries to whom principal would be distributed if the Trust were then to terminate, may by majority action in writing appoint a successor Trustee. If agreement of a majority of the beneficiaries cannot be obtained within sixty (60) days, a successor Trustee shall be appointed by the court having general jurisdiction of the Trust. Any successor Trustee appointed shall have all the rights conferred upon the original Trustee and shall be bound by the provisions of this Trust.

*E. Accounting.* The Trustee shall provide an accounting to the Beneficiary (or beneficiaries) on at least an annual basis. If a beneficiary has a "disability", the Trustee shall provide the accounting to a guardian or conservator, if any.

*F. Bond.* Successor Trustees, other than those nominated in this Trust, shall serve without bond.

**IX. REVOCATION OR AMENDMENT.** Either Grantor may revoke at any time and/or the Grantors may jointly amend, this Agreement by delivering to the Trustee an appropriate written revocation or amendment, signed by the necessary Grantor or Grantors, respectively. If the Trustee consents, the powers of revocation, but not the power of amendment, may be exercised by a duly appointed and acting attorney-in-fact for the Grantors, or either of them, for the purpose of withdrawing assets from the Trust. If the Trust is revoked, the Trustee shall distribute the Trust assets to the Grantors in the same manner and amount as the Grantors contributed the property.

**X. GOVERNING LAW.** This Agreement shall be construed in accordance with the laws of the State of Nebraska.

**XI. PERPETUITIES SAVINGS CLAUSE.** Despite any other provision of this Agreement to the contrary, the Trust created by this Agreement shall terminate no later than 21 years after the death of the last surviving beneficiary of this Agreement who is living at the time of the death of the Surviving Grantor.

**XII. SEVERABILITY.** If any portion of this Agreement shall be held to be invalid or unenforceable for any reason, the remaining provisions shall continue to be valid and enforceable. If a court finds that any provision of this Agreement is invalid or unenforceable, but that by limiting such provision it would become valid and enforceable, then such provision shall be deemed to be written, construed, and enforced as so limited.

**XIII. MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS.**

*A. Paragraph Titles and Gender.* The titles given to the paragraphs of this Trust are inserted for reference purposes only and are not to be considered as forming a part of this Trust in interpreting its provisions. All words used in this Trust in any gender shall extend to and include all genders, and any singular words shall include the plural expression, and vice versa, specifically including "child" and "children", when the context or facts so require, and any pronouns shall be taken to

refer to the person or persons intended regardless of gender or number.

*B. Liability of Fiduciary.* No fiduciary who is a natural person shall, in the absence of fraudulent conduct or bad faith, be liable individually to any beneficiary of any trust estate, and the trust estate shall indemnify such natural person from any and all claims or expenses in connection with or arising out of that fiduciary's good faith actions or nonactions of the fiduciary, except for such actions or nonactions which constitute fraudulent conduct or bad faith. No successor Trustee shall be obliged to inquire into or be in any way accountable for the previous administration of the trust property.

*C. Children.* The names of the Grantors' children are \_\_\_\_\_.

All references in this Trust to "the Grantors' child" or "the Grantors' children" include the above child (or children) and any other children born to or adopted by the Grantors after the signing of this Trust.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Grantor 1

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Grantor 2

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Trustee

STATE OF \_\_\_\_\_

COUNTY OF \_\_\_\_\_

This Trust instrument was acknowledged before me on this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, by  
\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_, as  
Grantors.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Notary Public

\_\_\_\_\_  
Title (and Rank)

My commission expires \_\_\_\_\_

STATE OF \_\_\_\_\_

COUNTY OF \_\_\_\_\_

On this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ before me personally appeared  
\_\_\_\_\_, known to me to be the person described in and who  
executed the foregoing instrument as Trustee and acknowledged that he/she executed the same (in  
his/her authorized capacity) as his/her free act and deed.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Notary Public

\_\_\_\_\_  
Title (and Rank)

My commission expires \_\_\_\_\_