**MUTUAL CONFIDENTIALITY AND NON-DISCLOSURE AGREEMENT**

This Mutual Confidentiality and Non-Disclosure Agreement (“Confidentiality Agreement”) is made between **State Regulatory Registry LLC (“Company”),** and its affiliates, whose principal offices are located at **1129 20th Street NW, Washington D.C. 20036** and **<Vendor Name Here>** whose principal offices are located at **<Vendor Address Here>.**

In consideration of each party’s provision of access to certain confidential information by the other in order to permit the parties to discuss current and future potential business relationships and perform their obligations under a Professional Services Agreement or other such agreement(s) for the Background Check Automation System (BCAS) between Company and <Vendor Name Here> (collectively, “Project”) and for other good and valuable consideration, the sufficiency of which is acknowledged, it is agreed as follows:

1. Each party may be provided with access to selected information (oral, written, or electronic) of the other which helps meet a regulatory purpose or business need, including, but not limited to, that information which relates or refers to: business planning; internal controls; computer, data processing, or communications architectures or systems; electronic data processing architectures, applications, programs, routines, or subroutines; business affairs and methods of operation or proposed methods of operations, techniques or systems of a party or any customer of a party, financial or other non‑public information, including but not limited to proposals, processes, forecasts, ideas, concepts, projections, analyses, software, hardware, marketing information, documentation, structure and protocols. Some of the information in each of these categories is confidential in nature or constitutes a trade secret as it is not generally known to its competitors or the public. This information received from a party, either orally or in writing, during the course of the Project shall be deemed to be confidential information (“Confidential Information”) for purposes of this Confidentiality Agreement. Notes, documents, summaries or reports which are prepared from Confidential Information to the extent such specifically refer or relate to Confidential Information are themselves Confidential Information.
2. Each party acknowledges the sensitive and secret nature of the Confidential Information it will have access to during the term of the Project and agrees that it will treat such Confidential Information as strictly confidential and shall exercise the same degree of care in the protection of the Confidential Information as the receiving party exercises with respect to its own proprietary property and trade secrets, but in no event shall it be less than a reasonable degree of care given the nature of the Confidential Information.
3. Neither party shall disclose the Confidential Information received from the other to any person or entity, except its employees, officers, directors, independent consultants, affiliates, subsidiaries and other agents (collectively “Representatives”) involved in the performance of the Project, or to use the Confidential Information for any purpose other than fulfilling its obligations under the Project. Each party acknowledges and agrees that breach of this Confidentiality Agreement by the other and/or anyone employed by or otherwise associated with the other may also constitute a violation of applicable laws. Access to Confidential Information by the receiving party shall be limited to those Representatives who have agreed to be bound in writing under terms no less stringent than this Confidentiality Agreement.
4. Neither party shall make copies of the Confidential Information except for those copies required for use by Authorized Persons in the performance of the Project. Each copy, including its storage media, shall be marked Confidential, and also include all copyright, trademark and other proprietary notices which appear on the original. Each party agrees that all Confidential Information of the other party, including any copies thereof, shall be returned to the disclosing party upon request or destroyed within ten (10) business days of the expiration or other termination of the Project. However, notwithstanding anything to the contrary herein, 1) neither party will be required to delete electronic Confidential Information stored in back-up/archival storage in accordance with its policies, provided that any such retained Confidential Information will continue to be subject to the terms of this Confidentiality Agreement until it is destroyed by the receiving party; and 2) a single copy of all Confidential Information may be retained by the Receiving Party’s legal department for dispute resolution purposes only, provided, however, that such Confidential Information shall remain subject to the terms and conditions of this Confidentiality Agreement. In the event that a receiving party has or acquires actual knowledge of any breach of the confidentiality of, or the misappropriation of, any Confidential Information received under this Confidentiality Agreement, such party shall promptly give notice thereof to the other party.
5. Upon written demand by the disclosing party or upon termination of this Confidentiality Agreement, the receiving party shall: (i) cease using the Confidential Information, (ii) return the Confidential Information and all copies, notes or extracts thereof to the disclosing party within ten (10) business days of receipt of demand; and (iii) upon request of the disclosing party, certify in writing that the receiving party has complied with the obligations set forth in this paragraph. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary herein, 1) neither party will be required to delete electronic Confidential Information stored in back-up/archival storage in accordance with its policies, provided that any such retained Confidential Information will continue to be subject to the terms of this Confidentiality Agreement until it is destroyed by the receiving party; and 2) a single copy of all Confidential Information may be retained by the Receiving Party’s legal department for dispute resolution purposes only, provided, however, that such Confidential Information shall remain subject to the terms and conditions of this Confidentiality Agreement.
6. All intellectual property rights associated with the Confidential Information, including without limitation, patent, trademark, copyright, trade secret rights, and moral rights shall remain in the disclosing party. Moreover, this Confidentiality Agreement does not grant any right or license to a party, by implication or otherwise, to any intellectual property owned or controlled by the other party.
7. The obligation of non-disclosure shall not extend to: (1) information which is then already in the possession of the receiving party and not under a duty of non-disclosure; (2) information which is generally known or revealed to the public; (3) information which is revealed to the receiving party by a third party, unless such party is under a duty of non-disclosure; (4) information which the receiving party develops independently of the disclosure and such independent development can be shown by documentary evidence maintained contemporaneously with such development; or (5) information that is disclosed with the disclosing party’s prior written consent.
8. In the event that a party receives a subpoena or other validly issued administrative or judicial process requesting Confidential Information received from the other, the receiving party shall provide prompt actual notice to, in the case of <Vendor Name Here>, the General Counsel of <Vendor Name Here>, and, in the case of Company, to the General Counsel of Company, of such receipt, providing the party with a reasonable opportunity to intervene in the proceeding before the time that the other party is required to comply with such subpoena or other process. If such protective order or other remedy is not obtained, or the disclosing party waives compliance with the provision of this Confidentiality Agreement, the receiving party shall furnish only that portion of the Confidential Information which the receiving party is legally required to disclose and shall exercise its reasonable efforts to obtain reliable assurance that confidential treatment shall be accorded the Confidential Information. Notwithstanding anything otherwise set forth herein, <Vendor Name Here> or Company may disclose Confidential Information: a) to the extent revealed to a government agency with regulatory or oversight jurisdiction over Company; or b) in the course of fulfilling any of <Vendor Name Here>regulatory responsibilities, including responsibilities under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (Act) or other applicable law. In either case, <Vendor Name Here> or Company shall furnish only that portion of the Confidential Information which the receiving party is legally required to disclose and shall exercise its reasonable efforts to obtain reliable assurance that confidential treatment shall be accorded the Confidential Information.
9. Each party acknowledges that the other, because of the nature of the Confidential Information, would suffer irreparable harm in the event of a material breach of the provisions of this Confidentiality Agreement in that monetary damages would be inadequate to compensate for such a breach, and that in the event of any material breach or threatened material breach by a party receiving Confidential Information from the other party of any such provisions, a party shall be entitled, in addition to such other legal or equitable remedies which might be available, to injunctive relief in any court of competent jurisdiction against the threatened material breach or continuation of any such material breach without showing or proving any actual damages sustained by it. Moreover, any such award of relief to the discloser of such Confidential Information shall include recovery of all actual and reasonable costs associated with enforcement of this Agreement including, without limitation, attorneys’ fees.
10. The Effective Date of this Confidentiality Agreement shall be the date it is signed by both parties and it shall terminate upon the earlier of (i) thirty (30) days written notice of either party, or (ii) three (3) years after the effective date.
11. The representations and obligations of each party relative to the Confidential Information shall survive the expiration or termination of this Confidentiality Agreement for a period of the longer of three (3) years or for such time as such Confidential Information remains a protectable trade secret under applicable law.
12. The rights and obligations of the parties hereunder are in addition to, and not in derogation of, their respective rights and duties under the Uniform Trade Secrets Act (“UTSA”) as adopted in the state set forth below or in respective state’s trade secrets laws, if UTSA has not been adopted.
13. This Confidentiality Agreement contains the full and complete understanding of Company and <Vendor Name Here>with respect to the subject matter and supersedes all prior representations and understandings whether they be oral or written.
14. Company and <Vendor Name Here> understand and agree that in the event any part, term or provision of this Confidentiality Agreement is held to be invalid or legally unenforceable, the validity of the remaining parts, terms or provisions shall not be affected, and the rights and obligations of the parties shall be construed and enforced as if the Confidentiality Agreement did not contain the particular part, term, or provision held to be invalid. This Confidentiality Agreement and performance thereunder shall be governed by the laws of the State of New York, excluding its conflicts of laws rules.
15. The parties acknowledge that the Confidential Information disclosed by each of them under this Confidentiality Agreement may be subject to export controls under the laws of the United States. Each party shall comply with such laws and agrees not to knowingly export, re-export or transfer Confidential Information of the other party without first obtaining all required United States authorizations or licenses.
16. Neither party may assign this Confidentiality Agreement without the prior written consent of the other party. However, either party may assign or transfer this Confidentiality Agreement and its rights hereunder to an affiliate or successor to its assets or liabilities if such assignee agrees in writing to be bound by the terms and conditions hereof and the non-assignment party is given notice of such an assignment. Any assignment to the contrary shall be void.
17. The persons executing this Confidentiality Agreement warrant that they have the authority to bind <Vendor Name Here>and Company to the terms and conditions embodied in this Confidentiality Agreement.
18. Neither party makes or intends to make any warranty or representation of any kind concerning the Confidential Information, except each party represents and warrants that it has the right to disclose Confidential Information to Receiving Party. Confidential Information is provided only for discussion purposes, is provided on an “As Is” basis, and Receiving Party relies on Confidential Information at its own risk.
19. As used in this Confidentiality Agreement, the terms “<Vendor Name Here>” and Company shall include any of their respective corporate affiliates or subsidiaries, provided that <Vendor Name Here>and Company (a) shall be responsible for the observance and proper performance by all of their respective corporate affiliates of the terms and conditions of this Confidentiality Agreement, and (b) if requested by the disclosing party, shall cause such corporate affiliate to return or destroy all Confidential Information in accordance with Section 5, prior to a corporate affiliate ceasing to be an affiliate thereof.
20. Independent Development: This Confidentiality Agreement shall not be construed to limit the Receiving Party’s, or any of its Representatives’, right to independently develop or acquire products, services, or technology without use of the Disclosing Party’s Confidential Information.  The Disclosing Party understands and acknowledges that the Receiving Party and/or its Representatives may currently or in the future be developing information, knowledge or technology internally, or obtaining information, knowledge or technology from other persons that may be similar to information, knowledge or technology contained or reflected in the Disclosing Party’s Confidential Information.

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Agreed and Accepted:

<Vendor Name Here>

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**State Regulatory Registry LLC**

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