



# NEW HOME CONTRACT

(Incomplete Construction)

NOTICE: Not For Use For Condominium Transactions or Closings Prior to Completion of Construction



**1. PARTIES:** The parties to this contract are \_\_\_\_\_ (Seller) and \_\_\_\_\_ (Buyer). Seller agrees to sell and convey to Buyer and Buyer agrees to buy from Seller the Property defined below.

**2. PROPERTY:** Lot \_\_\_\_\_, Block \_\_\_\_\_, County of \_\_\_\_\_ Texas, known as \_\_\_\_\_ (address/zip code), or as described on attached exhibit, together with: (i) improvements, fixtures and all other property described in the Construction Documents; and (ii) all rights, privileges and appurtenances thereto, including but not limited to: permits, easements, and cooperative and association memberships. All property sold by this contract is called the Property (Property).

RESERVATIONS: Any reservation for oil, gas, or other minerals, water, timber, or other interests is made in accordance with an attached addendum.

**3. SALES PRICE:**

- A. Cash portion of Sales Price payable by Buyer at closing..... \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- B. Sum of all financing described in the attached:  Third Party Financing Addendum,  Loan Assumption Addendum,  Seller Financing Addendum ..... \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- C. Sales Price (Sum of A and B)..... \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**4. LEASES:**

- A. Except as disclosed in this contract, Seller is not aware of any leases affecting the Property. After the Effective Date, Seller may not, without Buyer's written consent, create a new lease, amend any existing lease, or convey any interest in the Property.
- B. NATURAL RESOURCE LEASES: "Natural Resource Lease" means an existing oil and gas, mineral, water, wind, or other natural resource lease affecting the Property to which Seller is a party. Seller  is  is not a party to a Natural Resource Lease. If Seller is a party to a Natural Resource Lease, check one of the following:
  - (1) Seller has delivered to Buyer a copy of all the Natural Resource Leases.
  - (2) Seller has not delivered to Buyer a copy of all the Natural Resource Leases. Seller shall provide to Buyer a copy of all the Natural Resource Leases within 3 days after the Effective Date. Buyer may terminate the contract within \_\_\_\_\_ days after the date the Buyer receives all the Natural Resource Leases and the earnest money shall be refunded to Buyer.

**5. EARNEST MONEY AND TERMINATION OPTION:**

- A. DELIVERY OF EARNEST MONEY AND OPTION FEE: Within 3 days after the Effective Date, Buyer must deliver to \_\_\_\_\_, as escrow agent, at \_\_\_\_\_ (address): \$ \_\_\_\_\_ as earnest money and \$ \_\_\_\_\_ as the Option Fee. The earnest money and Option Fee shall be made payable to escrow agent and may be paid separately or combined in a single payment.
  - (1) Buyer shall deliver additional earnest money of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ to escrow agent within \_\_\_\_\_ days after the Effective Date of this contract.
  - (2) If the last day to deliver the earnest money, Option Fee, or the additional earnest money falls on a Saturday, Sunday, or legal holiday, the time to deliver the earnest money, Option Fee, or the additional earnest money, as applicable, is extended until the end of the next day that is not a Saturday, Sunday, or legal holiday.
  - (3) The amount(s) escrow agent receives under this paragraph shall be applied first to the Option Fee, then to the earnest money, and then to the additional earnest money.
  - (4) Buyer authorizes escrow agent to release and deliver the Option Fee to Seller at any time without further notice to or consent from Buyer, and releases escrow agent from liability for delivery of the Option Fee to Seller. The Option Fee will be credited to the Sales Price at closing.
- B. TERMINATION OPTION: For nominal consideration, the receipt of which Seller acknowledges, and Buyer's agreement to pay the Option Fee within the time required, Seller grants Buyer the unrestricted right to terminate this contract by giving notice of termination to Seller within \_\_\_\_\_ days after the Effective Date of this contract (Option Period). Notices under this paragraph must be given by 5:00 p.m. (local time where the Property is located) by the date specified. If Buyer gives notice of termination within the time prescribed: (i) the Option Fee will not be refunded and escrow agent shall release any Option Fee remaining with escrow agent to Seller; and (ii) any earnest money will be refunded to Buyer.
- C. FAILURE TO TIMELY DELIVER EARNEST MONEY: If Buyer fails to deliver the earnest money within the time required, Seller may terminate this contract or exercise Seller's remedies under Paragraph 15, or both, by providing notice to Buyer before Buyer delivers the earnest money.
- D. FAILURE TO TIMELY DELIVER OPTION FEE: If no dollar amount is stated as the Option Fee or if Buyer fails to deliver the Option Fee within the time required, Buyer shall not have the unrestricted right to terminate this contract under this Paragraph 5.

E. TIME: **Time is of the essence for this paragraph and strict compliance with the time for performance is required.**

**6. TITLE POLICY AND SURVEY:**

A. TITLE POLICY: Seller shall furnish to Buyer at  Seller's  Buyer's expense an owner policy of title insurance (Title Policy) issued by \_\_\_\_\_ (Title Company) in the amount of the Sales Price, dated at or after closing, insuring Buyer against loss under the provisions of the Title Policy, subject to the promulgated exclusions (including existing building and zoning ordinances) and the following exceptions:

- (1) Restrictive covenants common to the platted subdivision in which the Property is located.
- (2) The standard printed exception for standby fees, taxes and assessments.
- (3) Liens created as part of the financing described in Paragraph 3.
- (4) Utility easements created by the dedication deed or plat of the subdivision in which the Property is located.
- (5) Reservations or exceptions otherwise permitted by this contract or as may be approved by Buyer in writing.
- (6) The standard printed exception as to marital rights.
- (7) The standard printed exception as to waters, tidelands, beaches, streams, and related matters.
- (8) The standard printed exception as to discrepancies, conflicts, shortages in area or boundary lines, encroachments or protrusions, or overlapping improvements:
  - (i) will not be amended or deleted from the title policy; or
  - (ii) will be amended to read, "shortages in area" at the expense of  Buyer  Seller.
- (9) The exception or exclusion regarding minerals approved by the Texas Department of Insurance.

B. COMMITMENT: Within 20 days after the Title Company receives a copy of this contract, Seller shall furnish to Buyer a commitment for title insurance (Commitment) and, at Buyer's expense, legible copies of restrictive covenants and documents evidencing exceptions in the Commitment (Exception Documents) other than the standard printed exceptions. Seller authorizes the Title Company to deliver the Commitment and Exception Documents to Buyer at Buyer's address shown in Paragraph 21. If the Commitment and Exception Documents are not delivered to Buyer within the specified time, the time for delivery will be automatically extended up to 15 days or 3 days before the Closing Date, whichever is earlier. If the Commitment and Exception Documents are not delivered within the time required, Buyer may terminate this contract and the earnest money will be refunded to Buyer.

C. SURVEY: The survey must be made after the Substantial Completion Date by a registered professional land surveyor acceptable to the Title Company and Buyer's lender(s). (Check one box only)

- (1) At least \_\_\_\_\_ days prior to the Closing Date, Seller, at Seller's expense, shall provide a new survey to Buyer.
- (2) At least \_\_\_\_\_ days prior to the Closing Date, Buyer, at Buyer's expense, shall obtain a new survey. Buyer is deemed to receive the survey on the date of actual receipt or the date specified in this paragraph, whichever is earlier.

D. OBJECTIONS: Buyer may object in writing to defects, exceptions, or encumbrances to title: disclosed on the survey other than items 6A(1) through (7) above; disclosed in the Commitment other than items 6A(1) through (9) above; or which prohibit the following use or activity: \_\_\_\_\_

Buyer must object the earlier of (i) the Closing Date or (ii) \_\_\_\_\_ days after Buyer receives the Commitment, Exception Documents, and the survey. Buyer's failure to object within the time allowed will constitute a waiver of Buyer's right to object; except that the requirements in Schedule C of the Commitment are not waived by Buyer. Provided Seller is not obligated to incur any expense, Seller shall cure any timely objections of Buyer or any third party lender within 15 days after Seller receives the objections (Cure Period) and the Closing Date will be extended as necessary. If objections are not cured within the Cure Period, Buyer may, by delivering notice to Seller within 5 days after the end of the Cure Period: (i) terminate this contract and the earnest money will be refunded to Buyer; or (ii) waive the objections. If Buyer does not terminate within the time required, Buyer shall be deemed to have waived the objections. If the Commitment or Survey is revised or any new Exception Document(s) is delivered, Buyer may object to any new matter revealed in the revised Commitment or Survey or new Exception Document(s) within the same time stated in this paragraph to make objections beginning when the revised Commitment, Survey, or Exception Document(s) is delivered to Buyer.

E. TITLE NOTICES:

- (1) ABSTRACT OR TITLE POLICY: Broker advises Buyer to have an abstract of title covering the Property examined by an attorney of Buyer's selection, or Buyer should be furnished with or obtain a Title Policy. If a Title Policy is furnished, the Commitment should be promptly reviewed by an attorney of Buyer's choice due to the time limitations on Buyer's right to object.
- (2) MEMBERSHIP IN PROPERTY OWNERS ASSOCIATION(S): The Property  is  is not subject to mandatory membership in a property owners association(s). If the Property is subject to mandatory membership in a property owners association(s), Seller notifies Buyer under

§5.012, Texas Property Code, that, as a purchaser of property in the residential community identified in Paragraph 2A in which the Property is located, you are obligated to be a member of the property owners association(s). Restrictive covenants governing the use and occupancy of the Property and all dedicatory instruments governing the establishment, maintenance, and operation of this residential community have been or will be recorded in the Real Property Records of the county in which the Property is located. Copies of the restrictive covenants and dedicatory instruments may be obtained from the county clerk. **You are obligated to pay assessments to the property owners association(s). The amount of the assessments is subject to change. Your failure to pay the assessments could result in enforcement of the association's lien on and the foreclosure of the Property.**

Section 207.003, Property Code, entitles an owner to receive copies of any document that governs the establishment, maintenance, or operation of a subdivision, including, but not limited to, restrictions, bylaws, rules and regulations, and a resale certificate from a property owners' association. A resale certificate contains information including, but not limited to, statements specifying the amount and frequency of regular assessments and the style and cause number of lawsuits to which the property owners' association is a party, other than lawsuits relating to unpaid ad valorem taxes of an individual member of the association. These documents must be made available to you by the property owners' association or the association's agent on your request.

**If Buyer is concerned about these matters, the TREC promulgated Addendum for Property Subject to Mandatory Membership in a Property Owners Association should be used.**

- (3) STATUTORY TAX DISTRICTS: If the Property is situated in a utility or other statutorily created district providing water, sewer, drainage, or flood control facilities and services, Chapter 49, Texas Water Code, requires Seller to deliver and Buyer to sign the statutory notice relating to the tax rate, bonded indebtedness, or standby fee of the district prior to final execution of this contract.
- (4) TIDE WATERS: If the Property abuts the tidally influenced waters of the state, §33.135, Texas Natural Resources Code, requires a notice regarding coastal area property to be included in the contract. An addendum containing the notice promulgated by TREC or required by the parties must be used.
- (5) ANNEXATION: If the Property is located outside the limits of a municipality, Seller notifies Buyer under §5.011, Texas Property Code, that the Property may now or later be included in the extraterritorial jurisdiction of a municipality and may now or later be subject to annexation by the municipality. Each municipality maintains a map that depicts its boundaries and extraterritorial jurisdiction. To determine if the Property is located within a municipality's extraterritorial jurisdiction or is likely to be located within a municipality's extraterritorial jurisdiction, contact all municipalities located in the general proximity of the Property for further information.
- (6) PROPERTY LOCATED IN A CERTIFICATED SERVICE AREA OF A UTILITY SERVICE PROVIDER: Notice required by §13.257, Water Code: The real property, described in Paragraph 2, that you are about to purchase may be located in a certificated water or sewer service area, which is authorized by law to provide water or sewer service to the properties in the certificated area. If your property is located in a certificated area there may be special costs or charges that you will be required to pay before you can receive water or sewer service. There may be a period required to construct lines or other facilities necessary to provide water or sewer service to your property. You are advised to determine if the property is in a certificated area and contact the utility service provider to determine the cost that you will be required to pay and the period, if any, that is required to provide water or sewer service to your property. The undersigned Buyer hereby acknowledges receipt of the foregoing notice at or before the execution of a binding contract for the purchase of the real property described in Paragraph 2 or at closing of purchase of the real property.
- (7) PUBLIC IMPROVEMENT DISTRICTS: If the Property is in a public improvement district, Seller must give Buyer written notice as required by §5.014, Property Code. An addendum containing the required notice shall be attached to this contract.
- (8) TRANSFER FEES: If the Property is subject to a private transfer fee obligation, §5.205, Property Code, requires Seller to notify Buyer as follows: The private transfer fee obligation may be governed by Chapter 5, Subchapter G of the Texas Property Code.
- (9) PROPANE GAS SYSTEM SERVICE AREA: If the Property is located in a propane gas system service area owned by a distribution system retailer, Seller must give Buyer written notice as required by §141.010, Texas Utilities Code. An addendum containing the notice approved by TREC or required by the parties should be used.
- (10) NOTICE OF WATER LEVEL FLUCTUATIONS: If the Property adjoins an impoundment of water, including a reservoir or lake, constructed and maintained under Chapter 11, Water Code, that has a storage capacity of at least 5,000 acre-feet at the impoundment's normal operating level, Seller hereby notifies Buyer: "The water level of the impoundment of water adjoining the Property fluctuates for various reasons, including as a result of: (1) an entity lawfully exercising its right to use the water stored in the impoundment; or (2) drought or flood conditions."

**7. PROPERTY CONDITION:**

- A. **ACCESS AND INSPECTIONS:** Seller shall permit Buyer and Buyer's agents access to the Property at reasonable times. Buyer may have the Property inspected by inspectors selected by Buyer and licensed by TREC or otherwise permitted by law to make inspections.
- B. **CONSTRUCTION DOCUMENTS:** Seller shall complete all improvements to the Property with due diligence in accordance with the Construction Documents. "Construction Documents" means the plans and specifications, the finish out schedules, any change orders, and any allowances related to the plans and specifications, finish out schedules, and change orders. The Construction Documents have been signed by the parties and are incorporated into this contract by reference.
- C. **COST ADJUSTMENTS:** All change orders must be in writing. Increase in costs resulting from change orders or items selected by Buyer which exceed the allowances specified in the Construction Documents will be paid by Buyer as follows: \_\_\_\_\_

A decrease in costs resulting from change orders and unused allowances will reduce the Sales Price, with proportionate adjustments to the amounts in Paragraphs 3A and 3B as required by lender.

- D. **BUYER'S SELECTIONS:** If the Construction Documents permit selections by Buyer, Buyer's selections will conform to Seller's normal standards as set out in the Construction Documents or will not, in Seller's judgment, adversely affect the marketability of the Property. Buyer will make required selections within \_\_\_\_\_ days after notice from Seller.
- E. **COMPLETION:** Seller must commence construction no later than \_\_\_\_\_ days after the Effective Date of this contract. The improvements will be substantially completed in accordance with the Construction Documents and ready for occupancy not later than \_\_\_\_\_/20\_\_\_\_. The improvements will be deemed to be substantially completed in accordance with the Construction Documents upon the final inspection and approval by all applicable governmental authorities and any lender (Substantial Completion Date). Construction delays caused by acts of God, fire or other casualty, strikes, boycotts or nonavailability of materials for which no substitute of comparable quality and price is available will be added to the time allowed for substantial completion of the construction. However, in no event may the time for substantial completion extend beyond the Closing Date. Seller may substitute materials, equipment and appliances of comparable quality for those specified in the Construction Documents.
- F. **WARRANTIES:** Except as expressly set forth in this contract, a separate writing, or provided by law, Seller makes no other express warranties. Seller shall assign to Buyer at closing all assignable manufacturer warranties.
- G. **INSULATION:** As required by Federal Trade Commission Regulations, the information relating to the insulation installed or to be installed in the Improvements at the Property is: (check only one box below)
- (1) as shown in the attached specifications.
- (2) as follows:
- (a) Exterior walls of improved living areas: insulated with \_\_\_\_\_ insulation to a thickness of \_\_\_\_\_ inches which yields an R-Value of \_\_\_\_\_.
- (b) Walls in other areas of the home: insulated with \_\_\_\_\_ insulation to a thickness of \_\_\_\_\_ inches which yields an R-Value of \_\_\_\_\_.
- (c) Ceilings in improved living areas: insulated with \_\_\_\_\_ insulation to a thickness of \_\_\_\_\_ inches which yields an R-Value of \_\_\_\_\_.
- (d) Floors of improved living areas not applied to a slab foundation: insulated with \_\_\_\_\_ which yields an R-Value of \_\_\_\_\_ insulation to a thickness of \_\_\_\_\_ inches.
- (e) Other insulated areas: insulated with \_\_\_\_\_ insulation to a thickness of \_\_\_\_\_ inches which yields an R-Value of \_\_\_\_\_.
- All stated R-Values are based on information provided by the manufacturer of the insulation.
- H. **ENVIRONMENTAL MATTERS:** Buyer is advised that the presence of wetlands, toxic substances, including asbestos and wastes or other environmental hazards, or the presence of a threatened or endangered species or its habitat may affect Buyer's intended use of the Property. If Buyer is concerned about these matters, an addendum promulgated by TREC or required by the parties should be used.
- I. **SELLER'S DISCLOSURE:** Except as otherwise disclosed in this contract, Seller has no knowledge of the following:
- (1) any flooding of the Property which has had a material adverse effect on the use of the Property;
  - (2) any pending or threatened litigation, condemnation, or special assessment affecting the Property;
  - (3) any environmental hazards that materially and adversely affect the Property;
  - (4) any dumpsite, landfill, or underground tanks or containers now or previously located on the Property;
  - (5) any wetlands, as defined by federal or state law or regulation, affecting the Property; or any threatened or endangered species or their habitat affecting the Property.
- J. **RESIDENTIAL SERVICE CONTRACTS:** Buyer may purchase a residential service contract from a residential service company. If Buyer purchases a residential service contract, Seller shall reimburse Buyer at closing for the cost of the residential service contract in an amount not

exceeding \$\_\_\_\_\_. Buyer should review any residential service contract for the scope of coverage, exclusions and limitations. **The purchase of a residential service contract is optional. Similar coverage may be purchased from various companies authorized to do business in Texas.**

**8. BROKERS AND SALES AGENTS:**

A. BROKER OR SALES AGENT DISCLOSURE: Texas law requires a real estate broker or sales agent who is a party to a transaction or acting on behalf of a spouse, parent, child, business entity in which the broker or sales agent owns more than 10%, or a trust for which the broker or sales agent acts as a trustee or of which the broker or sales agent or the broker or sales agent's spouse, parent or child is a beneficiary, to notify the other party in writing before entering into a contract of sale. Disclose if applicable: \_\_\_\_\_.

B. BROKERS' FEES: All obligations of the parties for payment of brokers' fees are contained in separate written agreements.

**9. CLOSING:**

A. The closing of the sale will be on or before \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_\_, or within 7 days after objections made under Paragraph 6D have been cured or waived, whichever date is later (Closing Date). If either party fails to close the sale by the Closing Date, the non-defaulting party may exercise the remedies contained in Paragraph 15.

B. At closing:

- (1) Seller shall execute and deliver a general warranty deed conveying title to the Property to Buyer and showing no additional exceptions to those permitted in Paragraph 6 and furnish tax statements or certificates showing no delinquent taxes on the Property.
- (2) Buyer shall pay the Sales Price in good funds acceptable to the escrow agent.
- (3) Seller and Buyer shall execute and deliver any notices, statements, certificates, affidavits, releases, loan documents and other documents reasonably required for the closing of the sale and the issuance of the Title Policy.
- (4) There will be no liens, assessments, or security interests against the Property which will not be satisfied out of the sales proceeds unless securing payment of any loans assumed by Buyer and assumed loans will not be in default.

**10. POSSESSION:**

A. BUYER'S POSSESSION: Seller shall deliver to Buyer possession of the Property:  upon closing and funding  according to a temporary residential lease form promulgated by TREC or other written lease required by the parties. Any possession by Buyer prior to closing or by Seller after closing which is not authorized by a written lease will establish a tenancy at sufferance relationship between the parties. **Consult your insurance agent prior to change of ownership and possession because insurance coverage may be limited or terminated. The absence of a written lease or appropriate insurance coverage may expose the parties to economic loss.**

B. SMART DEVICES: "Smart Device" means a device that connects to the internet to enable remote use, monitoring, and management of: (i) the Property; (ii) items identified in any Non-Realty Items Addendum; or (iii) items in a fixture lease assigned to Buyer. At the time Seller delivers possession of the Property to Buyer, Seller shall:

- (1) deliver to Buyer written information containing all access codes, usernames, passwords, and applications Buyer will need to access, operate, manage, and control the Smart Devices; and
- (2) terminate and remove all access and connections to the improvements and accessories from any of Seller's personal devices including but not limited to phones and computers.

**11. SPECIAL PROVISIONS:** (Insert only factual statements and business details applicable to the sale. TREC rules prohibit license holders from adding factual statements or business details for which a contract addendum, lease or other form has been promulgated by TREC for mandatory use.)

**12. SETTLEMENT AND OTHER EXPENSES:**

A. The following expenses must be paid at or prior to closing:

- (1) Expenses payable by Seller (Seller's Expenses):
  - (a) Releases of existing liens, including prepayment penalties and recording fees; release of Seller's loan liability; tax statements or certificates; preparation of deed; one-half of escrow fee; and other expenses payable by Seller under this contract.
  - (b) Seller shall also pay an amount not to exceed \$\_\_\_\_\_ to be applied in the following order: Buyer's Expenses which Buyer is prohibited from paying by FHA, VA, Texas Veterans Land Board or other governmental loan programs, and then to other Buyer's Expenses as allowed by the lender.
- (2) Expenses payable by Buyer (Buyer's Expenses): Appraisal fees; loan application fees; origination charges; credit reports; preparation of loan documents; interest on the notes from date of disbursement to one month prior to dates of first monthly payments; recording fees; copies of easements and restrictions; loan title policy with endorsements

required by lender; loan-related inspection fees; photos; amortization schedules; one-half of escrow fee; all prepaid items, including required premiums for flood and hazard insurance, reserve deposits for insurance, ad valorem taxes and special governmental assessments; final compliance inspection; courier fee; repair inspection; underwriting fee; wire transfer fee; expenses incident to any loan; Private Mortgage Insurance Premium (PMI), VA Loan Funding Fee, or FHA Mortgage Insurance Premium (MIP) as required by the lender; and other expenses payable by Buyer under this contract.

- B. If any expense exceeds an amount expressly stated in this contract for such expense to be paid by a party, that party may terminate this contract unless the other party agrees to pay such excess. Buyer may not pay charges and fees expressly prohibited by FHA, VA, Texas Veterans Land Board or other governmental loan program regulations.

**13. PRORATIONS AND ROLLBACK TAXES:**

A. PRORATIONS: Taxes for the current year, maintenance fees, assessments, dues and rents will be prorated through the Closing Date. The tax proration may be calculated taking into consideration any change in exemptions that will affect the current year's taxes. If taxes for the current year vary from the amount prorated at closing, the parties shall adjust the prorations when tax statements for the current year are available. If taxes are not paid at or prior to closing, Buyer will be obligated to pay taxes for the current year.

B. ROLLBACK TAXES: If additional taxes, penalties, or interest (Assessments) are imposed because of Seller's use or change in use of the Property prior to closing, the Assessments will be the obligation of Seller. Obligations imposed by this paragraph will survive closing.

**14. CASUALTY LOSS:** If any part of the Property is damaged or destroyed by fire or other casualty after the Effective Date of this contract, Seller shall restore the Property to its previous condition as soon as reasonably possible, but in any event by the Closing Date. If Seller fails to do so due to factors beyond Seller's control, Buyer may (a) terminate this contract and the earnest money will be refunded to Buyer (b) extend the time for performance up to 45 days and the Closing Date will be extended as necessary or (c) accept the Property in its damaged condition with an assignment of insurance proceeds, if permitted by Seller's insurance carrier, and receive credit from Seller at closing in the amount of the deductible under the insurance policy. Seller's obligations under this paragraph are independent of any other obligations of Seller under this contract.

**15. DEFAULT:** If Buyer fails to comply with this contract, Buyer will be in default, and Seller may (a) enforce specific performance, seek such other relief as may be provided by law, or both, or (b) terminate this contract and receive the earnest money as liquidated damages, thereby releasing both parties from this contract. If Seller fails to comply with this contract Seller will be in default and Buyer may (a) enforce specific performance, seek such other relief as may be provided by law, or both, or (b) terminate this contract and receive the earnest money, thereby releasing both parties from this contract.

**16. MEDIATION:** It is the policy of the State of Texas to encourage resolution of disputes through alternative dispute resolution procedures such as mediation. Subject to applicable law, any dispute between Seller and Buyer related to this contract which is not resolved through informal discussion will be submitted to a mutually acceptable mediation service or provider. The parties to the mediation shall bear the mediation costs equally. This paragraph does not preclude a party from seeking equitable relief from a court of competent jurisdiction.

**17. ATTORNEY'S FEES:** A Buyer, Seller, Listing Broker, Other Broker, or escrow agent who prevails in any legal proceeding related to this contract is entitled to recover reasonable attorney's fees and all costs of such proceeding.

**18. ESCROW:**

A. ESCROW: The escrow agent is not (i) a party to this contract and does not have liability for the performance or nonperformance of any party to this contract, (ii) liable for interest on the earnest money and (iii) liable for the loss of any earnest money caused by the failure of any financial institution in which the earnest money has been deposited unless the financial institution is acting as escrow agent. Escrow agent may require any disbursement made in connection with this contract to be conditioned on escrow agent's collection of good funds acceptable to escrow agent.

B. EXPENSES: At closing, the earnest money must be applied first to any cash down payment, then to Buyer's Expenses and any excess refunded to Buyer. If no closing occurs, escrow agent may: (i) require a written release of liability of the escrow agent from all parties; and (ii) require payment of unpaid expenses incurred on behalf of a party. Escrow agent may deduct authorized expenses from the earnest money payable to a party. "Authorized expenses" means expenses incurred by escrow agent on behalf of the party entitled to the earnest money that were authorized by this contract or that party.

C. DEMAND: Upon termination of this contract, either party or the escrow agent may send a release of earnest money to each party and the parties shall execute counterparts of the release and deliver same to the escrow agent. If either party fails to execute the release, either party may make a written demand to the escrow agent for the earnest money. If only one party makes written demand for the earnest money, escrow agent shall promptly provide a copy of the demand to the other party. If escrow agent does not receive written objection to the demand from the other party within 15 days, escrow agent may disburse the earnest money to the party making demand reduced by the amount of unpaid expenses incurred on behalf of the party receiving the earnest money and escrow agent may pay the same to the creditors. If escrow agent complies with the provisions of this paragraph, each party hereby releases escrow agent from all adverse claims related to the disbursement of the earnest money.

D. DAMAGES: Any party who wrongfully fails or refuses to sign a release acceptable to the escrow agent within 7 days of receipt of the request will be liable to the other party for (i) damages (ii) the earnest money; (iii) reasonable attorney's fees; and (iv) all costs of suit.

E. NOTICES: Escrow agent's notices will be effective when sent in compliance with Paragraph 21. Notice of objection to the demand will be deemed effective upon receipt by escrow agent.

**19. REPRESENTATIONS:** All covenants, representations and warranties in this contract survive closing. If any representation of Seller in this contract is untrue on the Closing Date, Seller will be in default. Unless expressly prohibited by written agreement, Seller may continue to show the Property and receive, negotiate and accept back up offers.

**20. FEDERAL TAX REQUIREMENTS:** If Seller is a "foreign person," as defined by Internal Revenue Code and its regulations, or if Seller fails to deliver an affidavit or a certificate of non-foreign status to Buyer that Seller is not a "foreign person," then Buyer shall withhold from the sales proceeds an amount sufficient to comply with applicable tax law and deliver the same to the Internal Revenue Service together with appropriate tax forms. Internal Revenue Service regulations require filing written reports if currency in excess of specified amounts is received in the transaction.

**21. NOTICES:** All notices from one party to the other must be in writing and are effective when mailed to, hand-delivered at, or transmitted by fax or electronic transmission as follows:

To Buyer at: \_\_\_\_\_

To Seller at: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Phone: ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail/Fax: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail/Fax: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail/Fax: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail/Fax: \_\_\_\_\_

**22. AGREEMENT OF PARTIES:** This contract contains the entire agreement of the parties and cannot be changed except by their written agreement. Addenda which are a part of this contract are (check all applicable boxes):

- Third Party Financing Addendum
- Seller Financing Addendum
- Addendum for Property Subject to Mandatory Membership in a Property Owners Association
- Buyer's Temporary Residential Lease
- Loan Assumption Addendum
- Addendum for Sale of Other Property by Buyer
- Addendum for Reservation of Oil, Gas and Other Minerals
- Addendum for "Back-Up" Contract
- Addendum Concerning Right to Terminate Due to Lender's Appraisal

- Addendum for Coastal Area Property
- Environmental Assessment, Threatened or Endangered Species and Wetlands Addendum
- Seller's Temporary Residential Lease
- Short Sale Addendum
- Addendum for Property Located Seaward of the Gulf Intracoastal Waterway
- Addendum for Property in a Propane Gas System Service Area
- Addendum containing Notice of Obligation to Pay Improvement District Assessment
- Other (list): \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**23. CONSULT AN ATTORNEY BEFORE SIGNING:** TREC rules prohibit real estate license holders from giving legal advice. READ THIS CONTRACT CAREFULLY.

Buyer's  
 Attorney is: \_\_\_\_\_

Seller's  
 Attorney is: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Phone: ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

Fax: ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

Fax: ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

**EXECUTED the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_\_ (Effective Date).  
 (BROKER: FILL IN THE DATE OF FINAL ACCEPTANCE.)**

This contract is subject to Chapter 27 of the Texas Property Code. The provisions of that chapter may affect your right to recover damages arising from a construction defect. If you have a complaint concerning a construction defect and that defect has not been corrected as may be required by law or by contract, you must provide the notice required by Chapter 27 of the Texas Property Code to the contractor by certified mail, return receipt requested, not later than the 60th day before the date you file suit to recover damages in a court of law or initiate arbitration. The notice must refer to Chapter 27 of the Texas Property Code and must describe the construction defect. If requested by the contractor, you must provide the contractor an opportunity to inspect and cure the defect as provided by Section 27.004 of the Texas Property Code.

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Buyer

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Buyer

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Seller

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Seller



The form of this contract has been approved by the Texas Real Estate Commission. TREC forms are intended for use only by trained real estate license holders. No representation is made as to the legal validity or adequacy of any provision in any specific transactions. It is not intended for complex transactions. Texas Real Estate Commission, P.O. Box 12188, Austin, TX 78711-2188, (512) 936-3000 (<http://www.trec.texas.gov>) TREC NO. 23-17. This form replaces TREC NO. 23-16.



**BROKER INFORMATION**  
(Print name(s) only. Do not sign)

Other Broker Firm \_\_\_\_\_ License No. \_\_\_\_\_

represents  Buyer only as Buyer's agent  
 Seller as Listing Broker's subagent

Listing Broker Firm \_\_\_\_\_ License No. \_\_\_\_\_

represents  Seller and Buyer as an intermediary  
 Seller only as Seller's agent

Associate's Name \_\_\_\_\_ License No. \_\_\_\_\_

Team Name \_\_\_\_\_

Associate's Email Address \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Licensed Supervisor of Associate \_\_\_\_\_ License No. \_\_\_\_\_

Other Broker's Address \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Listing Associate's Name \_\_\_\_\_ License No. \_\_\_\_\_

Team Name \_\_\_\_\_

Listing Associate's Email Address \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Licensed Supervisor of Listing Associate \_\_\_\_\_ License No. \_\_\_\_\_

Listing Broker's Office Address \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Selling Associate's Name \_\_\_\_\_ License No. \_\_\_\_\_

Team Name \_\_\_\_\_

Selling Associate's Email Address \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Licensed Supervisor of Selling Associate \_\_\_\_\_ License No. \_\_\_\_\_

Selling Associate's Office Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Disclosure: Pursuant to a previous, separate agreement (such as a MLS offer of compensation or other agreement between brokers), Listing Broker has agreed to pay Other Broker a fee (\_\_\_\_\_). This disclosure is for informational purposes and does not change the previous agreement between brokers to pay or share a commission.

**OPTION FEE RECEIPT**

Receipt of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ (Option Fee) in the form of \_\_\_\_\_  
is acknowledged.

Escrow Agent \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**EARNEST MONEY RECEIPT**

Receipt of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Earnest Money in the form of \_\_\_\_\_  
is acknowledged.

Escrow Agent \_\_\_\_\_ Received by \_\_\_\_\_ Email Address \_\_\_\_\_ Date/Time \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Fax \_\_\_\_\_

**CONTRACT RECEIPT**

Receipt of the Contract is acknowledged.

Escrow Agent \_\_\_\_\_ Received by \_\_\_\_\_ Email Address \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Fax \_\_\_\_\_

**ADDITIONAL EARNEST MONEY RECEIPT**

Receipt of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ additional Earnest Money in the form of \_\_\_\_\_  
is acknowledged.

Escrow Agent \_\_\_\_\_ Received by \_\_\_\_\_ Email Address \_\_\_\_\_ Date/Time \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Fax \_\_\_\_\_