

# MONTEREY COUNTY



## COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE

168 West Alisal Street  
Salinas, Ca 93901

### **Restrictions on Lobbying and Use of Public Funds provided by The County of Monterey to the \_\_\_\_\_ Chamber of Commerce**

The County of Monterey, as a community leader and partner in the mission of the Chambers of Commerce within its boundaries, wishes to participate in local Chambers as a non-voting member. Chambers of Commerce, however, conduct lobbying and political campaign activities which are antithetical to the County of Monterey's objective to remain a politically neutral entity by abstaining from overtly political conduct. In weighing these competing interests, the County of Monterey wishes to engage with local Chambers as a non-voting member, subject to the following guidance.

#### **Implementation**

Prior to the County of Monterey paying contributions or becoming a member of any local Chamber of Commerce, the local Chamber must sign this agreement.

#### **Terms and Conditions**

The \_\_\_\_\_ Chamber of Commerce agrees to the following in exchange for an annual membership of the County of Monterey:

1. The Chamber shall not use the County's contributions on any lobbying or political campaign activity, as defined by state and federal law and interpreted by the County.
2. The Chamber shall segregate and separately track the use of the County of Monterey's contributions.
3. At the conclusion of each year, the Chamber shall report its use of County contributions to the County.

#### **Violation and Refund**

If the above terms and conditions are violated, as determined at the County's sole discretion, the following shall apply:

1. The County shall notify the Chamber of the violation and the Chamber shall take all action necessary to return the County's funds back to the Chamber and subsequently use the funds for an appropriate purpose.
2. If the parties are unable to correct the violation to the County's satisfaction, the Chamber shall return the County's contributions for the year of violation and every subsequent year thereafter without pro rata reduction.
3. The Chamber shall, under the direction of the County, issue a statement to notify the public of:
  - a. the Chamber's violation,
  - b. subsequent actions to correct the misuse of public funds, and
  - c. how the chamber will avoid future violations, if appropriate.

[signature blocks]

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

