# FRANCHISE DISCLOSURE DOCUMENT

Taco Cabana Franchising, Inc. A Texas corporation 1077 Central Parkway, Suite 600 San Antonio, Texas 78232 www.tacocabana.com

The franchisee will operate a restaurant under the name "Taco Cabana" which features premium quality traditional Mexican-style food, including tacos, fajitas, burritos, flautas and other food and beverage items ("**Taco Cabana Restaurant**"). The total investment necessary to begin operation of a single Taco Cabana Restaurant ranges from \$1,304,500 to \$2,644,000. This includes \$45,000 that must be paid to the franchisor. The total investment necessary to begin operations ranges from \$1,284,500 to \$2,684,000 if you sign a Development Agreement. This assumes a development schedule of five Taco Cabana Restaurants and includes \$85,000 that must be paid to the franchisor.

This disclosure document summarizes certain provisions of your franchise agreement and other information in plain English. Read this disclosure document and all accompanying agreements carefully. You must receive this disclosure document at least 14 calendar-days before you sign a binding agreement with, or make any payment to, the franchisor or an affiliate in connection with the proposed franchise sale. Note, however, that no governmental agency has verified the information contained in this document.

You may wish to receive your disclosure document in another format that is more convenient for you. To discuss the availability of disclosures in different formats, contact Brad Smith; <a href="mailto:franchising@tacocabana.com">franchising@tacocabana.com</a>.

The terms of your contract will govern your franchise relationship. Do not rely on the disclosure document alone to understand your contract. Read all of your contract carefully. Show your contract and this disclosure document to an advisor, like a lawyer or an accountant.

Buying a franchise is a complex investment. The information in this disclosure document can help you make up your mind. More information on franchising, such as "A Consumer's Guide to Buying a Franchise," which can help you understand how to use this disclosure document, is available from the Federal Trade Commission ("FTC"). You can contact the FTC by calling 1-877-FTC-HELP or by writing to the FTC at 600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20580. You can also visit the FTC's home page at www.ftc.gov for additional information. Call your state agency or visit your public library for other sources of information on franchising. There may also be laws on franchising in your state. Ask your state agencies about them.

Issued: January 17, 2024

# **How to Use This Franchise Disclosure Document**

Here are some questions you may be asking about buying a franchise and tips on how to find more information:

QUESTION	WHERE TO FIND INFORMATION
How much can I earn?	Item 19 may give you information about outlet sales, costs, profits or losses. You should also try to obtain this information from others, like current and former franchisees. You can find their names and contact information in Item 20 or <b>Exhibits G</b> and <b>H</b> .
How much will I need to invest?	Items 5 and 6 list fees you will be paying to the franchisor or at the franchisor's direction. Item 7 lists the initial investment to open. Item 8 describes the suppliers you must use.
Does the franchisor have the financial ability to provide support to my business?	Item 21 or <b>Exhibit E</b> includes financial statements. Review these statements carefully.
Is the franchise system stable, growing, or shrinking?	Item 20 summarizes the recent history of the number of company-owned and franchised outlets.
Will my business be the only TACO CABANA business in my area?	Item 12 and the "territory" provisions in the franchise agreement describe whether the franchisor and other franchisees can compete with you.
Does the franchisor have a troubled legal history?	Items 3 and 4 tell you whether the franchisor or its management have been involved in material litigation or bankruptcy proceedings.
What's it like to be a TACO CABANA franchisee?	Item 20 or <b>Exhibits G</b> and <b>H</b> list current and former franchisees. You can contact them to ask about their experiences.
What else should I know?	These questions are only a few things you should look for. Review all 23 Items and all Exhibits in this disclosure document to better understand this franchise opportunity. See the table of contents.

# What You Need To Know About Franchising Generally

Continuing responsibility to pay fees. You may have to pay royalties and other fees even if you are losing money.

**Business model can change.** The franchise agreement may allow the franchisor to change its manuals and business model without your consent. These changes may require you to make additional investments in your franchise business or may harm your franchise business.

**Supplier restrictions.** You may have to buy or lease items from the franchisor or a limited group of suppliers the franchisor designates. These items may be more expensive than similar items you could buy on your own.

**Operating restrictions.** The franchise agreement may prohibit you from operating a similar business during the term of the franchise. There are usually other restrictions. Some examples may include controlling your location, your access to customers, what you sell, how you market, and your hours of operation.

**Competition from franchisor.** Even if the franchise agreement grants you a territory, the franchisor may have the right to compete with you in your territory.

**Renewal.** Your franchise agreement may not permit you to renew. Even if it does, you may have to sign a new agreement with different terms and conditions in order to continue to operate your franchise business.

When your franchise ends. The franchise agreement may prohibit you from operating a similar business after your franchise ends even if you still have obligations to your landlord or other creditors.

# **Some States Require Registration**

Your state may have a franchise law, or other law, that requires franchisors to register before offering or selling franchises in the state. Registration does not mean that the state recommends the franchise or has verified the information in this document. To find out if your state has a registration requirement, or to contact your state, use the agency information in **Exhibit A**.

Your state also may have laws that require special disclosures or amendments be made to your franchise agreement. If so, you should check the State Specific Addenda. See the Table of Contents for the location of the State Specific Addenda.

# **Special Risks to Consider About This Franchise**

Certain states require that the following risk(s) be highlighted:

1. <u>Out-of-State Dispute Resolution</u>. The franchise agreement requires you to resolve disputes with the franchisor by litigation only in Texas. Out-of-state litigation may force you to accept a less favorable settlement for disputes. It may also cost more to litigate with the franchisor in Texas than in your own state.

Certain states may require other risks to be highlighted. Check the "State Specific Addenda" (if any) to see whether your state requires other risks to be highlighted.

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# ITEM 1 THE FRANCHISOR AND ANY PARENTS, PREDECESSORS, AND AFFILIATES

To simplify the language in this disclosure document, "**Taco Cabana**," "we," or "us" means Taco Cabana Franchising, Inc., the franchisor. "**You**" means the person or legal entity who is granted the franchise. If you are a corporation, partnership, limited liability company, or other business entity, certain provisions of this disclosure document also apply to your owners and will be noted.

Taco Cabana is a Texas corporation formed on January 17, 2023, whose principal business address is 1077 Central Parkway South, Unit 600, San Antonio, Texas 78232. We do business under the name "Taco Cabana." We do not operate any Taco Cabana Restaurants. Our agents for service of process in various states are listed in **Exhibit A**.

We have been offering franchises for Taco Cabana Restaurants since March 2023. We have never operated a Taco Cabana Restaurant. We have not offered franchises in any other line of business, and we do not engage in any business not described in this Item 1.

We have one parent who is also a predecessor. Taco Cabana, Inc. ("TCI"), is a Delaware corporation formed November 11, 1991. TCI's principal business address is 1077 Central Parkway South, Unit 600, San Antonio, Texas 78232.

We have one affiliate, Texas Taco Cabana, L.P., which operates Taco Cabana restaurants in Texas similar to the restaurants you will operate. The principal business address of Texas Taco Cabana, L.P. is 1077 Central Parkway South, Unit 600, San Antonio, Texas 78232.

Our affiliate, NTG Franchising, LLC ("NTGF"), offers franchises for the "Nick the Greek" restaurant concept ("Nick the Greek Restaurants") across the United States. NTGF's principal business address is 5765 Winfield Blvd., Ste. 1, San Jose, California 95123. NTGF began offering franchises for Nick the Greek Restaurants in December 2018. As of December 31, 2023 there were 39 operating franchised Nick the Greek Restaurant locations and nine operating company-owned Nick the Greek Restaurant locations.

We do not have any other affiliates that offer franchises or provide products or services to our franchisees.

#### **Taco Cabana Restaurants**

We are offering, under the terms of this disclosure document, the opportunity to become a franchisee to develop and operate one or more Taco Cabana Restaurants. Taco Cabana restaurants specialize in Mexican-inspired food made fresh by hand using unique recipes and ingredients that reflect our rich history. The Taco Cabana menu currently features a delicious variety of breakfast, lunch and dinner tacos, burritos, fajitas, quesadillas, flautas, enchiladas, Cabana Bowls®, Cabana Salads™, double crunch pizzas, freshly-made flour tortillas, a selection of made-from-scratch salsas and signature margaritas. The Taco Cabana Mexican-influenced décor adds additional flavor to the guest experience. Typically, a Taco Cabana Restaurant will operate in a fast casual format and occupy approximately 2,500 to 3,200 square feet.

Taco Cabana Restaurants operate according to a distinctive format, appearance and set of specifications and operating procedures (collectively, the "System"), whose distinguishing characteristics include, but are not limited to, our décor, layout, color schemes and designs (collectively, "Trade Dress"); our menu items, recipes and food preparation and service techniques; our standards and specifications for

equipment, equipment layouts and interior and exterior accessories; and the accumulated experience reflected in our training program, operating procedures and standards and specifications.

We have described our mandatory and recommended standards, specifications, and operating procedures in our confidential operating manuals ("Manual"). We will loan one copy of, or provide electronic access to, the Manual for the term of your franchise. We have the right to periodically change, improve, add to, and further develop the Manual and the elements of the System.

We are offering the opportunity to develop a single Taco Cabana Restaurant. We also offer the opportunity for certain qualified restaurant operators to develop multiple Taco Cabana Restaurants under a development agreement ("**Development Agreement**") (**Exhibit B**).

Before you acquire a site to operate a Taco Cabana Restaurant, we must accept the site for the Taco Cabana Restaurant ("Authorized Site"). Once the site is accepted, we will forward you a franchise agreement ("Franchise Agreement") (Exhibit C) for the Authorized Site. The form of Franchise Agreement for the Taco Cabana Restaurants to be developed by you will be the standard form in general use at the time that we accept the site for the applicable Taco Cabana Restaurant, which may differ from the Franchise Agreement attached as Exhibit C.

Your receipt of this disclosure document does not mean you will be accepted as a franchisee or that you may develop or open a Taco Cabana Restaurant. Before you may develop and open a Taco Cabana Restaurant, among other things, we must approve you as a Taco Cabana Restaurant franchisee (or if you already are a franchisee, approve you for expansion); you must sign the Franchise Agreement and pay the Initial Franchise Fee (as described in Item 5); we must accept the site for your proposed Taco Cabana Restaurant in writing; and you (or your Operating Principal) and those managerial personnel whom we designate must attend and successfully complete (as determined by us in our sole discretion) our Initial Training Program ("ITP") (as described in Item 11).

#### **Market and Competition**

The market for fast casual Mexican restaurants is well-developed. Your Taco Cabana Restaurant will compete with other national and regional Mexican-style food restaurants, as well as other franchised, chain, and independent restaurants. We are in the early stages of franchising, and some of our competitors have longer operating histories than ours. The restaurant business is highly competitive based on price, service, restaurant location and food quality and is subject to fluctuations in consumer tastes, economic conditions, population, and traffic patterns.

#### **Industry-Specific Laws**

We are not aware of any laws applicable to a Taco Cabana Restaurant that would not apply to restaurant businesses generally. You must comply with all applicable local, state, and federal laws and regulations, including those relating to alcoholic beverages, health, sanitation, food handling, food preparation, waste disposal, smoking restrictions, discrimination, employment, sexual harassment and advertising.

Some laws require point of sale disclosures, including statements concerning nutritional and dietary characteristics of the food served at the Taco Cabana Restaurant. There are other laws and regulations applicable to businesses generally (such as the Americans with Disabilities Act) with which you must comply. You should consult with your attorney concerning these and other laws and ordinances that may affect the operation of the Taco Cabana Restaurant. You must also obtain all real estate permits, a liquor license, and other required licenses.

# ITEM 2 BUSINESS EXPERIENCE

# **Chief Executive Officer: Anil Yadav**

Mr. Yadav has served as our Chief Executive Officer since January 2023. He also has served as Chief Executive Officer of NTG Franchising, LLC, in San Jose, CA since December 2022. From 1989 to the present, Mr. Yadav has been the Chief Executive Officer and President of Yadav Enterprises, Inc., in Fremont, California, and its affiliates which own, operate, manage or franchise restaurant locations in 19 states, including the brands Taco Cabana, Jack in the Box, Denny's, TGI Friday's and quick service Tex-Mex restaurants.

## **Chief Financial Officer: John Martus**

Mr. Martus has served as our Chief Financial Officer since May 2024. Prior to joining us, Mr. Martus served as the Chief Financial Officer for TruFit Athletic Club in San Antonio, Texas, from November 2017 to May 2024.

#### **Brand President: Ulyses Camacho**

Mr. Camacho has served as our Brand President since January 2023, in San Antonio, Texas. Prior to that, Mr. Camacho served as our Chief Operating Officer, in San Antonio, Texas from August 2021 to February 2023. From August 2018 to August 2021, Mr. Camacho served as our Vice President of Operations, in San Antonio, Texas.

#### Vice President of Real Estate: Bradley D. Smith

Mr. Smith has served as our Vice President of Real Estate since June 1993, in San Antonio, Texas. He has also served as the Vice President of Real Estate for Yadav Enterprises, LLC, in San Antonio, Texas, and its affiliates since August 2021.

#### **Vice President of Marketing: Todd Nonken**

Mr. Nonken has served as our Vice President of Marketing since January 2023. Mr. Nonken has also served as the Vice President of Marketing for Yadav Enterprises and its affiliates since June 2016, in San Antonio, Texas.

# Vice President of Business Strategy, Communications and Guest Relations: Sandy Salinas

Ms. Salinas has served as our Vice President of Business Strategy, Communications and Guest Relations since January 2023, in San Antonio, Texas. Ms. Salinas has also served as the Vice President of Business Strategy, Communications and Guest Relations for Yadav Enterprises and its affiliates since January 2002, in San Antonio, Texas.

## **Chief People and Culture Officer: Deborah Anne Hood**

Ms. Hood has been our Chief People and Culture Officer, in San Antonio, Texas since January 2023. Ms. Hood has also served as the Chief People and Culture Director for Yadav Enterprises and its affiliates since August 2021, in San Antonio, Texas. Prior to that, Ms. Hood served as our Vice President of Training and Development from February 2021 to August 2021, and our Director of Training and Development from July 2018 to February 2021, both , in San Antonio, Texas.

# ITEM 3 LITIGATION

No litigation is required to be disclosed in this Item.

# ITEM 4 BANKRUPTCY

No bankruptcy is required to be disclosed in this Item.

# ITEM 5 INITIAL FEES

# **Initial Franchise Fee**

On or before the date on which you sign the Franchise Agreement, you must pay us the initial franchise fee ("Initial Franchise Fee"). If the Taco Cabana Restaurant is not being developed pursuant to a Development Agreement, the Initial Franchise Fee is \$45,000. If the Taco Cabana Restaurant is being developed pursuant to a Development Agreement, the Initial Franchise Fee for the first unit being developed is \$45,000 and the Initial Franchise Fee for each subsequent Taco Cabana Restaurant ("Development Franchise Fee") is \$32,500 for the second Taco Cabana Restaurant, \$30,000 for the third Taco Cabana Restaurant, \$27,500 for the fourth Taco Cabana Restaurant, and \$25,000 for the fifth and all remaining Taco Cabana Restaurants to be developed. The Initial Franchise Fee or the Development Franchise Fee is fully earned by us when you sign the relevant Franchise Agreement and is not refundable for any reason and is not credited against any other fees to be paid to us.

## **Development Fee**

When you sign a Development Agreement, you must pay us the full Initial Franchise Fee for the first Taco Cabana Restaurant you plan to develop and a development fee ("Development Fee") equal to \$10,000 for each subsequent Taco Cabana Restaurant that you agree to develop at the time you sign the Development Agreement. The Development Fee is fully earned by us when you sign the Development Agreement and is not refundable for any reason. In addition, the Development Fee is intended to compensate us for other forgone opportunities in the development area ("Development Area") and is not credited against any other fees to be paid to us by you.

With respect to each Taco Cabana Restaurant to be developed by you under the Development Agreement, you will execute the standard form of Franchise Agreement in general use at the time that we accept the site for the applicable Taco Cabana Restaurant, which may materially differ from the form of Franchise Agreement attached as **Exhibit C**.

# ITEM 6 OTHER FEES

Type of Fee (1)	Amount	<b>Due Date</b>	Remarks
Royalty	5% of your Fiscal Period Gross Sales.	Weekly	See Note (3) for a definition of Gross Sales.
Additional Training	\$250 per day per trainer	As incurred	You must also pay all travel, living, and other expenses incurred by you (or your Operating Principal), your managerial personnel, and your employees while attending any additional training programs. If the training is occurring somewhere where our trainer must travel, you must also pay travel, living, and other expenses associated with the trainer's travel.
Refresher Training	\$250 per day per trainer	As incurred	You must also pay all travel, living, and other expenses incurred by you (or your Operating Principal), your managerial personnel, and your employees while attending any refresher training programs. If the training is occurring somewhere where our trainer must travel, you must also pay travel, living, and other expenses associated with the trainer's travel.
Additional Assistance	\$500 per day per franchisor employee	As incurred	If the training is occurring somewhere where our trainer must travel, you must also pay travel, living, and other expenses associated with the trainer's travel.
Brand Fund and Local Marketing Contribution	4% of Gross Sales	Same as Royalty	You must contribute for advertising up to 4% of the weekly Gross Sales of the Taco Cabana Restaurant ("Advertising Obligation"). Three percent of your Advertising Obligation may be allocated among our national Brand Fund, and/or a Regional Advertising Fund (if established) (each as described in Item 11). In addition, 1% of your Gross Sales will be allocated to Local Marketing (as described in Item 11). The Local Marketing dollars will be directed and controlled by us.
Point of Sale Materials	Our cost	As incurred	If we develop any point-of-sale materials (other than through the use of Brand Fund monies), we may offer to sell those to you at a reasonable cost.

Type of Fee (1)	Amount	<b>Due Date</b>	Remarks
Transfer Fee – Development Agreement	\$10,000 per undeveloped location.	Upon submission of request to consent to transfer	You will not be required to pay a transfer fee if you transfer to a business entity that you form for convenience of ownership, but you will need to comply with certain conditions.  This fee also applies to transfers of partial ownership interests and transfers upon death or permanent incapacity.  You may only transfer rights to open undeveloped Taco Cabana Restaurants if you are not in default of the your Development Agreement and
Transfer Fee – Franchise Agreement	\$10,000	Upon submission of request to consent to transfer	any Franchise Agreement.  You will not be required to pay a transfer fee if you transfer to a business entity that you form for convenience of ownership, but you will need to comply with certain conditions.
			This fee also applies to transfers of partial ownership interests and transfers upon death or permanent incapacity.
Training Facility Certification	We currently do not charge a fee for certification of your training facility, although we reserve the right to do so	Upon demand	If you sign a Development Agreement committing to develop more than 5 Taco Cabana Restaurants, you must establish a training facility (which may be a Taco Cabana Restaurant) at which the initial training program will be offered. We, in our sole discretion, will provide the assistance that we consider to be reasonably necessary to assist you in establishing the training facility. You must reimburse us for all travel, living, food and other expenses incurred while traveling to and from, and visiting, the training facility as we require.
Audit and Inspection Costs	Full cost of the inspection or audit, including travel, lodging, meals and wages of our representatives, and our reasonable professional fees	Upon demand	Payable only if an inspection or audit is made necessary by your failure to provide required reports or supporting records or provide such reports or records on a timely basis, or if the audit or inspection reveals an understatement of Gross Sales of greater than 2% for the audit period.
Indemnification	Actual losses and expenses incurred by us	As incurred	You must defend, indemnify and hold us and our officers, affiliates,

Type of Fee (1)	Amount	Due Date	Remarks
	and our officers, affiliates, managers, members, etc.		managers, members, etc. harmless with respect to any and all claims arising directly or indirectly from, as a result of, or in connection with the Taco Cabana Restaurant.
Attorneys' Fees and Costs	All costs and fees that we incur	As incurred	You agree to pay all fees and costs that we reasonably incur in enforcing the Franchise Agreement and/or the Development Agreement.
Interest	Interest on the amount owed from the due date until paid	When any payment due to us from you is not received in full by the due date	The interest rate is the lesser of the maximum rate permitted for indebtedness of this nature in the state in which the Taco Cabana Restaurant is located or 18% per annum.
Late Fee	\$100	When any payment due to us from you is not received by the due date	Payable at our discretion.
<b>Collection Costs</b>	All costs and expenses that we incur, including reasonable professional fees	Upon demand	These costs and expenses may include commissions due a collection agency and all costs associated with litigation, in addition to interest charges on these costs.
Technology Fee	Currently \$1,840 per month	Monthly	You must pay us a fee to cover various technology services provided by us and third party vendors as required by the terms of the Manual. The Technology Fee can be adjusted by us at any time by giving you thirty days written notice and revising the relevant sections of the Manual.
800 Number and Secret Shopper Programs	If implemented, all costs associated with the 800 number, Secret Shopper programs or other programs as we may require	As incurred	If implemented, you must participate in programs initiated to verify customer satisfaction and/or your compliance with all operational and other aspects of the System; and you will reimburse us for all costs related to such programs as they pertain to the Taco Cabana Restaurant.
Non-Cash Payment System	All costs associated with non-cash payment systems	As incurred	You must accept debit cards, credit cards, stored value gift cards or other non-cash payment systems specified by us to enable customers to purchase authorized products; and you will reimburse us for all costs related to such systems as they pertain to the Taco Cabana Restaurant.
Market Research and Testing	Proportionate cost of conducting test marketing programs	As incurred	We may periodically conduct market research and testing to determine consumer trends and the salability of

Type of Fee (1)	Amount	Due Date	Remarks
			new food products and services. You must cooperate with us in connection with the conduct of such test marketing programs at your own expense.
New Product and Supplier Testing	A reasonable fee, not to exceed the actual cost of inspecting and testing the proposed product or evaluating the proposed supplier, including personnel and travel costs	Within 30 days after receipt of invoice from us	Payable if you ask us to review a new supplier or new product, whether or not we approve the supplier or product (see Item 8 for a description of the supplier approval process).
Reimbursement of Insurance Costs	Cost of insurance, plus a reasonable fee for our services in procuring the insurance	Upon demand	Payable only if you fail to obtain and maintain the minimum insurance we require, and we choose to procure the required insurance for you.
Relocation	A reasonable fee, plus our reasonable expenses incurred in connection with consideration of your relocation request	Upon demand, if required	You may not relocate a Taco Cabana Restaurant without our prior written consent, which we may withhold in our sole discretion.
Taxes	You must reimburse us for any taxes, fees, and/or assessments imposed on us by reason of our acting as franchisor or licensing the Marks (as defined in Item 13)	Within 30 days after receipt of the invoice from us	
Successor Franchise Fee	The Initial Franchise Fee then being charged to new franchisees at the time the Successor Franchise Agreement is signed. If for any reason we are not offering new franchises at the time you are ready to sign the Successor Franchise Agreement, you will be required to pay the same Initial Franchise Fee you paid when you signed your first Franchise Agreement with us.	At the time that the successor franchise agreement is signed	
QA Audit Costs	All costs and expenses incurred in connection with next QA Audit	Within 10 days after receipt of invoice from us	Applicable if the Taco Cabana Restaurant fails to obtain a passing score on any QA Audit.

#### **NOTES**

- (1) Unless otherwise noted, all fees are imposed by, collected by, and payable to Taco Cabana are not refundable. We anticipate that the fees identified in this Item 6 will be uniformly imposed on our franchisees.
- (2) You must participate in our electronic funds transfer program, which authorizes us to use a preauthorized bank draft system. You must sign and complete the documents that we may require from time to time to authorize and direct your bank or financial institution to pay and deposit directly to our account. You must furnish to us and your bank all authorizations necessary to effect payment by the methods we specify. We reserve the right to modify, at our option, the method by which you must pay the Royalty, Advertising Obligation, and other amounts owed to us under the Franchise Agreement upon receipt of written notice from us.

If any taxes, fees or assessments are imposed on us by reason of our acting as franchisor or licensing the Marks under this Agreement, you will reimburse us for the amount of those taxes, fees and assessments within 30 days after receipt of an invoice from us.

(3) "Gross Sales" includes all revenue from the sale of all services and products and all other income of every kind and nature (including stored value gift cards and gift certificates when redeemed, on-premise sales, other sales made or sold, at, in or upon or from the Franchised Location, and any other type of sale) related to the Taco Cabana Restaurant, whether for cash or credit and regardless of collection in the case of credit. Gross Sales will not include: (a) any bona fide documented federal, state, or municipal sales taxes collected by you from customers and paid by you to the appropriate taxing authority; (b) the sale of food, beverage or merchandise for which refunds have been made in good faith to customers; (c) the sale of equipment used in the operation of the Taco Cabana Restaurant; (d) authorized customer promotional discounts; and (e) employee meal discounts.

# ITEM 7 ESTIMATED INITIAL INVESTMENT

#### YOUR ESTIMATED INITIAL INVESTMENT

Type of Expenditure	Amount (1)	Method of Payment	When Due	To Whom Payment Is To Be Made
Initial Franchise Fee (2)	\$45,000	Lump Sum/Check	No later than the date on which you sign the Franchise Agreement	Us
Grand Opening Advertising (3)	\$10,000	As Arranged	As Arranged	Vendors
Real Estate (4)	\$25,000 - \$150,000	As Arranged	Before Opening	Landlord, Lender
Construction/Leasehold Improvements (5)	\$900,000 - \$1,750,000	See Note 6	Before Opening	Construction Company

Type of Expenditure	Amount (1)	Method of Payment	When Due	To Whom Payment Is To Be Made
Travel and Living Expenses While Training (6)	\$9,500 - \$14,000	As Arranged	Before Beginning Training	Airlines, Hotels, Restaurants
Furnishing, Fixtures, Equipment (7)	\$30,000 - \$150,000	As Arranged	As Ordered	Suppliers
Signage	\$60,000 - \$130,000	As Arranged	As Ordered	Supplier
Initial Inventory (8)	\$25,000 - \$30,000	As Arranged	Before Opening	Suppliers
Miscellaneous Opening Costs (9)	\$100,000 - \$180,000	As Arranged	Before Opening	Suppliers, Utilities, etc.
Register or Point of Sale System (10)	\$25,000 - \$50,000	As Arranged	As Arranged	Supplier
Additional Funds 3 \Months (11)	\$75,000 - \$135,000	As Arranged	As Incurred	Employees, Suppliers, Utilities, Landlord, Lender
Total (12)	\$1,304,500 - \$2,644,000 (Does not include land acquisition costs)			

#### **NOTES**

- (1) Costs and Development Fees paid to us or our affiliates are not refundable. Whether any costs or other fees paid to third parties are refundable will vary based on the practice in the area where the Taco Cabana Restaurant is located.
- (2) As described more fully in Item 5, the Initial Franchise Fee for each subsequent restaurant is reduced based upon the total number of Taco Cabana Restaurants you commit to develop pursuant to a Development Agreement. If not, the Initial Franchise Fee is \$45,000.00.
- (3) You must conduct initial marketing for the Taco Cabana Restaurant in accordance with a Grand Opening Plan. Under the Grand Opening Plan, you will be required to spend a minimum of \$10,000 on grand opening advertising over the period beginning one month prior to opening and continuing through the second month after opening ("Grand Opening Marketing Period"). At least 30 days before the beginning of the Grand Opening Marketing Period you must pay \$10,000 to us and our marketing team will execute the Grand Opening Plan based upon local market conditions and other marketing needs.
- (4) The cost of acquiring a location for the Taco Cabana Restaurant will vary significantly depending on the geographic location. We expect that you will lease the land and building for the Taco Cabana Restaurant. You may be required to pay the first and last month's lease payment upon signing your lease agreement. Alternatively, you may wish to buy land for the Taco Cabana Restaurant. The cost of purchasing land is not included in this Item 6 table.
- (5) The cost of constructing a Taco Cabana Restaurant will vary depending upon the size, condition, and location of the premises, price differences between various suppliers, and contractors and

shipping distances from suppliers. This estimate is based on the buildout costs for a building shell for a Taco Cabana Restaurant of approximately 2,500 to 3,200 square feet in a typical retail center space. All construction materials and fixtures must meet our standards and specifications but may be purchased from any supplier. These costs are normally payable to third parties prior to the opening of the Taco Cabana Restaurant or in periodic installments, depending on the type of financing arrangement you are able to obtain. We do not undertake to assist you in arranging financing, and there is no assurance that financing will be available to you. Generally, the availability and terms of financing will depend upon many factors, including, particularly, your creditworthiness.

- (6) As described in Item 11, prior to opening a Taco Cabana Restaurant, you (or your Operating Principal), the Franchise Restaurant's general manager, and at least two other managerial personnel whom we designate must attend the ITP. We do not charge tuition for this training program, but you are responsible for all salaries, benefits, and travel, living, and other expenses incurred by you and your employees while attending the training. The cost of these expenses will depend on the distance you must travel, the types of accommodations, the number of your employees attending training, and their wages.
- (7) You must purchase certain items of furniture, fixtures, and equipment. The cost of purchasing equipment may vary as a result of price differences between suppliers and shipping distances from suppliers. You may purchase or lease approved brands and models of equipment and signs from any approved supplier. This estimate includes costs for a building sign and pylon sign (if allowed by the landlord and local code requirements). Payment for these items typically will be made prior to the opening of the Taco Cabana Restaurant or in installments over a period of time, depending on the type of financing arrangement you are able to obtain. Generally, the availability and terms of financing will depend upon many factors, including your creditworthiness.
- (8) The cost of an opening inventory of food, beverages, ingredients, and other supplies and materials will vary depending on shipping distances from suppliers and price differences between suppliers. As described in Item 8, these items must conform to specifications established by us and/or be purchased from us and/or approved suppliers.
- (9) This item covers such miscellaneous pre-opening costs and expenses as manager and employee labor, utilities and utility deposits, lighting supplies, office supplies, security deposit, pest control, postage and shipping, storage fees, bank service charges, payroll service charges, licenses, permits and a three-month premium for typical insurance coverage. Manager and employee labor expenses vary according to the wage rate and number of employees and managers hired and trained before opening your Taco Cabana Restaurant.
- (10) A description of the computer system can be found in Item 11.
- (11) This is our estimate of your operating expenses for the initial 3 months of your business, including payroll costs for management, rent, insurance, and utilities. These expenses do not include advertising or royalty payments made to us. The estimate also does not take into account revenue you may take in.
- (12) The low end of this total assumes you acquire the rights to develop and open one Taco Cabana Restaurant and the high end assumes you acquire the rights to develop a total of five Taco Cabana Restaurants and you open the first of those Taco Cabana Restaurants.

# AREA DEVELOPMENT AGREEMENT

# YOUR ESTIMATED INITIAL INVESTMENT

Type of Expenditure	Amount (1)	Method of Payment	When Due	To Whom Payment Is To Be Made
Initial Franchise Fee (2)	\$25,000 - \$45,000	Lump Sum/Check	No later than the date on which you sign the Franchise Agreement	Us
Development Fee (3)	\$0 - \$40,000	Lump Sum/Check	No later than the date on which you sign the Development Agreement	Us
Grand Opening Advertising (4)	\$10,000	As Arranged	As Arranged	Vendors
Real Estate (5)	\$25,000 - \$150,000	As Arranged	Before Opening	Landlord, Lender
Construction/Leasehold Improvements (6)	\$900,000 - \$1,750,000	See Note 6	Before Opening	Construction Company
Travel and Living Expenses While Training (7)	\$9,500 - \$14,000	As Arranged	Before Beginning Training	Airlines, Hotels, Restaurants
Furnishing, Fixtures, Equipment (8)	\$30,000 - \$150,000	As Arranged	As Ordered	Suppliers
Signage	\$60,000 - \$130,000	As Arranged	As Ordered	Supplier
Initial Inventory (9)	\$25,000 - \$30,000	As Arranged	Before Opening	Suppliers
Miscellaneous Opening Costs (10)	\$100,000 - \$180,000	As Arranged	Before Opening	Suppliers, Utilities, etc.
Register or Point of Sale System (11)	\$25,000 - \$50,000	As Arranged	As Arranged	Supplier
Additional Funds 3 \Months (12)	\$75,000 - \$135,000	As Arranged	As Incurred	Employees, Suppliers, Utilities, Landlord, Lender
Total (13)	\$1,284,500 - \$2,684,000 (Does not include land acquisition costs)			

- (1) Costs and Development Fees paid to us or our affiliates are not refundable. Whether any costs or other fees paid to third parties are refundable will vary based on the practice in the area where the Taco Cabana Restaurant is located.
- (2) As described more fully in Item 5, the Initial Franchise Fee for each subsequent restaurant is reduced based upon the total number of Taco Cabana Restaurants you commit to develop pursuant to a Development Agreement. If not, the Initial Franchise Fee is \$45,000.
- (3) As described more fully in Item 5, in addition to the Initial Franchise Fee, you must pay us, at the time that you sign a Development Agreement, a nonrefundable Development Fee of \$10,000 for each Taco Cabana Restaurant that you agree to develop. The high number on this chart is determined based upon the assumption that you have signed a 5 unit Development Agreement with us.
- (4) You must conduct initial marketing for the Taco Cabana Restaurant in accordance with a Grand Opening Plan. Under the Grand Opening Plan, you will be required to spend a minimum of \$10,000 on grand opening advertising over the Grand Opening Marketing Period. At least 30 days before the beginning of the Grand Opening Marketing Period you must pay \$10,000 to us and our marketing team will execute the Grand Opening Plan based upon local market conditions and other marketing needs.
- (5) The cost of acquiring a location for the Taco Cabana Restaurant will vary significantly depending on the geographic location. We expect that you will lease the land and building for the Taco Cabana Restaurant. You may be required to pay the first and last month's lease payment upon signing your lease agreement. Alternatively, you may wish to buy land for the Taco Cabana Restaurant. The cost of purchasing land is not included in this Item 6 table.
- (6) The cost of constructing a Taco Cabana Restaurant will vary depending upon the size, condition, and location of the premises, price differences between various suppliers, and contractors and shipping distances from suppliers. This estimate is based on the buildout costs for a building shell for a Taco Cabana Restaurant of approximately 2,500 to 3,200 square feet in a typical retail center space. All construction materials and fixtures must meet our standards and specifications but may be purchased from any supplier. These costs are normally payable to third parties prior to the opening of the Taco Cabana Restaurant or in periodic installments, depending on the type of financing arrangement you are able to obtain. We do not undertake to assist you in arranging financing, and there is no assurance that financing will be available to you. Generally, the availability and terms of financing will depend upon many factors, including, particularly, your creditworthiness.
- (7) As described in Item 11, prior to opening a Taco Cabana Restaurant, you (or your Operating Principal), the Franchise Restaurant's general manager, and at least two other managerial personnel whom we designate must attend the ITP. We do not charge tuition for this training program, but you are responsible for all salaries, benefits, and travel, living, and other expenses incurred by you and your employees while attending the training. The cost of these expenses will depend on the distance you must travel, the types of accommodations, the number of your employees attending training, and their wages.
- (8) You must purchase certain items of furniture, fixtures, and equipment. The cost of purchasing equipment may vary as a result of price differences between suppliers and shipping distances from suppliers. You may purchase or lease approved brands and models of equipment and signs from any approved supplier. This estimate includes costs for a building sign and pylon sign (if allowed

by the landlord and local code requirements). Payment for these items typically will be made prior to the opening of the Taco Cabana Restaurant or in installments over a period of time, depending on the type of financing arrangement you are able to obtain. Generally, the availability and terms of financing will depend upon many factors, including your creditworthiness.

- (9) The cost of an opening inventory of food, beverages, ingredients, and other supplies and materials will vary depending on shipping distances from suppliers and price differences between suppliers. As described in Item 8, these items must conform to specifications established by us and/or be purchased from us and/or approved suppliers.
- (10) This item covers such miscellaneous pre-opening costs and expenses as manager and employee labor, utilities and utility deposits, lighting supplies, office supplies, security deposit, pest control, postage and shipping, storage fees, bank service charges, payroll service charges, licenses, permits and a three-month premium for typical insurance coverage. Manager and employee labor expenses vary according to the wage rate and number of employees and managers hired and trained before opening your Taco Cabana Restaurant.
- (11) A description of the computer system can be found in Item 11.
- (12) This is our estimate of your operating expenses for the initial 3 months of your business, including payroll costs for management, rent, insurance, and utilities. These expenses do not include advertising or royalty payments made to us. The estimate also does not take into account revenue you may take in.
- (13) The low end of this total assumes you acquire the rights to develop and open one Taco Cabana Restaurant and the high end assumes you acquire the rights to develop a total of five Taco Cabana Restaurants and you open the first of those Taco Cabana Restaurants.

# ITEM 8 RESTRICTIONS ON SOURCES OF PRODUCTS AND SERVICES

## **Authorized Products and Services**

You may offer for sale and sell in the Taco Cabana Restaurant only the products, services and brands that we have designated in the Manual or otherwise in writing. You must offer all items that we designate as mandatory. We may also designate some items as optional. We may change the mandatory and optional menu items, recipes, ingredients and other products and services in our sole discretion. We may require that you sell certain brands and prohibit you from selling other brands. You may sell products only in the varieties, weights, sizes, forms and packages that we have designated. You must use only authorized ingredients and follow our recipes in the preparation of menu items. You may not use the Franchised Location for the sale or display of items not authorized by us. Within 15 days after we provide written notice to you, you must begin selling any newly authorized menu items (or using any newly authorized ingredients) and cease selling any menu item that is no longer authorized (or using any ingredient that is no longer authorized); however, if the discontinued menu item or ingredient could pose a hazard to the public or prove detrimental to the system, you must cease selling or using that item or ingredient immediately.

All food and beverages authorized for sale at the Taco Cabana Restaurant must be offered for sale under the name that we specify. We periodically will provide you suggested retail prices for the products and services offered at the Taco Cabana Restaurant and, to the extent permitted by applicable law, we may

require that you adhere to our suggested prices, including maximum prices. If you have a suggestion for a new menu item or ingredient (or for a change to an authorized menu item or ingredient) or you wish to participate in a test market program, you must notify us before you implement any such change or commence any such program. You may not add or modify any menu item or participate in a test market program without first obtaining our prior written approval.

# **Supplier Approval Process**

We have the right to require that all food and non-food products, supplies, equipment and services that you purchase for use, sale or resale in the Taco Cabana Restaurant: (a) meet specifications that we establish from time to time; (b) be purchased only from suppliers to whom we have consented (which may include us and/or our affiliates); and/or (c) be purchased only from a single source or from a limited number of designated sources (which may include us and/or our affiliates). To the extent that we establish specifications, require our consent to suppliers or designate specific suppliers for particular items, we will publish our requirements in the Manual or otherwise in writing. We have developed and may continue to develop certain proprietary food products that will be prepared by or for us according to our proprietary special recipes and formulas, and you agree to purchase those food products developed by us pursuant to a special recipe or formula only from us, our affiliates or a third party designated and licensed by us to prepare and sell those products. We may create purchasing restrictions to control the quality and selection, and ensure the consistency, of menu items, ingredients and other merchandise; to consolidate System purchases to reduce costs or ensure availability of products; or for other valid business reasons.

You may not engage in "grey market" activities in which you take advantage of any group purchasing arrangements for Taco Cabana Restaurants to purchase products that you then resell to purchasers outside of the System or use in a business outside of the System.

As of the date of this disclosure document, neither we nor any of our affiliates are approved suppliers for any product. We and our affiliates may earn income on sales of products, ingredients, and supplies to you. As of the date of this disclosure document, neither we nor our affiliates directly receive any rebates, commissions or other payments from third-party suppliers based on purchases made by franchisees from such suppliers. However, if we or our affiliates begin receiving rebates, we have the right to retain them You agree that we are entitled to retain such income and any other consideration from suppliers. As of the date of this disclosure document, we have multiple beverage suppliers providing purchase-based rebates and such rebates are paid directly to our existing franchisees based upon their purchases.

If you would like to purchase other products or services from a supplier to which we have not consented, you must submit a written request for consent. We have the right to inspect the proposed supplier's facilities and test samples of the proposed products. You agree to pay to us a reasonable fee, not to exceed the actual cost of the inspection and testing the proposed product or evaluating the proposed supplier, including personnel and travel costs, whether or not the product or supplier is accepted. We have the right to grant, deny or revoke consent to products, services and suppliers in our sole discretion. We will notify you of our decision as soon as practicable following our evaluation. We reserve the right to reinspect the facilities and products of any accepted supplier and revoke acceptance in writing upon the supplier's failure to meet any of our then-current criteria.

We estimate that the purchase of products from us, our affiliates, or our approved or designated suppliers and/or products that are subject to our standards and specifications represents approximately 10% of your overall purchases in establishing the Taco Cabana Restaurant and 90% of your overall purchases in operating the Taco Cabana Restaurant. Currently, we do not provide material benefits to you based on your use of approved or designated suppliers. As of the date of this disclosure document, we have negotiated

certain system-wide purchasing arrangements, including pricing terms, with certain suppliers. We make no promises to continue such arrangements in the future but reserve the right to do so in order to maximize the combined purchasing power benefit of all Taco Cabana Restaurants. We do not currently have purchasing or distribution cooperatives, but we reserve the right to establish them.

There are no approved suppliers in which any of our officers own an interest.

#### **Computer System**

<u>See</u> Item 11 for information regarding our current minimum standards for the computer system for the Taco Cabana Restaurant and your related obligations under the Franchised Agreement.

# **Insurance**

During the term of the Franchise Agreement, you must maintain in full force and effect that insurance which you determine to be necessary, which must include at least the types of insurance and the minimum policy limits specified in the Manual or otherwise in writing. Each insurance policy must be written by an insurance company that maintains an "A+" or better rating by the latest edition of Best's Insurance Rating Service (or another rating service designated by us). The insurance policy or policies must be in effect when you take possession of the Franchised Location. The insurance policy or policies must protect you, us and our respective past, present and future officers, directors, managers, members, owners, employees, representatives, consultants, attorneys and agents. We and any entity with an insurable interest designated by us must be named as additional insureds in the policy or policies (statutory policies excepted). Each policy must include a waiver of subrogation in our favor. We may require additional types of coverage or increase the required minimum amount of coverage upon reasonable notice. Your obligation to obtain coverage is not limited in any way by insurance that we maintain. You must provide us with certificates of insurance evidencing the required coverage and proof of payment therefor no later than the date you sign the Franchise Agreement. The evidence of insurance must include a statement by the insurer that the policy or policies will not be canceled or materially altered without at least 30 days' prior written notice to us. If you fail to obtain and maintain insurance coverage as required by the Franchise Agreement, we have the right, but not the obligation, to obtain the required insurance on your behalf and to charge you for the cost of the insurance, plus a reasonable fee for our services in procuring the insurance.

The required insurance policies include, at a minimum, the following: comprehensive general liability insurance, including coverage for bodily injury, personal injury, products liability, blanket contractual liability, broad form property damage, non-owned automobiles, completed operations and property damage on an occurrence basis with policy limits of not less than \$1,000,000 per occurrence and \$2,000,000 in the aggregate, \$100,000 damage to the Taco Cabana Restaurant and \$2,000,000 products/completed operations in the aggregate; property insurance written on an "all risks" policy for fire and related peril (including floods and earthquakes where applicable) with limits of insurance of not less than the full replacement value of the Taco Cabana Restaurant, its furniture, fixtures, equipment, inventory and other tangible property; business interruption and extra expense coverage to include rental payment continuation for a minimum of 12 months, loss of profits and other extra expenses experienced during the recovery from property loss; employer's liability coverage in the amount of \$500,000; workers' compensation and other insurance as may be required by statute or rule of the state or locality in which the Taco Cabana Restaurant is located, including coverage for all of your employees who participate in any of the training programs; in connection with any construction, renovation, refurbishment, or remodeling of the Taco Cabana Restaurant, you must maintain Builder's All Risks insurance; and in connection with new construction or substantial renovation, refurbishment or remodeling, you must also maintain performance and completion bonds in forms and amounts, and written by carrier(s), reasonably satisfactory to us;

excess/umbrella liability coverage of \$1,000,000 for coverage above the required general liability coverage; and cyber liability coverage with policy limits of not less than \$1,000,000 in the aggregate.

# ITEM 9 FRANCHISEE'S OBLIGATIONS

This table lists your principal obligations under the Franchise and Development Agreements. It will help you find more detailed information about your obligations in these agreements and in other items of this disclosure document.

	Obligation	Section in Franchise Agreement (FA) and Development Agreement (DA)	Disclosure Document Item
a.	Site selection and acquisition/lease	FA: Sections 3 and 4 DA: Sections 5 and 6	Items 7 and 11
b.	Pre-opening purchases/leases	FA: Sections 3, 4, 5.2 and 12.12 DA: Sections 5 and 6	Items 5, 7 and 8
c.	Site development and other pre-opening requirements	FA: Sections 3 and 5 DA: Sections 3 and 5	Items 7 and 11
d.	Initial and ongoing training	FA: Section 9 DA: Section 5.6	Items 6, 7 and 11
e.	Opening	FA: Sections 5.2, 5.3, 10.1 and 10.2 DA: Not Applicable	Item 11
f.	Fees	FA: Sections 3.2, 3.3, 5.3.2, 6, 8, 9, 10.2 and Exhibit A DA: Sections 4, 5.2, 5.3, 5.5 and Exhibit A	Items 5 and 6
g.	Compliance with standards and policies/ Manual	FA: Sections 11 and 12 DA: Not Applicable	Items 8, 11, and 14
h.	Trademarks and proprietary information	FA: Sections 8.8, 13 and 18 DA: Section 11.1	Items 13 and 14
i.	Restrictions on products/services offered	FA: Sections 12.3 and 12.6 DA: Not Applicable	Item 16
j.	Warranty and customer service requirements	FA: Sections 12.9, 12.10 and 12.11 DA: Not Applicable	Item 11
k.	Territorial development and sales quotas	FA: Section 1.2 DA: Sections 1.1, 2, 3 and Exhibit A	Item 12
1.	Ongoing product/service purchases	FA: Sections 12.3 and 12.6 DA: Not Applicable	Item 8
m.	Maintenance, appearance and remodeling requirements	FA: Sections 12.7 and 12.8 DA: Not Applicable	Item 11
n.	Insurance	FA: Section 12.12 DA: Sections 5.5 and 14.2	Items 6, 7 and 8
0.	Advertising	FA: Section 8 DA: Not Applicable	Items 6 and 11
p.	Indemnification	FA: Section 23 DA: Section 14	Item 6

	Obligation	Section in Franchise Agreement (FA) and Development Agreement (DA)	Disclosure Document Item
q.	Owner's participation/management/staffing	FA: Sections 12.10 and 12.11 DA: Section 7	Items 11 and 15
r.	Records and reports	FA: Sections 6.5 and 7 DA: Not Applicable	Item 6
s.	Inspections and audits	FA: Sections 5.1, 5.2.2, 7.4, 12.6.5, 12.13 DA: Not Applicable	Items 6, 8, and 11
t.	Transfer	FA: Sections 15 and 16 DA: Sections 8 and 9	Items 6 and 17
u.	Renewal	FA: Section 2.2 DA: Not Applicable	Item 17
v.	Post-termination obligations	FA: Section 20 DA: Section 12.4	Item 17
w.	Non-competition covenants	FA: Section 18 DA: Section 11	Item 17
х.	Dispute resolution	FA: Section 28 DA: Section 19	Item 17

# ITEM 10 FINANCING

We do not offer any direct or indirect financing. We do not guarantee your note, lease or obligation.

# ITEM 11 FRANCHISOR'S ASSISTANCE, ADVERTISING, COMPUTER SYSTEMS AND TRAINING

Except as listed below, we are not required to provide you with any assistance.

## **Our Pre-Opening Obligations**

Before you open the Taco Cabana Restaurant, we will:

- 1. Advise you in writing whether we have accepted the site within 60 days after our receipt of a complete (as determined by us) site review report. If we do not respond within 60 days, we will be deemed to have rejected the site. (Development Agreement § 5.4.1, Franchise Agreement § 3.4.1)
- 2. Review the proposed sublease, lease, or purchase contract for the accepted site to ensure that it includes the provisions we require as set forth in the Franchise Agreement. (Development Agreement § 6, Franchise Agreement § 4)
- 3. Provide you a list of the approved third-party suppliers of signs, fixtures, and initial inventories and goods for a Taco Cabana Restaurant. (Franchise Agreement § 10.1)
- 4. Provide management assistance at the opening of your Taco Cabana Restaurant. (Franchise Agreement § 10.2)

- 5. Loan you one copy of, or provide you with electronic access to, the Manual, which is 1,095 pages in length. The table of contents for the Operations Manual is attached as **Exhibit D**. The Manual contains detailed standards, specifications, instructions, forms, reports, and procedures for management and operation of the Taco Cabana Restaurant. You may keep the Manual for as long as the Franchise Agreement (or any Successor Franchise Agreement) remains in effect, but the Manual remains our property. We may revise the contents of the Manual, and you agree to comply with each new or changed section. (Franchise Agreement § 11).
- 6. Provide to you (or your Operating Principal), the Taco Cabana Restaurant's general manager, and at least 2 other managerial personnel that we designate to complete the ITP. Our training program is described below. (Franchise Agreement § 9.1)

#### **Our Obligations After Opening**

During the operation of the Taco Cabana Restaurant, we will:

- 1. Collect, administer, and spend for advertising purposes monies paid by franchisees and company-operated Taco Cabana Restaurants into the Brand Fund and any Regional Advertising Fund (if established) as described below. (Franchise Agreement §§ 8.3 and 8.4)
- 2. Periodically change the System, including modifications to the menu, the required equipment, the signage, the Marks and the Trade Dress. You must accept, use, or display in the Taco Cabana Restaurant any such System changes and make such expenditures as the System changes require. We also have the right to vary System standards, in our reasonable judgment, to accommodate circumstances of individual franchisees. (Franchise Agreement § 12.2)
- 3. Provide additional ongoing training to you (or your Operating Principal), your managerial personnel, training personnel, and/or other previously trained and experienced staff members at the times and locations that we designate. (Franchise Agreement § 9.2)
- 4. Periodically advise and consult with you regarding the operation of the Taco Cabana Restaurant and make available, as we believe appropriate, information regarding the System and new developments, techniques, and improvements in the areas of restaurant design, operations, management, menu development, sales and customer service, marketing, and other areas. We may provide these services through visits by our representatives to the Taco Cabana Restaurant or your offices (although we are not obligated to make any visits), the distribution of printed or filmed material, an Intranet or other electronic forum, meetings or seminars, training programs, telephone communications, or other forms of communications. (Franchise Agreement § 10.3)
- 5. Provide the assistance that we consider to be reasonably necessary to assist you in establishing a training facility at which you will offer Taco Cabana Restaurants' initial training program. The training facility must be certified by us before you commence any training at the training facility, and we may periodically visit and evaluate the training facility and your trainers to ensure that they continue to meet our standards. We may revoke our certification of the training facility if the training facility or your trainers cease to meet our standards. (Development Agreement § 5.6, Franchise Agreement § 9.3)
- 6. Periodically provide you with suggested retail prices for the products and services offered at the Taco Cabana Restaurant and, to the extent permitted by applicable law, we may require that you adhere to our suggested prices, including maximum prices. (Franchise Agreement § 12.3)

#### **Brand Fund and Marketing**

**Grand Opening Plan.** Under the Grand Opening Plan, you will be required to spend a minimum of \$10,000 on grand opening activities during the Grand Opening Marketing Period. We reserve the right to require you to pay us the \$10,000 at least 30 days before the beginning of the Grand Opening Marketing Period and our marketing team will execute the Grand Opening Plan based upon local market conditions and other marketing needs.

**Advertising Obligation.** As of the date of this disclosure document, your Advertising Obligation is 4% of Gross Sales. We will collect the full 4% from you each month. We will allocate 3% of your contribution to the national Brand Fund ("**Brand Fund Contribution**") and 1% of your contribution for Local Marketing. Following written notice to you, we may increase the Advertising Obligation up to 5% of monthly Gross Sales and re-allocate the Advertising Obligation.

**Brand Fund.** We have not yet established a national brand fund ("**Brand Fund**"), but intend to do so. There currently is no franchisee advertising council that advises us on advertising policy.

We may use the Brand Fund Contributions and any earnings of the Brand Fund for any costs associated with advertising, marketing, public relations, promotional programs and materials (which may be national, regional, or local in scope), and any other activities that we believe would benefit the System, including the following: advertising campaigns in various media; point-of-purchase materials; review of locally-produced ads; free standing inserts; brochures; purchasing and/or developing promotional materials; market research, including secret shoppers; sponsorships; design and maintenance of a web site and app; celebrity endorsements; trade shows; association dues; search engine optimization costs; establishment of a third party facility for customizing local advertising; and accounting costs. We will not use the Brand Fund for any activity whose sole purpose is the marketing of franchises or the soliciting of franchisees; however, our web site, public relations activities, community involvement activities, and other activities that may be supported by the Brand Fund may contain information about franchising opportunities. We have the right to direct all programs supported by the Brand Fund, with final discretion over creative concepts, the materials and media used in the programs and their placement. We may work with our inhouse advertising department or an advertising agency to develop advertising for the Brand Fund. We do not guarantee that you will benefit from the Brand Fund in proportion to your contributions to the Brand Fund or at all. In spending advertising monies, we will not be obligated to make expenditures for any franchisee that are equivalent or proportionate to that franchisee's contribution or to ensure that any particular franchisee benefits directly or on a pro rata basis from expenditures of the funds. We likewise will not be obligated to spend any amount on advertising in the area in which your Taco Cabana Restaurant is located. You must participate in all advertising, marketing, promotions, research, and public relations programs instituted by the Brand Fund.

We will not use any contributions to the Brand Fund to defray any of our general operating expenses, except for reasonable administrative costs and overhead that we incur in activities reasonably related to the administration of the Brand Fund or the management of Brand Fund-supported programs (including salaries of our personnel who devote time to Brand Fund activities). We will retain all monies paid into the Brand Fund in a separate bank account. We have the right terminate and subsequently restart the Brand Fund at any time and for any reason. On termination, we may spend the remaining monies or return the monies to the Taco Cabana Restaurants that contributed to the Brand Fund, including affiliate-owned locations, on a pro rata basis.

Any point-of-sale materials produced with Brand Fund monies will be made available to you at a reasonable cost, and the proceeds of such sales will be credited to the Brand Fund. We are not required to have an independent audit of the Brand Fund completed. We will make available an unaudited statement

of contributions and expenditures for the Brand Fund no sooner than 90 days after the close of our fiscal year to franchisees who make a written request for a copy.

**Regional Advertising Fund.** We have the right, in our sole discretion, to establish one or more regional advertising funds for Taco Cabana Restaurants ("**Regional Advertising Funds**"). We will determine the geographic area covered by a Regional Advertising Fund based on the location of Taco Cabana Restaurants in the area and the reach of print, radio and television media in the area. If a Regional Advertising Fund is established for a geographical area that includes the Franchised Location, we will allocate a portion of your Brand Fund Contributions to the Regional Advertising Fund in an amount that we specify.

We or our designee will direct all advertising, marketing, and public relations programs and activities financed by the Regional Advertising Fund, with sole discretion over the creative concepts, materials and endorsements used in those programs and activities, the geographic, market and media placement, and the allocation of advertising and marketing materials. The Regional Advertising Fund may be used to pay the costs of preparing and producing such associated materials and programs as we or our designee may determine, including video, audio, and written advertising materials; employing advertising agencies; sponsorship of sporting, charitable or similar events; administering regional and multi-regional advertising programs, including, without limitation, purchasing direct mail and other media advertising and employing advertising agencies to assist with these efforts; and supporting public relations, market research, and other advertising, promotional, and marketing activities. You must participate in all advertising, marketing, promotions, research, and public relations programs instituted by the Regional Advertising Fund.

We will maintain a separate bank account for each Regional Advertising Fund. We are not required to have an independent audit of the Regional Advertising Fund completed. We will make available an unaudited statement of contributions and expenditures for a Regional Advertising Fund no sooner than 90 days after the close of our fiscal year to franchisees who contribute to that Regional Advertising Fund and who make a written request for a copy. We have the right to terminate and subsequently restart any Regional Advertising Fund at any time and for any reason. On termination, we may spend the remaining monies or return the monies to the restaurants that contributed to that Regional Advertising Fund, including affiliate-owned locations, on a pro rata basis.

As of the date of this disclosure document, we have not collected any Brand Fund monies or established any Regional Advertising Funds.

With respect to the Brand Fund or a Regional Advertising Fund, while we may spend in any fiscal year an amount greater or less than the aggregate contribution of Taco Cabana Restaurants to the applicable Fund, generally, we believe that we will spend all advertising payments during the taxable year in which the contribution and earnings are received. If we do not spend the advertising payments in one year, we will likely spend them in the following year or distribute any surplus to then-current franchisees who contribute to the applicable Fund and restaurants operated by us or our affiliates. Company-operated Taco Cabana Restaurants will contribute the Brand Fund and any applicable Regional Advertising Fund on the same basis as comparable franchisees.

**Local Marketing.** When you make your monthly Brand Fund Contribution, 1% of your Gross Sales will be dedicated to local marketing in advertising media and other selected advertising and marketing endeavors ("**Local Marketing**"). The money allocated to Local Marketing will be directed and controlled by us. You may not conduct your own Local Marketing without first obtaining our advanced written consent, which we have the right to grant or deny for any reason or no reason.

Social Media. You may not promote, offer, or sell any products or services relating to the Taco Cabana Restaurant through, or use any of the Marks in, any form of electronic communications, including Internet web sites, social networking sites, applications or other future technological avenues that enable users to create and share content or to participate in social networking (collectively, "Social Media"), without our prior written consent, which we may withhold for any or no reason. You must, at all times, comply with our Social Media policy, as modified periodically. Your use of any Social Media relating to the Taco Cabana Restaurant is subject to our prior written approval. You may not establish an independent site or page on any Social Media. If we authorize you to have and/or design a site or a page on any Social Media for the Taco Cabana Restaurant, your site and page may only be accessed from our site or page, and we may prohibit links between your site or page and any other site. Any use of Social Media by you with respect to the Taco Cabana Restaurant constitutes advertising and promotion, and you must comply with the restrictions on advertising described above and any additional policies and standards we issue from time to time with respect to Social Media. Any copyright in your sites or pages on Social Media will be deemed to be owned by us, and you agree to sign any documents that we reasonably deem necessary to affirm our ownership of the copyright. If necessary, you must ensure cooperation with us by any web site service provider or web site hosting company with which you do business. You must have or obtain the lawful right to use any proprietary materials of others that appear on your sites or pages on Social Media. We periodically may provide to you content for your sites and pages on Social Media, including copy, news stories and photographs. We must consent to any changes to your sites and pages on Social Media.

**Public and Media Relations.** You may not issue any press or other media releases or other communications without our prior consent. As a franchisee of the System, you may only participate in internal and external communications activities that create goodwill, enhance our public image, and build the Taco Cabana brand.

#### **Computer System**

You must obtain and install, at your expense, the hardware, software, and network connections that we specify from time to time. We reserve the right to specify a vendor or supplier and, if acquired through us, charge you for such hardware, software, support, and other related services ourselves. As of the issuance date of this disclosure document, we require a Xenial POS System. You must record customer transactions and collect and generate Gross Sales for the Taco Cabana Restaurant and sales by categories. We also reserve the right to require you to replace or upgrade the computer system with one designated by us, at your sole cost, but not more frequently than every 24 months. We may require you to install and maintain any software or other proprietary system designated by us, at your sole cost. The current cost to obtain the required hardware and software is approximately \$25,000 to \$50,000.

We will have independent access to the information and data on the computer system, and there are no contractual limitations on our right to access that information. Neither we, our affiliates, nor any third parties are required to provide ongoing maintenance, repairs, upgrades, or updates to your computer system. Currently, we estimate that the annual cost of optional or required maintenance, upgrades, or updates for your POS System is approximately \$0 to \$5,000.

You must: (a) maintain on the computer system only the financial and operating data specified in the Manual; (b) transmit data to us in the form and at the times required by the Manual; (c) give us unrestricted access to your computer system at all times (including IDs and passwords, if necessary) to download and transfer via modem, wifi or other connection as we determine; (d) maintain the computer system in good working order at your own expense; (e) replace or upgrade the computer system as we require (but not more than every 24 months; (f) install high speed Internet and/or communications connections; (g) ensure that your employees are adequately trained in the use of the computer system and our related policies and procedures; (h) comply with the Payment Card Industry Data Security Standard

("PCI DSS") at all times; (i) engage any vendor we designate to ensure the security of your data and compliance with the PCI DSS; and (j) use any proprietary software or support services and other proprietary materials that we provide to you in connection with the operation of the Taco Cabana Restaurant and if we so require, execute a license agreement and pay to us a reasonable license fee for the use of such proprietary software. You may not install any software other than authorized upgrades or make any hardware modifications to the computer system without our express written consent. Because computer designs and functions change periodically, we may make substantial modifications to our computer requirements or require installation of entirely different systems during the term of the Franchise Agreement.

## Selecting the Location of Your Taco Cabana Restaurant

We do not select the specific site for your Taco Cabana Restaurant. You select the site for your Taco Cabana Restaurant, subject to our acceptance based on the site selection criteria in effect at the time of your request. As noted in Item 1, you should not acquire any interest in a site for your Taco Cabana Restaurant until we have approved you as a Taco Cabana Restaurants franchisee. You must select the site from within a general area mutually agreed to in writing by you and us, and you must obtain acceptance for a site within 270 days for your first Taco Cabana Restaurant and 180 days for each subsequent location after you sign the Franchise Agreement. If we do not accept a site within that time period, we, at our option, may terminate the Franchise Agreement. We do not own any premises which we lease to franchisees.

With respect to each proposed site, you must submit to us a site review report consisting of financial pro formas, a description of the site, photographs, demographic information, site characteristics (including access and egress points and the amount of road traffic), other restaurant options in the area, and any other information that we may require, including, but not limited to, a letter of intent or other evidence satisfactory to us, which confirms your favorable prospects for obtaining the site. In addition, we may require a site analysis prepared by a third-party vendor at your expense. We reserve the right to designate the third-party vendor used to prepare the site analysis. Our site selection criteria consider demographic characteristics, traffic patterns, parking, character of the neighborhood, competition from other businesses in the area, the proximity to other businesses (including restaurants operated or franchised by us or our affiliates), the nature of other businesses in proximity to the site and other commercial characteristics (including the purchase price, rental obligations and other lease terms for the proposed site) and the size, appearance and other physical characteristics. If the site review report is acceptable, we reserve the right to conduct one on-site evaluation of the proposed site before deciding whether to accept the site. If we conduct an on-site evaluation, we may charge you a fee as determined by us, and you must pay all travel, living and other expenses incurred by our representative. Within 60 calendar days after receipt of a complete (as determined by us) site review report, we will advise you in writing whether we have accepted the site; however, we have no obligation to review any site review report if you or your affiliates are not in full compliance with all agreements with us and/or our affiliates. If we do not respond within that time period, we will be deemed to have denied acceptance of the site. Our acceptance or denial of acceptance of a site may be subject to reasonable conditions as determined in our sole discretion.

Our acceptance of a site does not constitute a representation or warranty of any kind, express or implied, of the site's suitability for a Taco Cabana Restaurant or any other purpose. Our acceptance indicates only that we believe that the site meets our then-current site selection criteria. Applying criteria that have appeared effective with other sites might not accurately reflect the potential for all sites, and demographic and/or other factors included in or excluded from our criteria could change, altering the potential of a site. The uncertainty and instability of these criteria are beyond our control, and we are not responsible if a site we accept fails to meet your expectations. Your submission of a proposed site for our acceptance is based on your own independent investigation of the site's suitability for a Taco Cabana Restaurant.

We do not provide any assistance with conforming the premises to local ordinances and building codes, nor do we assist you in obtaining any required permits and/or constructing, remodeling or decorating the premises and/or in hiring and training employees.

# **Typical Time Between Agreement Signing and Opening**

The length of time between signing of the Franchise Agreement and the opening of the Taco Cabana Restaurant is typically 15 months. Factors affecting the length of time between the execution of the Franchise Agreement and the opening of the Taco Cabana Restaurant include the sourcing of economically viable sites, site plan and building permit approvals, obtaining any site licenses and government approvals, constructing the building and site improvements, weather variations and hiring, and training managers and hourly employees.

## **Training**

**ITP.** Up to 16 weeks before the Taco Cabana Restaurant opens for business, you (or your Operating Principal), the Taco Cabana Restaurant's general manager and at least 2 other managerial personnel whom we designate must attend, and become certified in, the ITP. This level of training is required only for your first Taco Cabana Restaurant. The length of the ITP is 7-10 weeks. We offer the ITP during the year on an as-needed basis. Until you have established a training facility, we will provide your employees and you the ITP at our training center in San Antonio, Texas, or any other training facility we designate. The ITP is conducted by David Davila our Field Training Manager. David Davila has been conducted training for our affiliate for more than seven years.

We will not authorize the Taco Cabana Restaurant to open until those employees whom we designate have attended and successfully completed (as determined by us in our sole discretion) the ITP. Upon our request, as a prerequisite to the ITP, attendees must successfully complete (as determined by us in our sole discretion), at your cost, a food safety training and certification program administered by the National Restaurant Association Educational Foundation or accepted ANSI program alternative . We also require additional safety training related to serving beer, wine and other liquor items.

We do not charge a training fee for the ITP for the first three individuals. Additional employees who desire to attend the ITP, and any replacement employees who are required to attend the ITP, however, may do so, subject to space availability and your payment of a training fee. You must pay all salaries, benefits, travel, living, and other expenses incurred by you and your employees while attending the training. We have the right to dismiss from the ITP any person whom we believe will not perform acceptably in the position for which he/she has been hired, and you must provide a suitable replacement within 30 days of dismissal. In such event, we will have no obligation to extend the Opening Date (as defined in the Franchise Agreement).

If you (or your Operating Principal) fail to complete the ITP to our satisfaction, we may terminate the Franchise Agreement or permit you (or your Operating Principal) to repeat the ITP at the next available scheduled training session; however, we will have no obligation to extend the Opening Date. We reserve the right to charge a training fee if you (or your Operating Principal) are required to repeat the ITP.

**Certification of Your Training Facility.** If you sign a Development Agreement with us to develop more than five Taco Cabana Restaurants, you must establish a training facility (which may be in one of the Taco Cabana Restaurants) at which the ITP will be offered. We, in our sole discretion, will provide the assistance that we consider to be reasonably necessary to assist you in establishing the training facility. The training facility must be certified by us before you commence any training at the training facility, and we may periodically visit and evaluate the training facility and your trainers to ensure that they

continue to meet our standards. We may revoke our certification of the training facility if the training facility or your trainers cease to meet our standards. We may charge a fee in connection with the initial certification and periodic reevaluation of the training facility. In addition, you must reimburse us for all travel, living, food and other expenses incurred while traveling to and from, and visiting, the training facility as we require. Following our certification, you will train all persons who must complete the initial training program at the training facility unless we advise you otherwise or our certification is revoked.

The following chart summarizes the subjects taught during ITP:

#### TRAINING PROGRAM

SUBJECT	HOURS OF CLASSROOM TRAINING	HOURS OF ON-THE-JOB TRAINING	LOCATION
Team Member Onboarding: Kitchen	1	4	In restaurant
Basics, Hospitality Basics, Credit Card			
Security, Security Awareness Training,			
Keeping it Safe			
Team Member Alcohol Certification	2	0	In restaurant
Team Member Food Handler	1	0	In restaurant
Certification			
Team Member Cold Prep: Introduction	2	24	In restaurant
to Cold Prep, Cilantro, Diced			
Tomatoes, Pico de Gallo, Guacamole,			
Salsa Roja, Cupping Salsas, Lemon			
and Lime Wedges, Flautas, Cheese			
Enchiladas			
Team Member Hot Prep: Intro to Hot	2	24	In restaurant
Prep, Bacon, RTU Foods, Chorizo,			
Enchilada Sauce, Refried Beans, Black			
Beans, Mexican Rice			
Team Member Grill: Preparing Steak	3	24	In restaurant
Fajita, Cooking Steak Fajita, Preparing			
Chicken Fajita, Cooking Chicken			
Fajita, Quesadillas, Peppers and			
Onions, Eggs, Chorizo and Eggs, Eggs			
Mexicana, Potato and Eggs, Potatoes			
Mexicana	1	10	T
Team Member Fryer: Intro to Fryer,	1	18	In restaurant
Tortilla Chips, Seasoned Potatoes,			
Flautas, Crispy Taco Shells,			
Sopapillas, Churros	2	40	T
Team Member Line Server: Builds,	2	40	In restaurant
Plating and Packaging	2	40	T
Team Member Cashier: Drive-Thru,	2	40	In restaurant
Counter and Pods			

Team Member Tortillas	1	1	In restaurant
Team Member Cleaning	1	18	In restaurant
Team Member Receiving and Storage	1	18	In restaurant
Food Protection Management Certification (ServSafe or ANSI similar)	8	0	In restaurant
Shift Leader Training Program	16	40	In restaurant/virtual/ classroom
General Manager Training Program	32	80	In restaurant/virtual/ classroom
Franchise Operator Training Activities	0	80	In restaurant/virtual/ Classroom/ Corp Office
Other Training (New Products, Equipment and Initiatives)	4	4	In restaurant
Totals	79	415	

Ongoing Training; Training of Replacement Personnel. We may require you (or your Operating Principal), your managerial personnel, training personnel, and/or other previously trained and experienced staff members to attend and complete satisfactorily various training courses that we periodically choose to provide at the times and locations that we designate, as well as periodic conventions, regional meetings, and conferences that we specify. We may charge a fee for these courses as determined by us. You must pay all salaries, benefits, travel, living, and other expenses incurred by you and your employees during all training courses and programs. There currently are no additional required training programs or refresher courses.

We require that your replacement managerial and training personnel satisfactorily complete our training programs within the time period required by the Manual after being designated as managerial or training personnel. We may charge a fee for these training programs as determined by us.

Any specific ongoing training or advice we provide does not create an obligation (whether by course of dealing or otherwise) to continue to provide such specific training or advice, all of which we may discontinue and modify from time to time.

**Training Materials and Methods.** Our training materials include our training manual, and onthe-job training guides. All training materials that we provide to you remain our property. Except for the ITP, we have the right to provide training programs in person, on DVD, via the Internet, in printed or electronic format, or by other means, as we determine.

# ITEM 12 TERRITORY

#### **Development Agreement**

You will not receive an exclusive territory under the Development Agreement. You may face competition from other franchisees, from outlets that we or our affiliates own, or from other channels of distribution or competitive brands that we control.

Under the Development Agreement, you will receive a Development Area, which will be mutually agreed upon by Taco Cabana and you. A description of the Development Area will be attached as an exhibit to the Development Agreement.

We reserve to ourselves the right to: (a) operate and license others to operate Taco Cabana Restaurants in the Development Area that are located in transportation facilities (including airports, train stations, subways and rail and bus stations); military bases and government offices; sports facilities (including stadiums and arenas); car and truck rest stops and travel centers; educational facilities; hospitals and health care facilities; recreational theme parks; Indian reservations; casinos; any location in which foodservice is or may be provided by a master concessionaire; or any other similar location we believe, in the exercise of our reasonable judgment, to be a captive market location; (b) manufacture, distribute and sell, or cause to be manufactured, distributed and sold, food, goods, wares, merchandise, services and products, whether or not authorized for sale at Taco Cabana Restaurants, under the Marks or other trademarks, service marks, logos or commercial symbols, at wholesale or retail, in the Development Area through any channel of distribution, including, but not limited to, mail order and catalog, direct mail advertising, the Internet and other methods of distribution, other than through the operation of a "bricks and mortar" restaurant; (c) sell and distribute products identified by some or all of the Marks to foodservice businesses in the Development Area (other than Taco Cabana Restaurants), provided those foodservice businesses are not licensed to use the Marks in connection with their retail sales; (d) develop and/or own other franchise systems for the same or similar products and services using trade names and trademarks other than the Marks; and (E) purchase, be purchased by, merge or combine with, businesses that directly compete with Taco Cabana Restaurants.

Except as reserved in the paragraph above, we will not, during the term of the Development Agreement, operate or franchise others to Taco Cabana Restaurants in the Development Area, provided you are in compliance with the terms of the Development Agreement and any other agreements with us or our affiliates and you are current on all obligations due to us and our affiliates. The Development Agreement does not prohibit us or our affiliates from: (1) operating or licensing others to operate, during the term of the Development Agreement, Taco Cabana Restaurants at any location outside of the Development Area; (2) operating or licensing others to operate, after the Development Agreement terminates or expires, Taco Cabana Restaurants at any location, including locations inside the Development Area; (3) operating and licensing others to operate at any location, during or after the term of the Development Agreement, any type of foodservice business other than a Taco Cabana Restaurant; (4) acquiring another restaurant franchise system or concept and operating, and/or licensing third parties to operate, restaurants under that system or concept, regardless of whether the restaurants are located in or outside of the Development Area, provided that, with respect to such restaurants located in the Development Area, during the Development Term, the restaurants may not be identified by the Marks; or (5) becoming a franchisee and operating one or more restaurants under such system or concept, regardless of whether the restaurants are located inside or outside the Development Area.

Cabana Restaurants in the Development Area does not depend on your achieving a certain sales volume, market penetration or other contingency. However, if you are in default of the Development Agreement (which may include, but is not limited to, a default for failing to comply with the Development Schedule) or any Franchise Agreement and fail to cure the default within the applicable cure period (if any), we may terminate the Development Agreement and your limited rights in the Development Area. There are no other circumstances in which we can unilaterally modify your limited rights in the Development Area.

There are no restrictions on the areas in which you or we may advertise or solicit customers, nor must we compensate you if we, any other Taco Cabana franchisee, or any third party delivery service solicits or accepts orders from inside the Development Area. We reserve all rights to use and license the

System other than those we expressly grant under the Development Agreement and Franchise Agreement. The rights we reserve include the right to use any other channel of distribution, including the Internet, to make sales in the Development Area using the Marks or different proprietary marks.

#### **Franchise Agreement**

You will not receive an exclusive territory under the Franchise Agreement. You may face competition from other franchisees, from outlets that we own, or from other channels of distribution or competitive brands that we control.

Under the Franchise Agreement, you will receive the right to operate a Taco Cabana Restaurant at a specific location ("**Franchised Location**") and a protected area ("**Protected Area**"). In urban areas, your Protected Area will generally be 4 city blocks in each direction from the front door of your Franchised Location. In suburban areas you will receive a Protected Area which includes at least 30,000 full time residents. In rural areas, your Protected Area will be a radius of one mile in all directions from the front door of your Franchised Location. If you are in compliance with the Franchise Agreement, during the Term, we will not operate, or license others to operate, a Taco Cabana Restaurant within the Protected Area.

Nothing in the Franchise Agreement prohibits us or our affiliates from, among other things: (a) operating or licensing others to operate, during the term of the Franchise Agreement, Taco Cabana Restaurants in the Protected Area that are located in transportation facilities (including airports, train stations, subways and rail and bus stations); military bases and government offices; sports facilities (including stadiums and arenas); car and truck rest stops and travel centers; educational facilities; hospitals and health care facilities; recreational theme parks; Indian reservations; casinos; any location in which foodservice is or may be provided by a master concessionaire; or any other similar location we believe, in the exercise of our reasonable judgment, to be a captive market location; (b) operating or licensing others to operate, during the term of this Agreement, Taco Cabana Restaurants at any location outside the Protected Area; (c) operating or licensing others to operate, after the Franchise Agreement terminates or expires, Taco Cabana Restaurants at any location, including at the Franchised Location or in the Protected Area; (d) manufacturing, distributing and selling, or cause to be manufactured, distributed and sold, food, goods, wares, merchandise, services and products, whether or not authorized for sale at Taco Cabana Restaurants, under the Marks or other trademarks, service marks, logos or commercial symbols, at wholesale or retail, in the Protected Area through any channel of distribution, other than a restaurant; (e) selling and distributing products identified by some or all of the Marks to foodservice businesses in the Protected Area (other than Taco Cabana Restaurants), provided those foodservice businesses are not licensed to use the Marks in connection with their retail sales; (f) developing and owning other franchise systems for the same or similar products and services using trade names and trademarks other than the Marks; (g) becoming a franchisee and operating one or more restaurants under such system or concept, regardless of whether the restaurants are located inside or outside the Protected Area; and/or (h) purchasing, being purchased by, merging or combining with, businesses that directly compete with Taco Cabana Restaurants. We reserve to ourselves all rights to use and license the System and the Marks other than those expressly granted under the Franchise Agreement.

Under the Franchise Agreement, you do not receive any right of first refusal (or similar right) to develop or operate additional Taco Cabana Restaurants nor do you receive any option to develop or operate additional Taco Cabana Restaurants. Our prior written consent is required before you relocate the Taco Cabana Restaurant. Factors used to approve a request for relocation include, without limitation, whether (a) the need for relocation arises from adverse circumstances at the present site beyond your control; (b) the proposed new site meets our then-current standards for development; and (c) the proposed new site, in our opinion, will not adversely impact existing Taco Cabana Restaurants.

You may only sell or distribute products identified by some or all of the Marks from the Franchised Location; you may not use any other method or channel of distribution. We do not impose any geographic restrictions on your ability to solicit customers; however, see Item 11 for restrictions on your use of Social Media. There are no restrictions on our ability or the ability of other Taco Cabana franchisees to solicit customers, nor must we compensate you if we or other Taco Cabana franchisees solicit or accept orders. We reserve the right to merchandise and distribute goods and services identified by the Marks (or different proprietary marks) through any method or channel of distribution, including the Internet.

As of the date this Disclosure Document was issued, neither we nor any of our affiliates operates, franchises or has plans to operate or franchise a business under a different trademark that will offer *similar services* to the ones you will offer as a Taco Cabana franchisee, but we reserve the right to do so in the future. In addition, as noted in Item 1, our affiliate NTGF offers franchises for Nick the Greek Restaurants. Franchisees of NTGF operating Nick the Greek Restaurants may be located in your Protected Area or solicit orders from customers in your Protected Area. NTGF or its affiliates may also operate company-owned Nick the Greek Restaurants in your Protected Area and solicit customers in your Protected Area.

We also reserve the right to acquire similar competing brands or to be acquired by another entity without your consent or any notice to you. Those competing brands may have locations in your protected area.

# ITEM 13 TRADEMARKS

We grant you the right to operate a retail restaurant under the "Taco Cabana" name and mark and to use the Marks in the operation of your Taco Cabana Restaurant. By Marks, we mean the "Taco Cabana" name and mark and certain other names, marks, logos, insignias, slogans, emblems, symbols, and designs that we have designated, or may in the future designate, for use with the System.

We have the right, following reasonable notice to you, to change, discontinue, or substitute any of the Marks and adopt new Marks for use with the System without any liability for any diminishment of the System. You must implement any such change at your expense within the time that we specify.

Our affiliate, Texas Taco Cabana, L.P., ("**Taco Cabana IP Company**") owns the following principal trademarks which have been have been registered with the USPTO on the Principal Register:

Description of Mark	Registration Number	Registration Date
TACO CABANA PANTRY	6,367,932	June 1, 2021
TACO CABANA PANTRY	6,367,932	June 1, 2021

Description of Mark	Registration Number	Registration Date
TACO CABANA	6,028,049	April 7, 2020
TACO CABANA  MEXICAN PATIO CAFE	5,999,648	March 3, 2020
TACO CABANA  MEXICAN PATIO CAFE	5,999,647	March 3, 2020
THE ORIGINAL  TACO CABANA  MEXICAN PATTO CAFE	1,726,537	October 20, 1992; Renewed August 17, 2022
TACO CABANA TEXMEX PATIO CAFE	1,978,245	June 4, 1996; Renewed December 8, 2016
TACO CABANA	1,581,970	February 6, 1990; Renewed February 28, 2020
TC	7,000,571	March 14, 2023
CABANA COMBOS	7,000,570	March 14, 2023
CABANA SALAD	6,999,962	March 14, 2023

Taco Cabana IP Company intends to renew the registrations at the end of the initial registration period, and intends to file all appropriate affidavits of continued use when required.

We have entered into a license agreement ("**IP License Agreement**") with Taco Cabana IP Company dated as of March 14, 2023, under which we have a license to use, and license third parties to use, the Marks. The IP License Agreement is for a ten year term and will automatically renew for additional ten year terms unless terminated by Taco Cabana IP Company as the result of our breach. If the IP License Agreement expires or is terminated for any reason, the agreement provides that Taco Cabana IP Company will continue to honor the rights we granted to you. No other agreement limits our rights to use or license the use of the Marks.

We will provide you guidelines for the use of the Marks and Trade Dress. You must follow our guidelines and rules when you use the Marks and Trade Dress. You cannot use the Marks and Trade Dress in any manner not authorized by us or in any corporate or legal name. You cannot use any other trade names, service marks, or trademarks in conjunction with the Taco Cabana Restaurant.

There are no presently effective material determinations of the USPTO, the Trademark Trial and Appeal Board, the trademark administrator of any state or any court relating to the principal Marks. There are no pending infringement, opposition or cancellation proceedings or material litigation involving the principal Marks. Except as stated above, there are no agreements currently in effect that significantly limit our right to use or license the use of the Marks or Trade Dress in any manner material to you. We do not know of either superior prior rights or infringing uses that could materially affect your use of the principal Marks in any state.

The Franchise Agreement does not contain any provisions under which we are required to defend or indemnify you against any claims of infringement or unfair competition arising out of your use of the Marks or Trade Dress. The Franchise Agreement does require that you notify us promptly of any unauthorized use of the Marks or Trade Dress and any challenge by any person or entity to the validity of, our ownership of, or our right to use, any of the Marks or Trade Dress. We have the right, but not the obligation, to initiate, direct, and control any litigation or administrative proceedings relating to the Marks or Trade Dress, including any settlement. You must sign all documents and provide any other assistance we believe is necessary for the defense or prosecution of any such litigation or proceeding. You may not, directly or indirectly, contest, or aid in contesting, the validity, or our ownership, of the Marks or Trade Dress.

# ITEM 14 PATENTS, COPYRIGHTS, AND PROPRIETARY INFORMATION

We do not own any registered patents or copyrights, nor do we have any pending patent applications, that are material to your Taco Cabana Restaurant or the System; however, we claim common law copyright protection in the Manual and certain forms, architectural engineering and construction plans, advertising materials, product specifications, computer programs, newsletters, training materials, and operations and accounting materials. We have not registered those materials with the United States Registrar of Copyrights.

The Manual and these other materials contain our detailed standards, specifications, instructions, forms, reports, and procedures for the management and operation of the Taco Cabana Restaurant. You must treat the Manual, training materials, and any other manuals or materials created or approved by us for use with the System as secret and confidential. You may not copy, duplicate, or otherwise reproduce the Manual or other materials provided by us. In addition, you may not make any confidential information or materials supplied by us available to any unauthorized person without our prior written consent.

You may not communicate, divulge, or use for any purpose other than the operation of the Taco Cabana Restaurant any confidential information, knowledge, trade secrets, or know-how that may be communicated to you or that you may learn by virtue of the Franchise Agreement or the operation of the Taco Cabana Restaurant. You may divulge confidential information only to your professional advisers, your employees who must have access to the information to develop or operate the Taco Cabana Restaurant, your contractors, and your landlord, provided that you obtain our prior consent. All information, knowledge and know-how relating to us, our business plans, or the System are deemed confidential, except information that you can demonstrate came to your attention by lawful means prior to our disclosure, or that, at the time of our disclosure to you, had become a part of the public domain. At our request, you must require your employees and any other person or entity to whom you wish to disclose any confidential information to sign agreements providing that they will maintain the confidentiality of the disclosed information. The agreements must be in a form satisfactory to us and must identify us as a third-party beneficiary with the independent right to enforce the agreements.

# ITEM 15 OBLIGATION TO PARTICIPATE IN THE ACTUAL OPERATION OF THE FRANCHISE BUSINESS

You are not obligated to participate personally in the day-to-day operation of the Taco Cabana Restaurant, but we recommend that you do so. Each Taco Cabana Restaurant must, at all times, be under the personal, on-premises supervision of one of the following designated individuals, who must meet our applicable training qualifications for their position: the Operating Principal, a general manager or an assistant manager.

If you are a business entity, you must appoint an individual to serve as your Operating Principal. The Operating Principal: (a) must be accepted by us, (b) must be a 10% Owner if the Operating Principal is a partner in more than one Franchised Location, or a 25% owner if the Operating Principal is an owner in one Franchised Location; (c) must live within a reasonable driving distance of the Taco Cabana Restaurant, and (d) must devote full-time and best efforts to supervising the operation of the Taco Cabana Restaurant and other Taco Cabana Restaurants that you operate. The Operating Principal must complete the ITP, have authority over all business decisions related to the Taco Cabana Restaurant and have the authority to bind you in your dealings with us. We will provide all services to, and communicate primarily with, the Operating Principal. You must obtain our prior written consent before you change the Operating Principal. If the Operating Principal no longer qualifies as such, you must designate another qualified person to act as the Operating Principal within 30 days after the date the prior Operating Principal within a reasonable time after receipt of your notice. If we do not consent, you will have 15 days from your receipt of our decision to designate another person to act as Operating Principal who satisfies the preceding qualifications.

The Operating Principal must remain active in overseeing the operations of the Taco Cabana Restaurant, including without limitation, regular, periodic visits to the Taco Cabana Restaurant and sufficient communications with us to ensure that the Taco Cabana Restaurant's operations comply with the operating standards as detailed by us from time to time in the Manual or otherwise in written or oral communications.

If you are a business entity, all direct or indirect holders of an equity interest in you of 10% or more ("10% Owners") must jointly and severally guarantee your payment and performance of your obligations under the Development and Franchise Agreements and must bind themselves to the terms of those agreements by executing the guarantee attached thereto. If you are married, your spouse must sign a

personal guarantee as well. If any 10% Owner is a business entity, we have the right to require that the guarantee be executed by individuals who have an ownership interest in that entity.

At our request, you will require your employees (including your manager and assistant manager) to sign agreements, which may be provided by us, under which they agree to maintain the confidentiality of information disclosed by us.

# ITEM 16 RESTRICTIONS ON WHAT THE FRANCHISEE MAY SELL

You must use the Franchised Location solely for the operation of the Taco Cabana Restaurant and maintain sufficient inventories, adequately staff each shift with qualified employees and continuously operate the Taco Cabana Restaurant at its maximum capacity and efficiency for the minimum number of days and hours set forth in the Manual or as we otherwise specify in writing (subject to the requirements of local laws and licensing requirements). You may offer for sale and sell in the Taco Cabana Restaurant only the products and services that we have approved in the Manual or otherwise in writing and you must sell all products and services that we have approved in the Manual or otherwise in writing. (See Items 8 and 9 for additional information regarding authorized products and services.) We, in our sole discretion, and without limitation, may periodically change the System, including modifications to the Manual, the menu (including authorized products), the required equipment, the signage, the Marks and the Trade Dress. You must accept, use or display in the Taco Cabana Restaurant any such System changes and make such expenditures as the System changes require. We also have the right to vary System standards in particular instances as we deem appropriate in our reasonable judgment. We do not limit the customers to whom you may sell goods or services.

## ITEM 17 RENEWAL, TERMINATION, TRANSFER, AND DISPUTE RESOLUTION THE FRANCHISE RELATIONSHIP

This table lists certain important provisions of the franchise and related agreements. You should read these provisions in the agreements attached to this disclosure document.

#### THE DEVELOPMENT AGREEMENT

Provision		Section In Development Agreement	Summary
a.	Length of the franchise term	Section 1.1	The Development Term begins on the effective date of the Development Agreement and terminates on the first to occur of: (a) the date that the last Taco Cabana Restaurant is required to be opened pursuant to the Development Schedule; or (b) the date that the last Taco Cabana Restaurant required by the Development Schedule opens for business.
b.	Renewal or extension of the term	Not Applicable	
c.	Requirements for you to renew or extend	Not Applicable	
d.	Termination by you	Not Applicable	

Provision		Section In Development Agreement	Summary
e.	Termination by us without cause	Not Applicable	
f.	Termination by us with cause	Section 12.1	We may terminate upon default.
g.	"Cause" defined - curable defaults	Section 12.2	You have 30 days (10 days for any monetary default) to cure defaults other than those discussed in Sections 12.1, 12.2.2 and 12.2.3 of the Development Agreement.
h.	"Cause" defined – non- curable defaults	Sections 12.1.1 – 12.1.11 and 12.2.3	Non-curable defaults include: failure to comply with the Development Schedule (including failure to meet Site Acceptance Dates or Opening Dates); commencement of construction before you sign the Franchise Agreement for that location; insolvency; bankruptcy; execution levied against your business or property; material breach of Section 11 (Covenants); transfer without approval; material misrepresentation; falsification of reports; conviction or no contest plea to a crime likely to harm the System or our goodwill; default beyond cure period under any agreement with us or our affiliates (including, but not limited to, any Franchise Agreement), real estate lease, equipment lease or financing instrument relating to a Taco Cabana Restaurant or any agreement with any vendor or supplier to a Taco Cabana Restaurant, provided that, if default is not by you, you are given written notice and 10 days to cure; receipt of 2 or more notices of default within any 12-month period; and, with respect to any Taco Cabana Restaurant developed under the Development Agreement, an entity that is not a party to the applicable Franchise Agreement is actually operating the Taco Cabana Restaurant without our prior written consent. Termination of the Development Agreement for failure to meet the Development Schedule will not result in termination of any Franchise Agreement.
i.	Your obligations on termination/non- renewal	Section 12.4	Obligations include, but are not limited to: loss of right to develop; termination of limited exclusive rights in Development Area; return of materials to us; continued observance of covenants; payment of amounts due to us and our affiliates; and forfeiture of Development Fee.
j.	Assignment of contract by us	Section 8	There are no restrictions on our right to assign.
k.	"Transfer" by you- defined	Section 9	Includes sale, assignment, transfer, conveyance, merger, give away, pledge, mortgage or other encumbrance of any interest in the Development

	Provision	Section In Development Agreement	Summary
			Agreement, any direct or indirect ownership interest in you (if you are a business entity) or substantially all of your assets pertaining to your operations under the Development Agreement.
1.	Our approval of transfer by you	Section 9	Generally, if you propose to undertake a Transfer, you must obtain our prior written consent. The decision as to whether to consent to a Transfer will be made in the exercise of our business judgment, but our consent will not be unreasonably withheld.
m.	Conditions for our approval of transfer	Sections 9.3, 9.4, 9.5	Except as provided below, if you propose to undertake a Transfer, the conditions for our consent include: compliance with the Development Agreement and any other agreement with us, our affiliates, any lenders that have provided financing to you and your major suppliers; if applicable, payment of a transfer fee (see Item 6); simultaneous transfer of same interest with respect to all agreements with us in Development Area; qualified transferee; sign assignment agreement and any other agreements that we require to reflect the transfer; sign, at our option, any amendments to the Development Agreement and/or our thencurrent standard form of development agreement for a term ending on the expiration date of the Development Agreement; sign general release; sign guarantee; your affiliates' compliance with any Taco Cabana Restaurants Development or Franchise Agreement to which they are a party and with any agreement with lenders that have provided financing pursuant to an arrangement with us; and reasonable sales price.  If you propose to admit a new owner having less than a 10% ownership interest, remove an existing owner or change the distribution of ownership, conditions include: provide notice; submit copies of all proposed contracts and other information that we request; pay applicable transfer fee (see Item 6); compliance with Development Agreement and any other agreement with us, our affiliate, any lenders that have provided financing pursuant to an arrangement with us and your major suppliers; sign general release; and if applicable, sign guarantee; and comply with governing documents requirements.
n.	Our right of first refusal to acquire your business	Section 9.9	We have the right, exercisable within 30 days after we receive your notice of transfer, to send written notice to you that we intend to purchase the interest or assets proposed to be transferred.

	Provision	Section In Development Agreement	Summary
			Our right of first refusal will not apply to transfers for convenience of ownership or transfers to your spouse or adult son or daughter as a result of death or permanent incapacity, provided that the transferee meets all criteria required for new franchisees.
0.	Our option to purchase your business	Section 20	Upon the expiration or termination of the Franchise Agreement for any reason, we will have the option to purchase from you some or all of the assets used int eh Franchised Restaurant.
p.	Your death or disability	Section 9.6	If the Transfer is a transfer of direct or indirect ownership interests in you after the death or permanent incapacity of an owner, that person's executor, administrator or personal representative must apply to us within 3 months for consent to transfer the person's interest. All conditions of transfer apply (see m. above). If the interest is not disposed of within 6 months after the event, we may terminate the Development Agreement.
q.	Non-competition covenants during the development term	Section 11.2	No interest in any Competitive Business.  "Competitive Business" means any business, store, restaurant or location: (1) whose sales of Tex-Mex and Mexican-style entrees collectively are reasonably likely to account for 10% or more of the food sales of the business in any calendar month; and/or (2) whose trade dress is similar to that used in the System.  "Competitive Business" does not, however, include those businesses in which any of your owners or you have a direct or indirect, legal or beneficial interest and: (a) that had been in operation prior to the date of the first franchise-related agreement between you and us; or (b) that your owners or you had contracted to develop prior to the date of the first franchise-related agreement between you and us, provided those businesses are listed in Exhibit A to the Development Agreement.  In addition, you may not divert any business or customer to any Competitive Businesse.
r.	Non-competition covenants after the franchise is terminated or expires	Section 11.3	For 2 years following the expiration, termination or transfer of the Development Agreement, no interest in any Competitive Business that is located in the Development Area, within 10 miles of the border of the Development Area or within 10 miles of any other Taco Cabana Restaurant. In addition, you may not, for 2 years after expiration, termination or transfer of the Development Agreement, sell, assign, lease

	Provision	Section In Development Agreement	Summary
			or transfer any Authorized Site to any person or entity that intends to operate a Competitive Business at that Authorized Site.
S.	Modification of the agreement	Section 17	No modification generally without signed agreement, but we may modify the System.
t.	Integration/merger clause	Section 17	Only the terms of the Development Agreement, the documents referred to therein and the Manual are binding (subject to state law). Any other oral or written promises related to the subject matter of the Development Agreement may not be enforceable. This is not intended to disclaim any representation made in this disclosure document.
u.	Dispute resolution by arbitration or mediation	Not Applicable	
V.	Choice of forum	Section 19.2	Subject to state law, you can only file suit where our principal offices are located, and we may file suit in the jurisdiction where our principal offices are located, where you reside or do business, where the Development Area or any Taco Cabana Restaurant is or was located or where the claim arose.
w.	Choice of law	Section 19.1	Subject to state law, Texas law applies.

# FRANCHISE AGREEMENT

	Provision	Section In Franchise Agreement	Summary
a.	Length of the franchise term	Section 2.1	10 years from the date the Taco Cabana Restaurant opens.
b.	Renewal or extension of the term	Section 2.2	You will have the option to obtain one successor franchise term, which will be for a period of 10 years, unless we decide to stop franchising the Taco Cabana Restaurant concept or we decide to withdraw the Taco Cabana Restaurant concept from the geographical market in which the Taco Cabana Restaurant is located.
c.	Requirements for you to renew or extend	Section 2.2	Conditions include: providing timely notice; substantial compliance with expiring franchise agreement; not be in default under any agreement with us or our affiliates; not be in default beyond the applicable cure period under any real estate lease, equipment lease, or financing instrument relating to the Taco Cabana Restaurant or any agreement with any vendor or supplier to the Taco Cabana Restaurant; have the right to continue operating at the Taco Cabana Restaurant for the full term of the successor franchise agreement; renovate and modernize the Taco Cabana Restaurant to

	Provision	Section In Franchise Agreement	Summary
			reflect the then-current image of Taco Cabana Restaurants; sign a general release; complete any additional training that we require; and pay a renewal fee.
			You also must sign our then-current form of Franchise Agreement, the terms of which likely will differ materially from your original Franchise Agreement, including, without limitation, those relating to royalty fees and advertising obligations.
d.	Termination by you	Not Applicable	
e.	Termination by us without cause	Not Applicable	
f.	Termination by us with cause	Section 19	We may terminate upon default. Termination of the Development Agreement for failure to meet the Development Schedule will not result in termination of the Franchise Agreement.
g.	"Cause" defined - curable defaults	Section 19.2	You have 30 days (10 days for any monetary default) to cure defaults other than those discussed in Section 19.1 and 19.2.2 of the Franchise Agreement.
h.	"Cause" defined –non- curable defaults	Section 19.1	Non-curable defaults include: failure to complete the ITP training; failure to open the Taco Cabana Restaurant by the Opening Date; insolvency; bankruptcy; execution levied against your business or property; foreclosure; material breach of covenants; material misrepresentation; conviction or no contest plea to a crime that is likely to harm the System's reputation or our goodwill; transfer without obtaining our prior written consent; default beyond the applicable cure period under any agreement with us or our affiliates, any real estate lease, equipment lease, or financing instrument relating to the Taco Cabana Restaurant or any agreement with any vendor or supplier to the Taco Cabana Restaurant, provided that, if default is not by you, you are given written notice and 10 days to cure; refuse to permit audit; conditions that seriously jeopardize public health or safety; loss of right to operate at the Franchised Location and, if applicable, failure to secure our acceptance of another site within required time period; failure to operate the Taco Cabana Restaurant for 3 or more consecutive days, or 5 total days; receipt of 2 or more notices of default within any 12 month period; and an entity that is not a party to the Franchise Agreement is actually operating the Taco Cabana Restaurant without our prior written consent.

	Provision	Section In Franchise Agreement	Summary
i.	Your obligations on termination/non-renewal	Section 20	Obligations include: immediately cease to operate the Taco Cabana Restaurant and refrain from holding yourself out as a present or former franchisee of the System; cease to use the System, the Marks, and the Manual; pay all sums due to us, our affiliates, and your suppliers; cease to use in any manner the confidential methods, procedures, and techniques associated with the System; continue to abide by the covenants; cease to use the Marks and all other distinctive signs and names associated with the System; cancel any assumed name or equivalent registration and any domain name registration containing the Marks; complete de-identification (if we do not exercise our option to purchase); deliver to us all hard copies, and delete all electronic copies, of the Manual and all training materials, marketing materials, records, files, instructions, and correspondence containing confidential information; deliver to us all customer information you have compiled and uninstall any software that we have provided; assign all Listings (as defined in the Franchise Agreement) associated with the Marks or the Taco Cabana Restaurant, if we so elect.
j.	Assignment of contract by us	Section 15	There are no restrictions on our right to assign.
k.	"Transfer" by you- defined	Section 16.1	Includes sale, assignment, transfer, merger, conveyance, give away, pledge, mortgage, or other encumbrance of any interest in the Franchise Agreement, the Taco Cabana Restaurant, the Franchised Location, the lease for the Taco Cabana Restaurant, substantially all of the assets of the Taco Cabana Restaurant, any direct or indirect ownership interests in you (if you are a business entity) or substantially all of your other assets pertaining to your operations under the Franchise Agreement.
1.	Our approval of transfer by you	Section 16.2	If you propose to undertake a Transfer, you must obtain our prior written consent. The decision as to whether to consent to a Transfer will be made in the exercise of our business judgment, but our consent will not be unreasonably withheld.
m.	Conditions for our approval of transfer	Sections 16.3, 16.4	Except as provided below, if you propose to undertake a Transfer, the conditions for our approval include: compliance with the Franchise Agreement and any other agreement with us, our affiliates, any lenders that have provided financing pursuant to an arrangement with us, and your major suppliers; if applicable,

Provision	Section In Franchise Agreement	Summary
		payment of a transfer fee (see Item 6); simultaneous Transfer of your Development Agreement (if applicable and if still in effect) and any other Taco Cabana Restaurants developed under that Agreement and thenoperated by you; submit a copy of all contracts, all other agreements or proposals, and all other information requested by us; qualified transferee; sign assignment agreement and any other agreements that we require to reflect the Transfer; sign, at our option, any amendments to the Franchise Agreement that we require and/or our then-current standard form of franchise agreement for a term ending on the expiration date of the Franchise Agreement; modernize and upgrade the Taco Cabana Restaurant; sign general release; reasonable sales price and other proposed terms; your affiliates' compliance with any Taco Cabana Restaurants Development or Franchise Agreement to which they are a party and with any agreement with lenders that have provided financing pursuant to an arrangement with us; and execute guarantee. In addition, transferee and those of transferee's employees whom we designated must complete the ITP.
		If you propose to admit a new owner having less than a 10% ownership interest, remove an existing owner or change the distribution of ownership interests, conditions include: provide notice; submit copies of all proposed contracts and other information that we request; pay transfer fee (see Item 6); compliance with Franchise Agreement and any other agreement with us, our affiliate, any lenders that have provided financing pursuant to an arrangement with us and your major suppliers; sign assignment agreement and any other agreements we require to reflect the Transfer; sign, at our option, any amendments to the Franchise Agreement that we require and/or our then current standard form of franchise agreement for a term ending on the expiration date of the Franchise Agreement; sign general release; and comply with governing documents requirement.
n. Our right of first refusal to acquire your business	Section 16.9	We have the right, exercisable within 30 days after we receive your notice of Transfer, to send written notice to you that we intend to purchase the interest or assets proposed to be transferred. Our right of first refusal will not apply to transfers for convenience of ownership or transfers to your spouse or adult son or

Our option to purchase your business		daughter, provided that the transferee meets all
		criteria for new franchisees.
your business	Section 21	We have the right, exercisable within 30 days after the later of the effective date of termination or expiration or the date you cease operating the Taco Cabana Restaurant, to purchase some or all of the Assets used in the Taco Cabana Restaurant. We have the unrestricted right to assign this option to purchase your business. The purchase prices of the Assets will be their fair market value determined as of the effective date of termination or agreement expiration in a manner that accounts for reasonable depreciation and condition of the Assets. We may exclude from the Assets purchased any equipment, vehicles, furnishings, fixtures, signs, and inventory that do not meet our then-current standards.
Your death or disability	Section 16.6	If the Transfer is a transfer of direct or indirect ownership interests in you after the death or permanent incapacity of an owner, that person's executor, administrator, or personal representative must apply to us within 3 months for consent to transfer the person's interest. All conditions of transfer apply (see m. above). If the interest is not disposed of within 6 months after the date of death or appointment of a personal representative, we may terminate the Franchise Agreement.
Non-competition covenants during the term of the franchise	Section 18.2	No interest in any Competitive Business.  "Competitive Business" means any business, store, restaurant or location: (1) whose sales of Tex-Mex and Mexican-style entrees collectively are reasonably likely to account for 10% or more of the food sales of the business in any calendar month; and/or (2) whose Trade dress is similar to that used in the System. "Competitive Business" does not, however include those businesses in which any of your owners or you have a direct or indirect, legal or beneficial interest and: (a) that had been in operation prior to the date of the first franchise-related agreement between you and us; or (b) that your owners or you had contracted to develop prior to the date of the first franchise-related agreement between you and us, provided those businesses are listed in Exhibit A to the Franchise Agreement.  In addition, you may not divert any business or customer to any Competitive Business.
	Non-competition covenants during the	Non-competition Section 18.2 covenants during the

	Provision	Section In Franchise Agreement	Summary
r.	Non-competition covenants after the franchise is terminated or expires	Section 18.3	For 2 years following the expiration, termination or transfer of the Franchise Agreement, no interest in any Competitive Business that is located within 10 miles of the Franchised Location or within 10 miles of any other Taco Cabana Restaurant. In addition, you may not, for 2 years after expiration, termination, or transfer of the Franchise Agreement, sell, assign, lease, or transfer the Franchised Location to any person or entity that intends to operate a Competitive Business at the Franchised Location.
s.	Modification of the agreement	Section 26	No modification generally without signed agreement, but we may modify the System.
t.	Integration/merger clause	Section 26	Only the terms of the Franchise Agreement, the documents referred to therein and the Manual are binding (subject to state law). Any other oral or written promises related to the subject matter of the Franchise Agreement may not be enforceable. This is not intended to disclaim any representation made in this disclosure document.
u.	Dispute resolution by arbitration or mediation	Not Applicable	
v.	Choice of forum	Section 28.2	Subject to state law, you can only file suit where our principal offices are located, and we may file suit in the jurisdiction where our principal offices are located, where you reside or do business, where the Protected Area or the Taco Cabana Restaurant is or was located or where the claim arose.
w.	Choice of law	Section 28.1	Subject to state law, Texas law applies.

Certain states require franchisors to make additional disclosures related to the information contained in this disclosure document. These disclosures are contained in Exhibit F to this disclosure document.

#### ITEM 18 PUBLIC FIGURES

No public figure is required to be disclosed in this Item.

### ITEM 19 FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE REPRESENTATIONS

The FTC's Franchise Rule permits a franchisor to provide information about the actual or potential financial performance of its franchised and/or franchisor-owned outlets, if there is a reasonable basis for the information, and if the information is included in the disclosure document. Financial performance information that differs from that included in Item 19 may be given only if: (1) a franchisor provides the

actual records of an existing outlet you are considering buying; or (2) a franchisor supplements the information provided in this Item 19, for example, by providing information about possible performance at a particular location or under particular circumstances.

We do not make any representations about a franchisee's future financial performance or the past financial performance of company-owned or franchised outlets. We also do not authorize our employees or representatives to make any such representations either orally or in writing. If you are purchasing an existing outlet, however, we may provide you with the actual records of that outlet. If you receive any other financial performance information or projections of your future income, you should report it to the franchisor's management by contacting Renee Bujanos at <a href="mailto:franchising@tacocabana.com">franchising@tacocabana.com</a>, (210) 283-5518, the Federal Trade Commission, and the appropriate state regulatory agencies.

## ITEM 20 OUTLETS AND FRANCHISEE INFORMATION

## Table No. 1 Systemwide Outlet Summary Fiscal Years 2021-2023

Outlet Type	Year	Outlets at Start of Year	Outlets at End of Year	Net change
	2021	6	6	0
Franchised	2022	6	6	0
	2023	6	6	0
	2021	144	142	-2
Company-Owned	2022	142	143	1
	2023	143	143	0
	2021	150	148	-2
Total Outlets	2022	148	149	1
	2023	149	149	0

Table No. 2
Transfers of Outlets from Franchisees to New Owners
(Other than the Franchisor)
For Years 2021-2023

State	Year	Number of Transfers
All States	2021	0
	2022	0
	2023	0
Totals	2021	0
	2022	0
	2023	0

Table No. 3 Status of Franchised Outlets For Fiscal Years 2021 to 2023 (1)

State	Year	Outlets at Start of Year	Outlets Opened	Terminations	Reacquired By Franchisor	Ceased Operations For Other Reasons	Outlets at End of Year
	2021	6	0	0	0	0	6
New Mexico	2022	6	0	0	0	0	6
	2023	6	0	0	0	0	6
Total	2021	6	0	0	0	0	6
	2022	6	0	0	0	0	6
	2023	6	0	0	0	0	6

#### **NOTES**

(1) During the last 3 fiscal years, we have not signed any confidentiality agreements with current or former franchisees or area developers which would restrict them from speaking openly with you about their experience with us. There are no franchisees who have been terminated, canceled or otherwise voluntarily or involuntarily ceased to do business or who have not communicated with us within 10 weeks of the effective date of this disclosure document. If you buy this franchise, your contact information may be disclosed to other buyers when you leave the franchise system. As of the date of this disclosure document, there are no Taco Cabana franchisee organizations.

Table No. 4
Status of Company-Owned Outlets
For Years 2021-2023

State	Year	Outlets at Start of Year	Outlets Opened	Outlets Reacquired from Franchisees	Outlets Closed	Outlets Sold to Franchisees	Outlets at End of Year
	2021	144	0	0	2	0	142
Texas	2022	142	2	0	1	0	143
	2023	143	0	0	0	0	143
	2021	144	0	0	2	0	142
Total	2022	142	2	0	1	0	143
	2023	143	0	0	0	0	143

Table No. 5 Projected Openings as of October 1, 2023

State	Franchise Agreements Signed but Outlet Not Opened	Projected New Franchised Outlets in Next Fiscal Year (2024)	Projected New Company- Owned Outlets in Next Fiscal Year (2024)
Texas	0	0	2
Total	0	0	2

The names, cities, states and business telephone numbers of franchisees in our franchise system as of September 30, 2023 are listed on **Exhibit G**.

### ITEM 21 FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Attached to this disclosure document as **Exhibit E** are our audited financial statements as of September 30, 2023, and from the period from January 17, 2023 (our formation) through September 30, 2023, our opening audited balance sheet as of April 12, 2023. Our fiscal year ends September 30.

#### ITEM 22 CONTRACTS

The following agreements related to a Taco Cabana Restaurant are attached as exhibits to this disclosure document:

Exhibit B Development Agreement

Exhibit C Franchise Agreement

## ITEM 23 RECEIPTS

The last two pages of this disclosure document are detachable receipt pages. Please sign and date each of them <u>as of the date you received this disclosure document</u> and return one copy to us.

# **EXHIBIT A**

# AGENCIES/AGENTS FOR SERVICE OF PROCESS

# AGENCIES/AGENTS FOR SERVICE OF PROCESS

We intend to register this Franchise Disclosure Document as a "franchise" in some or all of the following states, in accordance with the applicable state law. If and when we pursue franchise registration (or otherwise comply with the franchise investment laws) in these states, we will designate the following state offices or officials as our agents for service of process in these states:

STATE	STATE ADMINISTRATOR	AGENT FOR
a		SERVICE OF PROCESS
CALIFORNIA	California Department of Financial Protection and	
	Innovation	Protection and Innovation
	One Sansome Street, Suite 600	320 West 4th Street, Suite 750
	San Francisco, CA 94104	Los Angeles 90013-2344
	415-972-8559	1-866-275-2677
	1-866-275-2677	
CONNECTICUT	Securities and Business Investment Division	Connecticut Banking Commissioner
	Connecticut Department of Banking	Same Address
	260 Constitution Plaza	
	Hartford, CT 06103	
	860-240-8230	
FLORIDA	Department of Agriculture & Consumer Services	Same
	Division of Consumer Services	
	Mayo Building, Second Floor	
	Tallahassee, FL 32399-0800	
	850-245-6000	
GEORGIA	Office of Consumer Affairs	Same
02011021	2 Martin Luther King Drive, S.E.	
	Plaza Level, East Tower	
	Atlanta, GA 30334	
	404-656-3790	
HAWAII	Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs	Commissioner of Securities of the State of
HAWAH	Business Registration Division	Hawaii
	Commissioner of Securities	Dept. of Commerce and Consumer Affairs
	335 Merchant Street, Room 203	Securities Compliance Branch
	Honolulu, HI 96813	335 Merchant Street, Room 203
	· ·	, and the second
H I DIOIG	808-586-2722	Honolulu, HI 96813
ILLINOIS	Franchise Division	Illinois Attorney General
	Office of the Attorney General	Same Address
	500 South Second Street	
	Springfield, IL 62706	
	217-782-4465	
INDIANA	Securities Commissioner	Indiana Secretary of State
	Indiana Securities Division	201 State House
	302 West Washington Street, Room E 111	200 West Washington Street
	Indianapolis, IN 46204	Indianapolis, IN 46204
	317-232-6681	
IOWA	Iowa Securities Bureau	Same
	Second Floor	
	Lucas State Office Building	
	Des Moines, IA 50319	
	515-281-4441	

STATE	STATE ADMINISTRATOR	AGENT FOR SERVICE OF PROCESS
KENTUCKY	Kentucky Attorney General's Office Consumer Protection Division 1024 Capitol Center Drive Frankfort, KY 40602 502-696-5389	Same
LOUISIANA	Department of Urban & Community Affairs Consumer Protection Office 301 Main Street, 6th Floor One America Place Baton Rouge, LA 70801 504-342-7013 (gen. info.) 504-342-7900	Same
MAINE	Department of Business Regulations State House - Station 35 Augusta, ME 04333 207-298-3671	Same
MARYLAND	Office of the Attorney General Securities Division 200 St. Paul Place Baltimore, MD 21202 410-576-6360	Maryland Securities Commissioner Same Address
MICHIGAN	Michigan Department of Attorney General Consumer Protection Division Antitrust and Franchise Unit 525 W. Ottawa Street G. Mennen Williams Building, 1st Floor Lansing, MI 48913 517-373-7117	Michigan Department of Commerce Corporations and Securities Bureau Same Address
MINNESOTA	Minnesota Department of Commerce 85 7 <sup>th</sup> Place East, Suite 280 St. Paul, MN 55101 651-539-1500	Minnesota Commissioner of Commerce Same Address
NEBRASKA	Department of Banking and Finance Bureau of Securities/Financial Institutions Division 1526 K Street, Suite 300 Lincoln, NE 68508-2732 P.O. Box 95006 Lincoln, Nebraska 68509-5006 Tele: 402-471-2171	Same
NEW HAMPSHIRE	Attorney General Consumer Protection and Antitrust Bureau State House Annex Concord, NH 03301 603-271-3641	Same
NEW YORK	New York State Department of Law Investor Protection Bureau 28 Liberty St. 21st FL New York, NY 10005 212-416-8222	Secretary of State of New York 99 Washington Avenue Albany, New York 12231
NORTH CAROLINA	Secretary of State's Office/Securities Division 2 South Salisbury Street Raleigh, NC 27601 919-733-3924	Secretary of State Secretary of State's Office Same Address

STATE	STATE ADMINISTRATOR	AGENT FOR SERVICE OF PROCESS
NORTH DAKOTA	North Dakota Securities Department 600 East Boulevard Avenue State Capitol, 14th Floor, Dept 414 Bismarck, ND 58505-0510 701-328-4712; Fax: 701-328-0140	North Dakota Securities Commissioner Same Address
ОНЮ	Attorney General Consumer Fraud & Crime Section State Office Tower 30 East Broad Street, 15th Floor Columbus, OH 43215 614-466-8831 or 800-282-0515	Same
OKLAHOMA	Oklahoma Securities Commission 2915 Lincoln Blvd. Oklahoma City, OK 73105 405-521-2451	Same
OREGON	Department of Insurance and Finance Corporate Securities Section Labor and Industries Building Salem, OR 96310 503-378-4387	Director Department of Insurance and Finance Same Address
RHODE ISLAND	Rhode Island Department of Business Regulation Securities Division John O. Pastore Center – Building 69-1 1511 Pontiac Avenue Cranston, RI 02920 401-222-3048	Director, Rhode Island Department of Business Regulation Same address
SOUTH CAROLINA	Secretary of State P.O. Box 11350 Columbia, SC 29211 803-734-2166	Same
SOUTH DAKOTA	South Dakota Department of Labor and Regulation Division of Securities Regulation 124 S. Euclid Avenue, Suite 104 Pierre, SD 57501 605-773-3563	Director of the South Dakota Division of Securities Regulation Same Address
TEXAS	Secretary of State Statutory Documents Section P.O. Box 12887 Austin, TX 78711-2887 512-475-1769	Same
UTAH	Utah Department of Commerce Consumer Protection Division 160 East 300 South (P.O. Box 45804) Salt Lake City, UT 84145-0804 TELE: 801-530-6601 FAX: 801-530-6001	Same
VIRGINIA	State Corporation Commission Division of Securities and Retail Franchising Tyler Building, 9 <sup>th</sup> Floor 1300 E. Main Street Richmond, VA 23219 804-371-9051	Clerk of the State Corporation Commission Tyler Building, 1st Floor 1300 E. Main Street Richmond, VA 23219 804-371-9733

STATE	STATE ADMINISTRATOR	AGENT FOR SERVICE OF PROCESS
WACHINGTON	Denortment of Financial Institutions	
WASHINGTON	Department of Financial Institutions	Director, Dept. of Financial Institutions
	Securities Division	Securities Division
	150 Israel Rd S.W.	150 Israel Rd S.W.
	Tumwater, WA 98501	Tumwater, WA 98501
	360-902-8762	
WISCONSIN	Wisconsin Dept. of Financial Institutions	Wisconsin Commissioner of Securities
	Division of Securities	Same Address
	345 W. Washington Avenue, 4th Floor	
	Madison, WI 53703	
	608-266-8557	

# EXHIBIT B DEVELOPMENT AGREEMENT

TACO CADAN	JA DEVELO	DMENT A CDEEMENT
TACO CABAN	NA DEVELO	PMENT AGREEMENT
		Developer
		Effective Date

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Exhibit A – Development Information

Exhibit B – Guarantee and Assumption of Developer's Obligations

#### TACO CABANA DEVELOPMENT AGREEMENT

	This Development Agreement (" <b>Agreement</b> ") is made as of _						(" <b>Effective Date</b> ") b				
and	between	Taco	Cabana	Franchisin	g, Inc.	("Taco	Cabana,"	"we"	or	"us"),	a
			lin	nited liabil	ity comp	any with	a principa	l busii	ness	address	at
			and				("Franch	isee," "	you"	or "your	•"),
a	a with a principal business address at										

#### RECITALS

We and our affiliates have developed a distinctive format, appearance and set of specifications and operating procedures (collectively, "System") relating to the development, establishment and operation of restaurants identified by the Marks (as defined below) that feature premium quality, traditional Mexicanstyle food, including tacos, fajitas, burritos, flautas and other food and beverage items, and Mexicaninfluenced décors ("Taco Cabana Restaurants").

The distinguishing characteristics of the System include, but are not limited to, our décor, layout, color schemes and designs (collectively, "**Trade Dress**"); our menu items, recipes and food preparation and service techniques; our standards and specifications for equipment, equipment layouts and interior and exterior accessories; and the accumulated experience reflected in our training program, operating procedures and standards and specifications. We may periodically change, improve, add to and further develop the elements of the System.

The System is identified by means of the "Taco Cabana" name and mark and certain other names, marks, logos, insignias, slogans, emblems, symbols and designs that have been designated, or may in the future be designated, for use with the System (collectively, "Marks"). We have the right to use, and permit our franchisees to use, the Marks. We may modify the Marks, including the principal Marks.

You desire to be granted the opportunity, subject to the terms and conditions of this Agreement, to develop multiple franchised Taco Cabana Restaurants ("**Franchised Restaurants**") within the geographic area described in attached **Exhibit A** ("**Development Area**").

You understand and acknowledge the importance of our high and uniform standards of quality, operations and service and the necessity of developing and operating the Franchised Restaurants in strict conformity with this Agreement, each Franchised Restaurant's franchise agreement ("Franchise Agreement"), and our confidential operating manuals ("Manual").

We are willing to grant you the opportunity to develop Franchised Restaurants in the Development Area, subject to the terms and conditions of this Agreement.

**NOW, THEREFORE,** the parties agree as follows:

# 1. Development Rights and Obligations.

1.1 Grant and Development Area. We hereby grant to you, subject to the terms and conditions of this Agreement, the right to develop Franchised Restaurants in the Development Area during the term of this Agreement ("Development Term"). The Development Term begins on the Effective Date and, unless this Agreement is terminated at an earlier date as provided in Section 12, expires on the first to occur of: (a) the date that the last Franchised Restaurant is required to be opened pursuant to the development schedule in attached Exhibit A ("Development Schedule"); or (b) the date that the last Franchised Restaurant required by the Development Schedule opens for business. There is no renewal term for this Agreement. You may

only develop a Franchised Restaurant at a specific location in the Development Area accepted by us ("Authorized Site").

1.2 Development Rights Only. This Agreement is not a license or franchise agreement. It does not give you the right to operate Taco Cabana Restaurants or use the System or the Marks, nor does it give you any right to license others to operate Taco Cabana Restaurants. This Agreement only gives you the opportunity to enter into Franchise Agreements for the operation of Franchised Restaurants at Authorized Sites. Each Franchised Restaurant developed pursuant to this Agreement must be established and operated in strict accordance with a separate Franchise Agreement.

#### 2. Limited Territorial Protection.

- **2.1** Provided you are in compliance with this Agreement, during the Development Term, we will not operate, or license others to operate, a Taco Cabana Restaurant in the geographic area described in **Exhibit A** ("**Development Area**"). Notwithstanding this grant of limited exclusivity, during the Development Term, we may, among other things:
- **2.1.1** Operate and license others to operate Taco Cabana Restaurants in the Development Area that are located in transportation facilities (including airports, train stations, subways, ferry terminals, rail and bus stations and other public transportation facilities); military bases and government offices; sports facilities (including stadiums and arenas); toll road plazas, highway rest areas and travel centers; universities, schools and educational facilities; hospitals and other health care facilities; amusement parks and recreational theme parks; museums; Indian reservations; casinos and other entertainment or tourist facilities; any location in which foodservice is or may be provided by a master concessionaire; and any other similar location we believe, in the exercise of our reasonable judgment, to be a captive market location.
- **2.1.2** Manufacture, distribute and sell at wholesale or retail, or license others to manufacture, distribute and sell at wholesale or retail, merchandise, products and services, whether or not authorized for sale at Taco Cabana Restaurants, under the Marks in the Development Area through any channel of distribution, other than a restaurant.
- **2.1.3** Operate and license others to operate delivery kitchens devoted to the preparation of products authorized for sale at Taco Cabana Restaurants (often referred to as ghost, dark or cloud kitchens), which may use the Marks and may deliver to customers regardless of their location and expressly including customers residing in or working in the Development Area.
- **2.1.4** Merchandise and distribute products identified by any of the Marks to foodservice businesses in the Development Area (other than Taco Cabana Restaurants), provided those foodservice businesses are not licensed to use the Marks in connection with their retail sales.
- **2.1.5** Develop and/or own other franchise systems and other restaurants for the same or similar products and services using trade names and trademarks other than the Marks.
- **2.1.6** Sell and distribute, or license others to sell and distribute, directly or indirectly, products identified by any of the Marks at special events in the Development Area.
- **2.1.7** Purchase, be purchased by, merge or combine with, businesses that directly compete with Taco Cabana Restaurants.
- **2.2** Except as reserved in Section 2.1, we will not, during the Development Term, operate or franchise others to operate Taco Cabana Restaurants in the Development Area, provided you are in compliance with the terms of this Agreement and any other agreements with us or our affiliates, and you are current on all obligations due to us and our affiliates. This Section 2 does not prohibit us or our affiliates

from: (a) operating, or licensing others to operate, during the Development Term, Taco Cabana Restaurants at any location outside of the Development Area; or (b) operating, or licensing others to operate, after the Development Term terminates or expires, Taco Cabana Restaurants at any location, including locations in the Development Area.

**2.3** The restrictions contained in this Section 2 do not apply to Taco Cabana Restaurants in operation, under lease or construction or other commitment to open in the Development Area as of the Effective Date.

#### 3. Development Schedule.

- 3.1 Your Development Obligations. During the Development Term, you must develop, open and continuously operate in the Development Area the number of Franchised Restaurants specified in the Development Schedule. For each Franchised Restaurant to be developed during the Development Term, you must obtain our written acceptance of the site by the applicable site acceptance date listed in the Development Schedule ("Site Acceptance Date") and develop and open the Franchised Restaurant by the applicable opening date listed in the Development Schedule ("Opening Date"). Your strict compliance with the Development Schedule is essential to this Agreement. Any failure by you in fulfilling your obligations to obtain site acceptance for a Franchised Restaurant by the applicable Site Acceptance Date or develop and open a Franchised Restaurant by the applicable Opening Date will constitute a material, non-curable breach of this Agreement, which will permit us to terminate this Agreement immediately by giving you written notice of termination. TIME IS OF THE ESSENCE.
- **3.2 Effect of Sale of a Franchised Restaurant**. If, during the Development Term, you sell (and we consent to the sale of) a Franchised Restaurant developed pursuant to this Agreement, and you are not in default of the Franchise Agreement for that Franchised Restaurant, we will continue to count that Taco Cabana Restaurant as a Franchised Restaurant under the Development Schedule, provided that the restaurant continues to be operated pursuant to a Franchise Agreement with us.
- Franchised Restaurant in the Development Area to be executed by a business entity formed by you to develop and operate the Franchised Restaurant ("Affiliated Entity"), provided all of the following conditions are met: (a) you and your owners own at least 51% of the ownership interests in the Affiliated Entity; (b) the Affiliated Entity conducts no business other than the operation of the Franchised Restaurant; (c) you and your owners agree to assume full and unconditional liability for, and agree to perform all obligations, covenants and agreements contained in, the Franchise Agreement; (d) the Affiliated Entity and all those with ownership interests in the Affiliated Entity meet our financial, operational and other standards, as determined by us in our sole discretion, and you provide us all reasonably requested information to permit us to make that determination; and (e) you make the request in writing and provide us a copy of the Affiliated Entity's governing documents and any other information required by this Section 3.3 at the time that you submit the applicable site acceptance package.

#### 4. Fees.

- **4.1 Development Fee.** You must pay us, at the time that this Agreement is executed, a development fee equal to \$10,000 for each Franchised Restaurant that you have agreed to develop in the Development Area during the Development Term ("**Development Fee**"). The total amount of the Development Fee paid by you is set forth in **Exhibit A**. The Development Fee is fully earned by us when this Agreement is signed, is not refundable, and is not credited against any other fees to be paid to us.
- **4.2 Initial Franchise Fee.** In addition to the Development Fee, you must pay us an initial franchise fee ("**Initial Franchise Fee**") for each Franchised Restaurant that you develop under this Agreement in accordance with the following: (i) the Initial Franchise Fee for the first Franchised Restaurant

being developed is \$45,000; (ii) the Initial Franchise Fee for the second Franchised Restaurant is \$32,500, (iii) the Initial Franchise Fee for the third Franchised Restaurant is \$30,000, (iv) the Initial Franchise Fee for the fourth Franchised Restaurant is \$27,500, and (v) the Initial Franchise Fee for the fifth and all remaining Franchised Restaurants to be developed is \$25,000. The Initial Franchise Fee for each Franchised Restaurant is fully earned by us when the Franchise Agreement is signed, is not refundable, and is not credited against the Development Fee in any way.

#### 5. Development Procedures.

- 5.1 Your Responsibility. You assume all cost, liability and expense for locating, obtaining and developing sites for Franchised Restaurants and constructing and equipping Franchised Restaurants at Authorized Sites as required by our standards. You may not make any binding commitments to purchase or lease a site until we have accepted the site in writing. If requested by us, you will develop and submit to us a business plan for the length of the Development Term. The business plan must outline the actions you will take to ensure the development and management of Franchised Restaurants in accordance with our standards. If prepared, during the Development Term, you agree to revise the business plan as requested by us and further agree to implement the business plan as accepted by us.
- **5.2 Site Selection Assistance.** We may, but are not required to, provide you with the following site selection assistance: (a) our site selection guidelines and, as you may request, a reasonable amount of consultation with respect thereto; and (b) that on-site evaluation as we may deem advisable (subject to the availability of our personnel) as part of our evaluation of your request for site acceptance, provided that, if we provide this assistance at your request, you must reimburse us for all travel, living and other expenses incurred by our representatives in connection with our on-site evaluation. Notwithstanding the foregoing, we have no obligation to conduct any on-site evaluations of locations you propose.
- **5.3 Site Information and Evaluation.** For each proposed site, you must submit to us a site review report consisting of a description of the site, photographs, demographic information, site characteristics (including access and egress points and the amount of road traffic), other restaurant options in the area, and any other information that we may require, including, but not limited to, a letter of intent or other evidence satisfactory to us, which confirms your favorable prospects for obtaining the site. In addition, we may require a site analysis prepared by a third party vendor at your expense. We reserve the right to designate the third party vendor used to prepare the site analysis and the right to conduct an on-site evaluation of the proposed site before deciding whether to accept the site.

#### 5.4 Site Acceptance.

- **5.4.1** Within 60 days after our receipt of a complete (as determined by us) site review report, we will review that information, evaluate the proposed site and advise you in writing whether we have accepted the site; however, we have no obligation to review any site review report if you or your affiliates are not in full compliance with all agreements with us and/or our affiliates. If we do not respond within that time period, we will be deemed to have rejected the site. Our acceptance or rejection of a site may be subject to reasonable conditions as we determine in our sole discretion.
- 5.4.2 In order to preserve and enhance the reputation and goodwill of the System and all Taco Cabana Restaurants and the goodwill of the Marks and the Trade Dress, all Taco Cabana Restaurants must be properly developed, operated and maintained. Accordingly, we may refuse to accept a site for a proposed Franchised Restaurant unless you demonstrate sufficient financial capabilities, in our sole judgment, applying standards consistent with criteria that we use to establish restaurants in other comparable market areas, to properly develop, operate and maintain the proposed Franchised Restaurant. To that end, you must provide us with those financial statements and other information regarding you, your Affiliated Entity (if applicable) and the development and operation of the proposed Franchised Restaurant, including,

without limitation, investment and financing plans for the proposed Franchised Restaurant, as we may reasonably require.

- 5.4.3 Our acceptance of a site does not constitute a representation or warranty of any kind, express or implied, of the site's suitability for a Taco Cabana Restaurant or any other purpose. Our acceptance indicates only that we believe that the site meets the minimum standards of our thencurrent site selection criteria. Applying criteria that have appeared effective with other sites might not accurately reflect the potential for all sites, and demographic and/or other factors included in or excluded from our criteria could change, altering the potential of a site. The uncertainty and instability of these criteria are beyond our control, and we are not responsible if a site we accept fails to meet your expectations. Your submission of a proposed site for our acceptance is based on your own independent investigation of the site's suitability for a Franchised Restaurant.
- 5.5 Execution of Franchise Agreements. If we accept the site for a Franchised Restaurant, we will prepare and forward to you a Franchise Agreement for the Authorized Site. The form of Franchise Agreement for the Franchised Restaurants to be developed by you pursuant to this Agreement will be the standard form in general use at the time that we accept the site for the applicable Franchised Restaurant. Within 15 days, or such longer period as required to comply with any franchise law or regulation, after you receive the Franchise Agreement, the Affiliated Entity or you, as applicable, must sign the Franchise Agreement and return it to us along with the initial fees. We will countersign the Franchise Agreement when we authorize the opening of the Franchised Restaurant. Nevertheless, the partially executed Franchise Agreement for each Franchised Restaurant will govern the development, construction and opening of the Franchised Restaurant. While developing the Franchised Restaurant, the Affiliated Entity or you, as applicable, must have in place the insurance required by the Franchise Agreement.
- **5.6 Training By You.** You will conduct that initial and continuing training programs for your employees as we may periodically require.

#### 6. Lease Provisions.

**6.1 Required Lease Provisions.** You must obtain our consent to the proposed sublease, lease or purchase contract (collectively, "**Lease**") for each Authorized Site prior to its execution. The Lease must, in form and substance, be satisfactory to us and may not contain any covenants or other obligations that would prevent you from performing your obligations under this Agreement. In addition, the landlord and you must execute our standard Lease Addendum. The insurance required by section 14.2 must be in effect when you take possession of the Franchised Location.

#### 7. Your Organization.

#### 7.1 Governing Documents.

- **7.1.1** If you are (or you Transfer your interests in this Agreement to) a business entity, during the Development Term, your (or the transferee's) governing documents must provide that your (or its) activities are limited exclusively to the development of Taco Cabana Restaurants and other restaurants operated by you that are franchised by us and that no Transfer (as defined in Section 9) of an ownership interest may be made except in accordance with Section 9. Any stock or other ownership certificates that you issue must bear a conspicuous printed legend to that effect.
- **7.1.2** You represent that you have furnished us with a list of all holders of direct or indirect equity interests in you and their respective percentage interests, as well as copies of your governing documents (and any amendments thereto) and any other corporate documents, books or records that we may request, and that all such information is current as of the date on which you sign this Agreement. Your direct

and indirect owners and their respective equity interests as of the Effective Date are identified in **Exhibit A**. You must promptly update this information as changes occur.

- ("Operating Principal"). The Operating Principal: (a) must be accepted by us; (b) must be a 10% Owner (as defined in Section 7.3); (c) must live within a reasonable driving distance of the Development Area: and (d) must devote full-time and best efforts to supervising the development and operation of the Franchised Restaurants. The Operating Principal as of the Effective Date is identified in **Exhibit A**. The Operating Principal must complete our initial training program, have authority over all business decisions related to this Agreement and have the authority to bind you in your dealings with us. We will provide all services to, and communicate primarily with, the Operating Principal. You must obtain our prior written consent before you change the Operating Principal. If the Operating Principal no longer qualifies, you must designate another qualified person to act as the Operating Principal within 30 days after the date the prior Operating Principal ceases to be qualified. We will advise you whether we have consented to the new Operating Principal within a reasonable time after receipt of your notice. If we do not consent, you will have 15 days from your receipt of our decision to designate another person to act as Operating Principal who satisfies the preceding qualifications.
- **7.3 Guarantees.** All holders of direct or indirect equity interests in you of 10% or more ("10% Owners") must jointly and severally guarantee your payment and performance under this Agreement and must bind themselves to the terms of this Agreement pursuant to the Guarantee and Assumption of Developer's Obligations attached as **Exhibit B** ("**Guarantee**"). Notwithstanding the foregoing, we reserve the right, in our sole discretion, to waive the requirement that some or all of the 10% Owners execute the Guarantee and/or to limit the scope of the Guarantee. We reserve the right to require that any guarantor provide personal financial statements to us from time to time.

You acknowledge that, unless otherwise agreed to in writing by us, it is our intent to have individuals (and not corporations, limited liability companies or other business entities) execute the Guarantee. Accordingly, if any 10% Owner is not an individual, we will have the right to have the Guarantee executed by individuals who have only an indirect ownership interest in you. (By way of example, if a 10% Owner is a corporation, we have the right to require that the Guarantee be executed by individuals who have an ownership interest in that corporation who indirectly own at last a 10% interest in you.)

If you, any guarantor or any parent, subsidiary or affiliate of yours holds any interest in other businesses that are franchised by us or our affiliates, at our request, the party who owns that interest will execute, concurrently with this Agreement, a form of cross-guarantee to us for the payment of all obligations for those businesses, unless waived in writing by us in our sole discretion. For purposes of this Agreement, an affiliate of yours is any company controlled, directly or indirectly, by you, your owners or your parent or subsidiary.

**8. Transfers by Us.** We have the unrestricted right to transfer or assign ownership interests in us and all or any part of our interest in this Agreement to any person or legal entity without your consent. You agree that we will have no liability after the effective date of transfer or assignment for the performance of, or any failure to perform, any obligations transferred. We also have the right to delegate to others the performance of any of our duties under this Agreement.

#### 9. Transfers by You.

**9.1 Definition of Transfer.** For purposes of this Agreement, "**Transfer**" means any sale, assignment, transfer, conveyance, merger, give away, pledge, mortgage or other encumbrance, either voluntarily or by operation of law (such as through divorce or bankruptcy proceedings) of: (a) any interest in this Agreement; (b) any direct or indirect ownership interests in you; or (c) substantially all of your assets pertaining to your operations under this Agreement.

- 9.2 No Transfer Without Our Consent. This Agreement is personal to you and we have selected you as a developer based on our reliance on your (and your direct and indirect owners') character, skill, aptitude and business and financial capacity. Neither you nor any of your direct or indirect owners may undertake any Transfer or permit any Transfer to occur without obtaining our prior written consent. The decision as to whether to consent to a Transfer will be made in the exercise of our business judgment, but our consent will not be unreasonably withheld. We have the right to communicate with and counsel you, your direct and indirect owners and the proposed transferee on any aspect of a proposed Transfer. You agree to provide any information and documentation relating to the proposed Transfer that we reasonably require, including, but not limited to, a copy of the proposed offer. Unless otherwise agreed, we do not waive any claims against the transferring party if we consent to a Transfer.
- **9.3 Transfer Generally.** Except as otherwise provided in this Section 9, if you or your direct or indirect owners propose to undertake a Transfer, the following conditions apply (unless waived by us):
  - **9.3.1** You and your direct and indirect owners must:
- (a) Be in compliance with all obligations to us under this Agreement and any other agreements you have with us, our affiliates, any lenders that have provided financing to you and your major suppliers as of the date of the request for our consent to the Transfer.
- **(b)** Pay to us a transfer fee ("**Transfer fee**") of \$10,000 for each undeveloped Franchised Restaurant pursuant to the Development Schedule to reimburse us for our reasonable costs and expenses incurred in reviewing and documenting the Transfer, including legal and accounting fees, provided that you will not be required to pay us a Transfer fee in connection with a Transfer undertaken in accordance with Section 9.5.
- (c) Make the Transfer only in conjunction with a simultaneous Transfer of the same rights and interest with respect to all agreements with us in the Development Area.
- (d) Advise us in writing of any proposed Transfer, submit (or cause the proposed transferee to submit) a franchise application for the proposed transferee, submit a copy of all contracts and all other agreements or proposals and submit all other information requested by us relating to the proposed Transfer.
- **9.3.2** The proposed transferee (and, if the proposed transferee is a business entity, all persons that have any direct or indirect ownership interest in the proposed transferee as we may require) must demonstrate to our satisfaction extensive experience in high quality restaurant operations of a character and complexity similar to Taco Cabana Restaurants; must meet the managerial, operational, experience, quality, character and business standards for a developer promulgated by us from time to time; must possess a good character, business reputation and credit rating; must have an organization whose management culture is compatible with our management culture; and must have adequate financial resources and working capital to meet the development obligations under this Agreement. If the proposed transferee is an existing Taco Cabana Restaurant developer or franchisee, the transferee and its direct and indirect owners must not be in default under their agreements with us and must have substantially complied with our operating standards.
- **9.3.3** An assignment agreement and/or any other agreements that we require to reflect the Transfer must be signed by the transferor and the proposed transferee. In addition, we may require, at our option, that amendments to this Agreement or our then-current standard form of Development Agreement (for a term ending on the expiration of the Development Term) be signed.
- **9.3.4** You, your 10% Owners, all of your guarantors under this Agreement and the transferee must execute a general release, in a form prescribed by us, of all claims against us, our affiliates and our and their past, present and future affiliates, officers, directors, members, managers, shareholders,

agents and employees. You, your 10% Owners and your guarantors under this Agreement will remain liable to us for all obligations arising before the effective date of the Transfer.

- **9.3.5** The price and other proposed terms of the Transfer must not, in our Reasonable Business Judgment, have the effect of negatively impacting the prospect for timely completion of the Development Schedule or the future viability of the Franchised Restaurants.
- **9.3.6** If the transferee is a business entity, those persons or entities designated by us, which may include, but are not limited to, those with a direct or indirect ownership interest of 10% or more in the transferee, must execute our then-current form of Guarantee.
- **9.3.7** Each of your affiliates that have entered into a Development Agreement or Franchise Agreement with us must, as of the date of the request for our consent to the Transfer, be in compliance with all obligations to us under those agreements and with all obligations under any agreement with any lenders that have provided financing pursuant to an arrangement with us.
- 9.4 Transfer of Partial Ownership Interest. If you propose to admit a new owner who will have less than a 10% ownership interest in you, remove an existing owner or change the distribution of ownership interests among your owners, you must give us advance notice and submit a copy of all proposed contracts and other information concerning the Transfer that we may request. You must also pay to us a Transfer Fee as provided in Section 9.3.1(b). We may withhold our consent on any reasonable grounds or give our consent subject to reasonable conditions, including the conditions in Sections 7.1, 9.3.1(a) and 9.3.4. Any new owner must submit a franchise application and, if applicable, execute our then-current form of Guarantee.
- 9.5 Transfer for Convenience of Ownership. If you are an individual or a partnership, we will consent to the Transfer of this Agreement to a business entity that you form for the convenience of ownership, provided that: (a) the entity has and will have no business other than the development and operation of Taco Cabana Restaurants; (b) you comply with the requirements in Sections 7.1, 9.3.1(a), 9.3.3, 9.3.4 and 9.3.6; (c) your owners hold equity interests in the new entity in the same proportion shown on **Exhibit A**; and (d) the top-level management of your organization does not change. You will not be required to pay a Transfer Fee for a Transfer under this Section 9.5.
- 9.6 Transfer upon Death or Permanent Incapacity. If the Transfer is a transfer of direct or indirect ownership interests in you following the death or permanent incapacity (as reasonably determined by us) of a person that has a direct or indirect ownership interest in you, that person's executor, administrator or personal representative must apply to us in writing within 3 months after the death or declaration of permanent incapacity for consent to Transfer the person's interest. The Transfer will be subject to the provisions of Sections 9.3 and 9.4, as applicable. In the case of Transfer by bequest or by intestate succession, if the heirs or beneficiaries are unable to meet the conditions of Section 9.3 or 9.4, as applicable, the executor may Transfer the decedent's interest to another successor that we have accepted, subject to all of the terms and conditions for Transfers contained in this Agreement. If an interest is not disposed of under this Section 9.6 within 6 months after the date of death or appointment of a personal representative, we may terminate this Agreement without opportunity to cure.
- 9.7 Securities Offerings. If you are a business entity, ownership interests in you may be sold, by private or public offering, only with our prior written consent (whether or not our written consent is required under any other provision of this Section), which consent will not be unreasonably withheld. In addition to the requirements of Section 9.3 or 9.4, as applicable, prior to the time that any public offering or private placement of securities or ownership interests in you is made available to potential investors, you, at your expense, must deliver to us a copy of the offering documents. We have the right to have our legal counsel review those offering documents and to provide comments required by us to the offering documents. You must reimburse us for all costs we incur, including reasonable attorneys' fees and internal staff time, to

review, negotiate, and accept your offering documents. You, at your expense, also must deliver to us an opinion of your legal counsel (addressed to us and in a form acceptable to us) that the offering documents properly use the Marks and accurately describe your relationship with us and/or our affiliates. The indemnification provisions of Section 14.1 will also include any losses or expenses incurred by us and/or our affiliates in connection with any statements made by or on behalf of you in any public or private offering of your securities.

- **9.8 Non-Conforming Transfers.** Any purported Transfer that is not in compliance with this Section 9 is null and void and constitutes a material breach of this Agreement, for which we may terminate this Agreement without an opportunity to cure. Our consent to a Transfer does not constitute a waiver of any claims that we have against the transferor, nor is it a waiver of our right to demand exact compliance with the terms of this Agreement.
- **9.9 Right of First Refusal.** We have the right, exercisable within 30 days after receipt of the notice (and information) specified in Section 9.2, to send written notice to you that we intend to purchase the interest or assets proposed to be transferred. We may assign our right of first refusal to someone else either before or after we exercise it. However, our right of first refusal will not apply with regard to Transfers under Section 9.5 or Transfers to the spouse or the adult child of a direct or indirect owner in you (including Transfers to a spouse, son or daughter as a result of death or permanent incapacity as described in Section 9.6), provided that the transferees meet all criteria required of new franchisees.
- 9.9.1 If the Transfer is proposed to be made pursuant to a sale, we or our designee may purchase the interest proposed to be transferred on the same economic terms and conditions offered by the third-party. Closing on our purchase must occur within 60 days after the date of our notice to the seller electing to purchase the interest (or, if the parties cannot agree on the cash equivalent, as provided in the next sentence, within 60 days after the appraiser's determination). If we cannot reasonably be expected to furnish the same consideration as the third-party, we may substitute the reasonable equivalent in cash. If the parties cannot agree within 30 days on the reasonable equivalent in cash, we and you will each select a professionally certified appraiser and the two selected appraisers will select a third professionally certified appraiser to determine the fair market value of the interest proposed to be transferred. The third appraiser will appraise the fair market value of the interest proposed to be transferred and the value set by the third appraiser will be conclusive. Closing on the purchase will occur within 30 days after our notice to the transferror of the appraiser's determination of fair market value. The appraisers' fees and costs will be borne equally by us and you. Any material change in the terms of the offer from a third party after we have elected not to purchase the seller's interest will constitute a new offer subject to the same right of first refusal as the third party's initial offer.
- 9.9.2 If a Transfer is proposed to be made by gift, we and you will each select a professionally certified appraiser and the two selected appraisers will select a third professionally certified appraiser to determine the fair market value of the interest proposed to be transferred. The third appraiser will appraise the fair market value of the interest proposed to be transferred and the value set by the third appraiser will be conclusive. We may purchase the interest at the fair market value determined by the appraiser. Closing on the purchase will occur within 30 days after our notice to the transferor of the appraiser's determination of fair market value. The appraisers' fees and costs will be borne equally by us and you. Any material change in the terms of the offer from a third party after we have elected not to purchase the seller's interest will constitute a new offer subject to the same right of first refusal as the third party's initial offer.
- **9.9.3** At any point, we may decline to exercise our rights under this Section. The decision by us and/or our designee to decline to exercise our right of first refusal will not constitute our consent to the proposed Transfer or a waiver of any other provision of this Section 9 with respect to the proposed Transfer. If we elect not to exercise our rights under this Section, the transferor may not complete the Transfer until he has complied with this Section 9. Closing of the Transfer must occur within 60 days of our election (or that

longer period as applicable law may require); otherwise, the third-party's offer will be treated as a new offer subject to our right of first refusal. The Transfer is conditional upon our determination that the Transfer was completed on terms substantially the same as those offered to us. You must provide to us copies of all fully-executed agreements and any other information we request relating to the Transfer.

10. General Release. You (on behalf of yourself and your parent, subsidiaries and affiliates) (collectively, "Releasors") freely and without any influence forever release and covenant not to sue us, our parent, subsidiaries and affiliates and their and our respective past and present officers, directors, shareholders, members, managers, agents and employees, in their corporate and individual capacities, with respect to any and all claims, demands, liabilities and causes of action of whatever kind or nature, whether known or unknown, vested or contingent, suspected or unsuspected (collectively, "Claims"), that any Releasor now owns, has or claims to have or holds, or may in the future own or hold, or at any prior time owned, held, had or claimed to have, based on, arising out of or relating to, in whole or in part any fact, event, conduct or omission occurring on or before the Effective Date, including, without limitation, Claims arising under federal, state and local laws, rules and ordinances and Claims arising out of, or relating to this Agreement and all other agreements between any Releasor and us or our parent, subsidiaries or affiliates, the sale of any franchise to any Releasor, the development and operation of the Franchised Restaurants and the development and operation of all other restaurants operated by any Releasor that are franchised by us. Releasors expressly agree that fair consideration has been given by us for this release, and they fully understand that this is a negotiated, complete and final release of all claims.

#### 11. Covenants.

11.1 **Confidential Information.** During and after the Development Term, you may not communicate, divulge or use for any purpose other than the development and/or operation of the Franchised Restaurants, any confidential information, knowledge, trade secrets or know-how which may be communicated to you or which you may learn by virtue of this Agreement or the operation of the Franchised Restaurants. You may divulge confidential information only to your professional advisers, your employees who must have access to the information to develop or operate the Franchised Restaurants, your contractors and your landlords, provided that you obtain our prior consent. All information, knowledge and know-how relating to us, our business plans or the System are deemed confidential for purposes of this Agreement, except information that you can demonstrate came to your attention by lawful means prior to our disclosure, or that is or becomes a part of the public domain other than through you. At our request, you will require your employees and any other person or entity to whom you wish to disclose any confidential information, to sign agreements providing that they will maintain the confidentiality of the disclosed information. The agreements, which may be provided by us, must be in a form satisfactory to us and must identify us as a thirdparty beneficiary with the independent right to enforce the agreements.

11.2 Restrictions During the Development Term. You acknowledge and agree that: (a) pursuant to this Agreement, you will have access to valuable trade secrets, specialized training and confidential information from us and our affiliates regarding the development, operation, management, purchasing, sales and marketing methods and techniques of the System; (b) the System and the opportunities, associations and experience established by us and acquired by you under this Agreement are of substantial and material value; (c) in developing the System, we and our affiliates have made and continue to make substantial investments of time, technical and commercial research and money; (d) we would be unable to adequately protect the System and its trade secrets and confidential information against unauthorized use or disclosure and would be unable to adequately encourage a free exchange of ideas and information among Taco Cabana Restaurants if franchisees were permitted to hold interests in competitive businesses; and (e) restrictions on your right to hold interests in, or perform services for, competitive businesses will not hinder your activities. Accordingly, you agree that, during the Development Term, you will not, without our prior written consent, either directly or indirectly through any other person or entity:

- **11.2.1** Divert or attempt to divert any business or customer, or potential business or customer, of any Taco Cabana Restaurant to any Competitive Business (as defined in Section 11.2.4).
- 11.2.2 Directly or indirectly own, manage, engage in, advise, make loans to, be employed by, assist or have any interest in any Competitive Business (as defined in Section 11.2.4).
- 11.2.3 During the Development Term, there is no geographical limitation on these restrictions.
- 11.2.4 As used in this Agreement, the term "Competitive Business" means any business, store, restaurant or location: (1) whose sales of Tex-Mex and Mexican-style entrees collectively are reasonably likely to account for 10% or more of the food sales of the business in any calendar month; and/or (2) whose trade dress is similar to that used in the System. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the term Competitive Business does not include those businesses in which any of your owners or you have a direct or indirect, legal or beneficial interest and: (a) that had been in operation prior to the date of the first franchise-related agreement between you and us, provided those businesses are listed in Exhibit A ("Existing Businesses").
- 11.3 Restrictions After Termination, Expiration or Transfer. In light of your acknowledgments and agreements as set forth in Section 11.2, you agree as follows:
- 11.3.1 For a period of 2 years following the expiration or termination of this Agreement or a Transfer, you covenant and agree that you will not directly or indirectly own, manage, engage in, advise, make loans to, be employed by, assist or have any interest in any Competitive Business that is (or is intended to be) located in, or within 10 miles of the border of, the Development Area or within 10 miles of any other Taco Cabana Restaurant.
- 11.3.2 For a period of 2 years following the expiration or termination of this Agreement or a Transfer, you further covenant and agree that you will not, either directly or indirectly, for yourself, or through, on behalf of, or in conjunction with any person, firm, partnership, corporation, or other entity, sell, assign, lease or transfer any Authorized Site to any person, firm, partnership, corporation, or other entity which you know, or have reason to know, intends to operate a Competitive Business at that Authorized Site. You, by the terms of any conveyance selling, assigning, leasing or transferring your interest in any Authorized Site, must include restrictive covenants as are necessary to ensure that a Competitive Business that would violate this Section is not operated at that Authorized Site for this 2-year period, and you must take all steps necessary to ensure that these restrictive covenants become a matter of public record.
- 11.4 Modification. We have the right, in our sole discretion, to reduce the scope of any covenant in this Section 11 effective immediately upon your receipt of written notice, and you agree that you will comply with any covenant as so modified, which will be fully enforceable notwithstanding the provisions of Section 17. If any part of these restrictions is found to be unreasonable in time or distance, each month of time or mile of distance may be deemed a separate unit so that the time or distance may be reduced by appropriate order of the court to that deemed reasonable. If, at any time during the 2-year period following expiration or termination of this Agreement or a Transfer, you fail to comply with your obligations under this Section, that period of noncompliance will not be credited toward your satisfaction of the 2-year obligation. Following the resolution of any dispute regarding the enforceability of this Section that is resolved in our favor, the 2-year period (or that other period as may be deemed reasonable by the court) will run from the date of the resolution.
- 11.5 Applicability. The restrictions contained in this Section 11 apply to you, all 10% Owners and all guarantors under this Agreement. This Section 11 does not prohibit you or any 10% Owner or any guarantor under this Agreement from having: (a) interests in any franchise-related agreement with us or our

affiliates that remains in effect; or **(b)** ownership of less than 5% of the outstanding equity securities of any publicly-held corporation, as defined in the Securities and Exchange Act of 1934.

- 11.6 Enforcement. The existence of any claim you may have against us, whether or not arising from this Agreement, will not constitute a defense to our enforcement of this Section 11. You agree to pay all costs and expenses that we reasonably incur in enforcing this Section 11, including reasonable attorneys' fees. You acknowledge that a violation of the terms of this Section 11 would result in irreparable injury to us for which no adequate remedy at law may be available. Accordingly, you consent to the issuance of an injunction prohibiting any conduct in violation of the terms of this Section 11. Injunctive relief will be in addition to any other remedies that we may have.
- 11.7 Survival. The terms of this Section 11 will survive the termination or expiration of this Agreement or any Transfer. You and we agree this Section 11 will be construed as independent of any other provision of this Agreement.

#### 12. Default and Termination

- **12.1 Grounds for Termination.** In addition to the grounds for termination stated elsewhere in this Agreement, we may terminate this Agreement, and the rights granted by this Agreement, by written notice to you without giving you an opportunity to cure upon the occurrence of any of the following events:
- **12.1.1** You fail to obtain our written acceptance of a site by the applicable Site Acceptance Date or fail to develop and open a Franchised Restaurant by the applicable Opening Date.
- **12.1.2** At any time during the Development Term, you fail to have open and operating the number of Franchised Restaurants required by the Development Schedule.
- **12.1.3** You sign a lease for a Franchised Location or begin construction of a Franchised Restaurant before you execute the Franchise Agreement for that location.
- **12.1.4** You are insolvent or unable to pay your creditors (including us); file a petition in bankruptcy, an arrangement for the benefit of creditors or a petition for reorganization; there is filed against you a petition in bankruptcy, an arrangement for the benefit of creditors or petition for reorganization that is not dismissed within 60 days of the filing; you make an assignment for the benefit of creditors; or a receiver or trustee is appointed for you and not dismissed within 60 days of the appointment.
- **12.1.5** Execution is levied against your business or property; suit to foreclose any lien or mortgage against the premises or equipment of any Franchised Restaurant developed hereunder is instituted against you and is not dismissed within 60 days; or the real or personal property of any Franchised Restaurant developed hereunder is sold after levy thereupon by any sheriff, marshal or constable.
  - **12.1.6** There is a material breach of any obligation under Section 11.
- **12.1.7** Any Transfer that requires our prior written consent occurs without your having obtained that prior written consent.
- **12.1.8** We discover that you made a material misrepresentation or omitted a material fact in the information that you furnished to us in connection with our decision to enter into this Agreement.
- **12.1.9** You knowingly falsify any report required to be furnished to us or make any material misrepresentation in your dealings with us or fail to disclose any material facts to us.

- **12.1.10** You, any 10% Owner, any guarantor under this Agreement or any of your officers, managers, members or directors is convicted of, or pleads no contest to, a crime that we reasonably believe is likely to harm the System or our goodwill.
- 12.1.11 You, your Operating Principal, any 10% Owner or any other entity that is a Taco Cabana Restaurant franchisee and in which you, your Operating Principal or any 10% Owner have a direct or indirect ownership interest remain in default beyond the applicable cure period under: (a) any other agreement with us or our affiliates; (b) any real estate lease, equipment lease or financing instrument relating to a Franchised Restaurant; or (c) any agreement with any vendor or supplier to a Franchised Restaurant; provided that if the default is not by you, you are given written notice of the default and 10 days to cure the default.
- **12.1.12** With respect to any Franchised Restaurant developed under this Agreement, an entity that is not a party to the applicable Franchise Agreement is operating the Franchised Restaurant without our prior written consent.

#### 12.2 Termination Following Expiration of Cure Period.

- 12.2.1 Except for those items listed in Sections 12.1, 12.2.2 and 12.2.3, you will have 30 days after written notice of default from us within which to remedy the default and provide evidence of that remedy to us. If any default is not cured within that time, this Agreement will terminate without further notice to you effective immediately upon expiration of that time, unless we notify you otherwise in writing. Notwithstanding the foregoing, if the default cannot be corrected within 30 days, you will have that additional time to correct the default as we believe to be reasonably required (not to exceed 90 days) provided that you begin taking the actions necessary to correct the default during the 30-day cure period and diligently and in good faith pursue those actions to completion. You will be in default under this Section 12.2.1 for any failure to materially comply with any of the requirements imposed by this Agreement or otherwise in writing, or to carry out the terms of this Agreement in good faith.
- **12.2.2** Notwithstanding the provisions of Section 12.2.1, if you fail to pay any monies owed to us or our affiliates when those monies become due and payable, and you fail to pay those monies within 10 days after receiving written notice of default, this Agreement will terminate effective immediately upon expiration of that time, unless we notify you otherwise in writing.
- **12.2.3** If you have received 2 or more notices of default under this Agreement within the previous 12 months, we will be entitled to send you a notice of termination upon your next default under this Agreement in that 12-month period without providing you an opportunity to remedy that default.
- 12.3 Statutory Limitations. If any valid, applicable law or regulation of a competent governmental authority with jurisdiction over this Agreement requires a notice or cure period prior to termination longer than set forth in this Agreement, this Agreement will be deemed amended to conform to the minimum notice or cure period required by the applicable law or regulation.

- **12.4 Obligations on Termination or Expiration.** Upon termination or expiration of this Agreement:
- 12.4.1 You will have no further right to develop or open Franchised Restaurants in the Development Area, except that you will be entitled to complete and open a Franchised Restaurant for which a franchise agreement has been executed by your Affiliated Entity or you. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in any franchise agreement between your Affiliated Entity or you and us, termination or expiration of this Agreement alone will not affect your right (or your Affiliated Entity's right) to continue to operate Franchised Restaurants that were open and operating as of the date this Agreement terminated or expired.
- 12.4.2 The limited exclusive rights granted to you in the Development Area will terminate, and we will have the right to operate, and license others to operate, Taco Cabana Restaurants anywhere in the Development Area except as otherwise provided in an effective franchise agreement.
- 12.4.3 You must promptly return to us all materials and information furnished by us or our affiliates, except materials and information furnished with respect to a Franchised Restaurant which is open and operating pursuant to an effective franchise agreement.
- 12.4.4 You and all persons and entities subject to the covenants contained in Section 11 will continue to abide by those covenants and must not, directly or indirectly, take any action that violates those covenants.
- 12.4.5 You must immediately pay to us and our affiliates all sums due and owing us or our affiliates pursuant to this Agreement.
  - **12.4.6** We will retain the Development Fee.
- 13. Relationship of the Parties. This Agreement does not create a fiduciary or other special relationship or make you or us an agent, legal representative, joint venturer, joint employer, partner, employee or servant of each other for any purpose. You are not authorized to make any contract, agreement, warranty or representation on our behalf, or to create any obligation, express or implied, on our behalf.

#### 14. Indemnification and Insurance.

- **14.1 Indemnification.** You agree to defend, indemnify, and hold harmless us and our past, present and future parents, affiliates, officers, directors, members, managers, shareholders, agents, attorneys, consultants, and employees against any claims, losses, costs, expenses, liabilities and damages arising directly or indirectly from, as a result of, or in connection with your activities under this Agreement, as well as the costs of defending against those claims, losses, costs, expenses, liabilities and damages (including, but not limited to, reasonable attorneys' fees, costs of investigation, settlement costs and interest). You promptly will give us written notice of any litigation, proceeding, or dispute filed or instituted against you that could directly or indirectly affect us or any of the other indemnities under this Section and, upon request, you will furnish us with copies of any documents from those matters as we may request.
- **14.1.1** With respect to any threatened or actual litigation, proceeding, or dispute that could directly or indirectly affect us or any of the other indemnitees under this Section 14.1.1, we will have the right, but not the obligation, to: (a) choose counsel; (b) direct and control the handling of the matter; and/or (c) settle any claim against the indemnitees. Our exercise of these rights does not affect your obligation to indemnify and hold us harmless in accordance with this Section. This Section will survive the expiration or termination of this Agreement, and applies to Claims even if they exceed the limits of your insurance coverage.

14.2 **Insurance.** During the Development Term, you must maintain in full force and effect that insurance which you determine to be necessary, which must include at least the types of insurance and the minimum policy limits specified in the Manual or otherwise in writing. Each insurance policy must be written by an insurance company that maintains an "A+" or better rating by the latest edition of Best's Insurance Rating Service (or another rating service designated by us). The insurance policy or policies must carry the types and amounts of coverage as specified in the Manual, protect you, us and our respective past, present and future officers, directors, members, managers, owners, employees, representatives, consultants, attorneys and agents. We and any entity with an insurable interest designated by us must be named as additional insureds in the policy or policies (statutory policies excepted). Each policy must include a waiver of subrogation in our favor. We may require additional types of coverage or increase the required minimum amount of coverage upon reasonable notice. Your obligation to obtain coverage is not limited in any way by insurance that we maintain. You must provide us with certificates of insurance evidencing the required coverage and proof of payment therefor no later than the date you sign this Agreement. The evidence of insurance must include a statement by the insurer that the policy or policies will not be canceled or materially altered without at least 30 days' prior written notice to us. If you fail to obtain and maintain insurance coverage as required by this Agreement, we have the right, but not the obligation, to obtain the required insurance on your behalf and to charge you for the cost of the insurance, plus a reasonable fee for our services in procuring the insurance.

#### 15. Consents and Waivers.

- **15.1 Consent.** Whenever our prior written approval, acceptance or consent is required under this Agreement, you agree to make a timely written request to us for that consent. Our approval, acceptance or consent must be in writing and signed by an authorized officer or manager to be effective.
- 15.2 No Warranties. We make no warranties or guarantees upon which you may rely by providing any waiver, approval, consent or suggestion to you in connection with this Agreement and assume no liability or obligation to you therefor, or by reason of any neglect, delay, or denial of any request therefor. We will not, by virtue of any waivers, approvals, consents, advice or services provided to you, assume responsibility or liability to you or to any third parties to which we would not otherwise be subject.
- 15.3 Waivers. No delay or failure to exercise any right under this Agreement or to insist upon your strict compliance with any obligation or condition, and no custom or practice that differs from the terms of this Agreement, will constitute a waiver of our right to exercise the contractual right or demand your strict compliance with the terms of this Agreement. Our waiver of any particular default does not affect or impair our rights with respect to any subsequent default you may commit. Our waiver of a default by another developer or franchisee does not affect or impair our right to demand your strict compliance with the terms of this Agreement. Our acceptance of any payments due from you does not waive any prior defaults.
- **16. Notices.** Notices related to this Agreement will be effective upon receipt (or first rejection) and may be given by any of the following delivery methods: (a) certified or registered mail; (b) U.S. Priority Mail or national commercial delivery service (e.g., UPS, Federal Express); or (c) email (if receipt is verified within 24 hours of transmission). Notices to you and us must be sent to the addresses on the first page of this Agreement. Email notices must be sent to the email address provided by the party. Either party can change its notice address by informing the other party.
- 17. Entire Agreement. Each element of this Agreement is essential and material. This Agreement, the Manual, the attachments to this Agreement and the documents referred to in this Agreement constitute the entire agreement between you and us with respect to your development rights in the Development Area and supersede all prior negotiations, representations, correspondence and agreements concerning the same subject matter. Except for our Franchise Disclosure Document and any Franchise Agreement executed pursuant to this Agreement, there are no other representations, inducements, promises, agreements, arrangements, or undertakings, oral or written, between the parties relating to the matters covered by this

Agreement other than those set forth in this Agreement and in the attachments. No obligations or duties that contradict or are inconsistent with the express terms of this Agreement may be implied into this Agreement. Except as expressly set forth in this Agreement, no amendment, change or variance from this Agreement will be binding on either party unless mutually agreed to by the parties and executed in writing. Notwithstanding the foregoing, nothing in this Agreement is intended to disclaim any representation made in our Franchise Disclosure Document.

# 18. Severability and Construction.

- **18.1 Severability.** Each provision of this Agreement is severable from the others. If, for any reason, any provision is determined by a court to be invalid, the invalidity will not impair the operation of the remaining provisions of this Agreement. The latter will continue to be given full force and effect and bind us and you; the invalid provision(s) will be deemed not to be a part of this Agreement.
- **18.2 Survival.** Each provision of this Agreement that, expressly, or by reasonable implication, is to be performed, in whole or in part, after the expiration, termination or Transfer of this Agreement will survive expiration, termination or Transfer.
- **18.3 Interpretation.** This Agreement will not be interpreted in favor of or against any party based on a party's sophistication or based on the party that drafted this Agreement. Except as otherwise expressly provided, nothing in this Agreement is intended, or will be deemed, to confer any rights or remedies upon any person or legal entity other than you and us.
- 18.4 Reasonable Business Judgment. Whenever we reserve discretion in a particular area or where we agree to exercise our rights reasonably or in good faith, we will satisfy our obligations whenever we exercise reasonable business judgment ("Reasonable Business Judgment") in making our decision or exercising our rights. Our decisions or actions will be deemed to be the result of Reasonable Business Judgment, even if other reasonable or even arguably preferable alternatives are available, if our decision or action is intended, in whole or significant part, to promote or benefit the System generally even if the decision or action also promotes our financial or other individual interest. Examples of items that will promote or benefit the System include, without limitation, enhancing the value of the Marks, improving customer service and satisfaction, improving product quality, improving uniformity, enhancing or encouraging modernization and improving the competitive position of the System.
- **18.5 Force Majeure.** If the performance of any obligation by you or us under this Agreement is prevented, hindered or delayed by reason of Force Majeure, which cannot be overcome by reasonable commercial measures, your and our respective obligations (to the extent that you and we, having exercised best efforts, are prevented, hindered or delayed in such performance) will be suspended during the period of the Force Majeure event. The party whose performance is affected by an event of Force Majeure will give prompt written notice of the Force Majeure event to the other party of the Force Majeure event and an estimate as to its duration.
- 18.5.1 As used in this Agreement, "Force Majeure" means any act of God, strike, lock-out or other industrial disturbance, war (declared or undeclared), riot, epidemic, pandemic, outbreak of disease, fire or other catastrophe, act of any government or a third party and any other cause not within the control of the affected party (including, without limitation, any act of terrorism). The existence of Force Majeure will not affect your obligation to pay us, our affiliates or any supplier any monies owed to us when due. Your inability to obtain financing or pay us any monies owed to us (regardless of the reason) will not constitute Force Majeure.

# 19. Dispute Resolution.

- 19.1 Choice of Law. This Agreement and the relationship between the parties is governed by and will be construed in accordance with the laws of the State of Texas. Nothing in this Section is intended, or will be deemed, to make any Texas law regulating the offer or sale of franchises or business opportunities or the franchise relationship applicable to this Agreement if that law would not otherwise be applicable.
- 19.2 Choice of Forum. The parties agree that, to the extent any disputes cannot be resolved directly between them, you must file any suit against us only in the federal or state court having jurisdiction where our principal offices are located at the time suit is filed. We must file suit in the federal or state court located in the jurisdiction where our principal offices are located at the time suit is filed or in the jurisdiction where you reside or do business or where the Franchised Restaurant is or was located or where the claim arose. You consent to the personal jurisdiction of those courts over you and to venue in those courts.
- 19.3 Limitation of Actions. Any legal action or proceeding (including a proceeding related to the offer and sale of a franchise to you) brought or instituted with respect to any dispute arising from or related to this Agreement or with respect to any breach of the terms of this Agreement must be brought or instituted within a period of 2 years after the initial occurrence of any act or omission that is the basis of the legal action or proceeding, regardless of when discovered. The preceding limitation period does not apply: (a) with respect to payments owed by one party to the other; (b) if prohibited by applicable law; or (c) if applicable law provides for a shorter limitations period.

# 19.4 Mutual Waiver of Jury Trial. Each of us irrevocably waives trial by jury in any litigation.

- 19.5 Other Waivers. You and we waive: (a) any right to or claim of punitive, exemplary, multiple or consequential damages against the other in litigation and agrees to be limited to the recovery of actual damages sustained; and (b) any right to participate in any action or proceeding a consolidated, common, representative, group or class basis.
- 19.6 Remedies Not Exclusive. Except as provided in Sections 19.1 through 19.5, no right or remedy that the parties have under this Agreement is exclusive of any other right or remedy under this Agreement or under applicable law.
- 19.7 Reimbursement of Costs and Expenses. If either party brings an action to enforce this Agreement in a judicial proceeding, the party prevailing in that proceeding will be entitled to reimbursement of costs and expenses, including, but not limited to, reasonable accountants', attorneys', attorneys' assistants' and expert witness fees, the cost of investigation and proof of facts, court costs, other litigation expenses, and travel and living expenses, whether incurred prior to, in preparation for, or in contemplation of the filing of, the proceeding. If we utilize legal counsel (including in-house counsel employed by us) in connection with any failure by you to comply with this Agreement, you must reimburse us for any of the above-listed costs and expenses incurred by us. In any judicial proceeding, the amount of these costs and expenses will be determined by the court and not by a jury.
- 19.8 Rights of Parties are Cumulative. The parties' rights under this Agreement are cumulative, and the exercise or enforcement of any right or remedy under this Agreement will not preclude the exercise or enforcement by a party of any other right or remedy under this Agreement that it is entitled by law or this Agreement to exercise or enforce.
- **19.9 Survival.** The provisions of this Section 19 will survive the expiration or earlier termination of this Agreement.

#### 20. Miscellaneous.

- **20.1 Gender and Number.** All references to gender and number will be construed to include such other gender and number as the context may require.
- **20.2 Captions.** All captions in this Agreement are intended solely for the convenience of the parties and none will be deemed to affect the meaning or construction of any provision of this Agreement.
- **20.3** Counterparts and Signatures. This Agreement may be executed in counterparts, and each copy so executed and delivered will be deemed an original. This Agreement may be signed using electronic signatures, and those signatures will have full legal force and effect.
  - **20.4 Time.** Time is of the essence of this Agreement for each provision in which time is a factor.
- **20.5 Injunctive Relief.** You recognize that your failure to comply with the terms of this Agreement, including, but not limited to, the failure to fully comply with all post-termination obligations, is likely to cause irreparable harm to us, our affiliates and the System. Therefore, you agree that, in the event of a breach or threatened breach of any of the terms of this Agreement by you, we will be entitled to declaratory and injunctive relief (both preliminary and permanent) restraining that breach and/or to specific performance without showing or proving actual damages and without posting any bond or security.
- **20.6** Compliance with U.S. Laws. You acknowledge that under applicable U.S. law, including, without limitation, Executive Order 13224, signed on September 23, 2001 ("Order"), we are prohibited from engaging in any transaction with any person engaged in, or with a person aiding any person engaged in, acts of terrorism, as defined in the Order. Accordingly, you represent and warrant to us that, as of the Effective Date, neither you nor any person holding any ownership interest in you, controlled by you, or under common control with you is designated under the Order as a person with whom business may not be transacted by us, and that you: (a) do not, and hereafter will not, engage in any terrorist activity; (b) are not affiliated with and do not support any individual or entity engaged in, contemplating, or supporting terrorist activity; and (c) are not acquiring the rights granted under this Agreement with the intent to generate funds to channel to any individual or entity engaged in, contemplating, or supporting terrorist activity, or to otherwise support or further any terrorist activity.

# 21. Acknowledgements.

- 21.1 No Guarantee of Success. This Agreement involves significant legal and business rights and risks. We do not guarantee your success. You have not received from us or our affiliates or anyone acting on our behalf any representation of your potential sales, expenses, income, profit or loss. You have conducted an independent investigation of the business contemplated by this Agreement and recognize that the nature of the business conducted by Taco Cabana Restaurants may change over time. The prospect for success of the business undertaken by you is speculative and depends to a material extent upon your personal commitment, capability and direct involvement in the day-to-day management of the business.
- 21.2 Site Acceptance. Acceptance of one or more sites by us and our refusal to accept other sites is not a representation that a Franchised Restaurant at an Authorized Site will achieve a certain sales volume or a certain level of profitability, or that a Franchised Restaurant at an Authorized Site will have a higher sales volume or be more profitable than a site which we did not accept. Acceptance by us merely means that the minimum criteria which we have established for identifying suitable sites for proposed Taco Cabana Restaurants have been met. Because real estate development is an art and not a precise science, you agree that acceptance, or refusal to accept a proposed site by us, whether or not a site review report is completed and/or submitted to us will not impose any liability or obligation on us. The decision whether to develop a particular site is yours, subject to acceptance of the site by us. Preliminary acceptance of a proposed site by

any of our representatives is not conclusive or binding, because his or her recommendation may be rejected by us.

- 21.3 No Warranty. We expressly disclaim the making of, and you acknowledge that you have not received, any warranty or guaranty, express or implied, as to the potential volume, profits or success of the business venture contemplated by this Agreement. We do not, by virtue of any approvals or advice provided to you, assume responsibility or liability to you or any third-party to which we would otherwise not be subject. You have not received from us or our affiliates or anyone acting on our behalf any representations other than those contained in our Franchise Disclosure Document provided to you as inducements to enter this Agreement.
- **21.4 Other Agreements.** We will continue to enter into agreements with other developers and franchisees. The manner in which we enforce our rights and the developers' and franchisees' obligations under any of those other agreements will not affect our ability to enforce our rights or your obligations under this Agreement.
- **21.5 No Refund.** The Development Fee has been fully earned by us and is not refundable for any reason once this Agreement has been signed by you.
- **21.6 System Modification.** We may change or modify the System, from time to time, including the Manual, and you will be required to make such expenditures as those changes or modifications in the System may require.
- **21.7 No Control.** Even though this Agreement contains provisions requiring you to develop the Franchised Restaurants in compliance with the System: (a) we and our affiliates do not have actual or apparent authority to control the day-to-day conduct and operation of your business or employment decisions; (b) neither you nor we intend for us or our affiliates to incur any liability in connection with or arising from any aspect of the System or your use of the System, whether or not in accordance with the requirements of the Manual; and (c) you are the sole employer of your employees and you and we are not joint employers.
- **21.8 Sole Employer.** You will be solely responsible for: (a) hiring, training and supervising efficient, competent and courteous employees of good character for the operation of the Franchised Restaurants; (b) the terms of their employment and compensation; and (c) the proper training of the employees in the operation of the Franchised Restaurants.
- **21.9 Limitations on Exclusivity.** You understand that there are certain limitations to your exclusive rights in the Development Area during the Development Term and that, following termination or expiration of the Development Term, we may develop and operate, or license others to develop and operate Taco Cabana Restaurants at any location in the Development Area, except as otherwise provided in an effective franchise agreement.
- **21.10** No Conflict. Your execution of this Agreement does not and will not conflict or interfere, directly or indirectly, intentionally or otherwise, with the terms of any other agreement with any third party to which you, any of your owners or any affiliate of yours is a party, including, but not limited to, any noncompetition provision.
- **21.11 Jury Waiver.** In the event of a dispute between us, you and we have waived our right to a jury trial.
- **21.12 Receipt of FDD.** You have received our Franchise Disclosure Document at least 14 days prior to your signing this Agreement or payment of any monies to us, or earlier if required by applicable law.

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF,** the parties have executed this Agreement by their duly authorized representatives.

DEVELOPER:	TACO CABANA: TACO CABANA FRANCHISING, INC.
By:	By:
Print Name:	Print Name:
Title:	Title:
Date:	Date:

# **EXHIBIT A**

# DEVELOPMENT INFORMATION

ooundar Effectiv ooundar	ries contained in e Date and will	opment Area are subject the description of the not change notwithst erwise specified, all st andary.	Development Area anding a political re	will be co corganization	nsidered fixed as on or a change i	of the
2.	<b>Development Fee</b> . The Development Fee is \$					
	a total of Fr	<b>chedule</b> . During the ranchised Restaurants in				
I	Number of Franchised Site Acceptan Restaurants Date		Opening Date	Cumulative Number of Franchised Restaurants to be Open and Operating on the Opening Date, Including the Franchised Restaurant to be Established		
		you are a business entity		ist of all ho	olders of a direct of	or indir
	N:	ame	Address		Ownership Interest	

# 6. Existing Businesses:

Name of Business	Description of Business

#### **EXHIBIT B**

#### GUARANTEE AND ASSUMPTION OF DEVELOPER'S OBLIGATIONS

In consideration of, and as an inducement to, the execution	of the Taco Cabana Development
Agreement dated as of	("Agreement") by Taco Cabana
Franchising, Inc. ("Taco Cabana"), entered into with	("Franchisee"), the
undersigned ("Guarantor(s)") hereby personally and unconditionally ag	ree as follows:

- 1. Guarantee and Assumption of Franchisee's Obligations. Each Guarantor hereby: (A) guarantees to Taco Cabana and its successors and assigns, for the term of the Agreement and thereafter as provided in the Agreement or at law or in equity, that Franchisee and any assignee of Franchisee's interest under the Agreement will: (i) punctually pay and perform each and every undertaking, agreement and covenant set forth in the Agreement and (ii) punctually pay all other monies owed to Taco Cabana and/or its affiliates; (B) agrees to be personally bound by each and every provision in the Agreement, including, without limitation, the provisions of Section 11 and 14.1; and (C) agrees to be personally liable for the breach of each and every provision in the Agreement.
- 2. General Release. Each Guarantor (if an individual, on behalf of him/herself and his/her heirs, representatives, successors and assigns, and if a business entity, on behalf of itself and its parent, subsidiaries and affiliates) (collectively, "Releasors"), freely and without any influence, forever releases and covenants not to sue Taco Cabana, its parent, subsidiaries and affiliates and their respective past and present officers, directors, managers, members, shareholders, agents and employees, in their corporate and individual capacities, with respect to any and all claims, demands, liabilities and causes of action of whatever kind or nature, whether known or unknown, vested or contingent, suspected or unsuspected (collectively, "Claims"), that any Releasor now owns, has or claims to have or holds, or may in the future own or hold, or at any prior time owned, held, had or claimed to have, based on, arising out of or relating to, in whole or in part, any fact, event, conduct or omissions occurring on or before the date of this Guarantee, including, without limitation, Claims arising under federal, state and local laws, rules and ordinances and Claims arising out of, or relating to this Guarantee, the Agreement and all other agreements between any Releasor and Taco Cabana or its parent, subsidiaries or affiliates, the sale of any franchise to any Releasor, the development and operation of the Franchised Restaurant and the development and operation of all other restaurants operated by any Releasor that are franchised by Taco Cabana or its parent, subsidiaries or affiliates. Releasors expressly agree that fair consideration has been given by Taco Cabana for this release, and they fully understand that this is a negotiated, complete and final release of all claims.
- **3. General Terms and Conditions.** The following general terms and conditions will apply to this Guarantee:
- A. Each Guarantor waives: (i) acceptance and notice of acceptance by Taco Cabana of the foregoing undertakings; (ii) notice of demand for payment of any indebtedness or nonperformance of any obligations hereby guaranteed; (iii) protest and notice of default to any party with respect to the indebtedness or nonperformance of any obligations hereby guaranteed; (iv) any right he/she/it may have to require that an action be brought against Franchisee or any other person as a condition of liability; (v) all rights to payments and claims for reimbursement or subrogation which any of the undersigned may have against Franchisee arising as a result of the execution of and performance under this Guarantee by the undersigned; (vi) any law or statute which requires that Taco Cabana make demand upon, assert claims against or collect from Franchisee or any others, foreclose any security interest, sell collateral, exhaust any remedies or take any other action against Franchisee or any others prior to making any demand upon, collecting from or taking any action against the undersigned with respect to this Guarantee; (vii) any and all other notices and legal or equitable defenses to which he may be entitled; and (viii) any and all right to have any legal action under this Guarantee decided by a jury.

- В. Each Guarantor consents and agrees that: (i) his/her/its direct and immediate liability under this Guarantee will be joint and several; (ii) he/she/it will render any payment or performance required under the Agreement if Franchisee fails or refuses punctually to do so; (iii) such liability will not be contingent or conditioned upon pursuit by Taco Cabana of any remedies against Franchisee or any other person; (iv) such liability will not be diminished, relieved or otherwise affected by any amendment of the Agreement, any extension of time, credit or other indulgence which Taco Cabana may from time to time grant to Franchisee or to any other person including, without limitation, the acceptance of any partial payment or performance or the compromise or release of any claims, none of which will in any way modify or amend this Guarantee, which will be continuing and irrevocable during the term of the Agreement and for so long thereafter as there are monies or obligations owing from Franchisee to Taco Cabana or its affiliates under the Agreement; and (v) monies received from any source by Taco Cabana for application toward payment of the obligations under the Agreement and under this Guarantee may be applied in any manner or order deemed appropriate by Taco Cabana. In addition: (a) each Guarantor acknowledges that the obligations under this Guarantee will continue to remain in force and effect unless Taco Cabana in its Reasonable Business Judgment, in writing, releases him/her/it from this Guarantee; and (b) following any Transfer, the obligations of each Guarantor under this Guarantee will continue to remain in force and effect unless Taco Cabana in its Reasonable Business Judgment, in writing, releases the Guarantor from this Guarantee. Notwithstanding the provisions of the previous sentence, unless prohibited by applicable law, the obligations contained in Sections 18.3 of the Agreement will remain in force and effect for a period of 2 years after any such release by Taco Cabana. A release by Taco Cabana of any Guarantor will not affect the obligations of any other Guarantor.
- **C.** If Taco Cabana brings a legal action to enforce this Guarantee, the prevailing party in that proceeding will be entitled to reimbursement of its costs and expenses, including, but not limited to, reasonable accountants', attorneys' assistants' and expert witness fees, cost of investigation and proof of facts, court costs, other litigation expenses and travel and living expenses, whether incurred prior to, in preparation for or in contemplation of the filing of any such proceeding. In any judicial proceeding, these costs and expenses will be determined by the court and not by a jury.
- **D.** If Taco Cabana utilizes legal counsel (including in-house counsel employed by Taco Cabana or its affiliates) in connection with any failure by the undersigned to comply with this Guarantee, the undersigned will reimburse Taco Cabana for any of the above-listed costs and expenses incurred by it.
- **E.** Upon the death of a Guarantor, the estate will be bound by this Guarantee for all obligations existing at the time of death. The obligations of the surviving Guarantors will continue in full force and effect.
- **F.** This Guarantee will inure to the benefit of and be binding upon the parties and their respective heirs, legal representatives, successors and assigns. Taco Cabana interests in and rights under this Guarantee are freely assignable, in whole or in part, by Taco Cabana. Any assignment will not release the undersigned from this Guarantee.
- **G.** Section 19 of the Agreement is incorporated by reference into this Guarantee and all capitalized terms that are not defined in this Guarantee will have the meaning given them in the Agreement.

[signature page follows]

# IN WITNESS WHEREOF, each of the undersigned has hereunto affixed his signature.

	GUARANTORS:	
Date:		
	Print Name:	
	Address:	
Date:		
	Print Name:	
	Address:	

# EXHIBIT C

# FRANCHISE AGREEMENT

# TACO CABANA FRANCHISE AGREEMENT

Franchisee		
Effective Date		
Franchised Location		

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Exhibit A – Franchise Information

Exhibit B – Guarantee and Assumption of Franchisee's Obligations

Exhibit C – Form of Lease Addendum

#### TACO CABANA FRANCHISE AGREEMENT

This Franchise Agreement (" <b>Agreement</b> ") is made as of	_("Effective Date") by and
between Taco Cabana Franchising, Inc. ("Taco Cabana," "we" or "us"), a _	limited liability
company with a principal business address at	_ and
("Franchisee," "you" or "your"), a	_with a principal business
address at	

#### RECITALS

We and our affiliates have developed a distinctive format, appearance and set of specifications and operating procedures (collectively, "System") relating to the development, establishment and operation of restaurants identified by the Marks (as defined below) that feature premium quality, traditional Mexican-style food, including tacos, fajitas, burritos, flautas and other food and beverage items, and Mexican-influenced décors ("Taco Cabana Restaurants").

The distinguishing characteristics of the System include, but are not limited to, our décor, layout, color schemes and designs (collectively, "**Trade Dress**"); our menu items, recipes and food preparation and service techniques; our standards and specifications for equipment, equipment layouts and interior and exterior accessories; and the accumulated experience reflected in our training program, operating procedures and standards and specifications. We may periodically change, improve, add to and further develop the elements of the System.

The System is identified by means of the "Taco Cabana" name and mark and certain other names, marks, logos, insignias, slogans, emblems, symbols and designs that have been designated, or may in the future be designated, for use with the System (collectively, "Marks"). We have the right to use, and permit our franchisees to use, the Marks. We may modify the Marks, including the principal Marks.

You desire to be granted the opportunity, subject to the terms and conditions of this Agreement, to develop and operate a franchised Taco Cabana Restaurant ("Franchised Restaurant") at the location identified on attached Exhibit A ("Franchised Location").

You understand and acknowledge the importance of our high and uniform standards of quality, operations and service and the necessity of developing and operating the Franchised Restaurant in strict conformity with this Agreement and our confidential operating manuals ("Manual").

We are willing to grant you the opportunity to develop and operate the Franchised Restaurant at the Franchised Location, subject to the terms and conditions of this Agreement.

**NOW THEREFORE,** the parties agree as follows:

#### 1 Grant of Franchise.

#### 1.1 Grant.

- **1.1.1** Subject to the terms and conditions of this Agreement, we hereby grant to you the right, and you undertake the obligation, to use the Marks and the System to continuously operate the Franchised Restaurant at the Franchised Location during the term of this Agreement ("**Term**").
- 1.1.2 You may not use the Marks or the System at any location other than the Franchised Location, except as otherwise provided in Section 1.1.3. You may not relocate the Franchised Restaurant without our prior written consent, which we have the right to grant or deny for any reason or no reason We have the right to require you to pay a reasonable fee, plus our reasonable expenses incurred in connection with consideration of your relocation request. That fee will be identified in our Manual or in another written communication to you. We also may condition our consent to your relocation request upon, among other things, your payment of an agreed upon minimum Royalty to us during the period in which the Franchised Restaurant is not in operation.
- 1.1.3 You will, at all times: (a) faithfully, honestly and diligently perform your obligations under this Agreement; (b) continuously exert your best efforts to promote and enhance the business of the Franchised Restaurant; and (c) not engage in any other business or activity that may conflict with your obligations under this Agreement, except the operation of other Taco Cabana Restaurants or other businesses that you operate and that are franchised by us, our parent, affiliates or subsidiaries. Without our prior written consent, you may not use the Marks or the System or sell our proprietary food and beverage products in any wholesale, e-commerce or other channel of distribution besides the retail operation of the Franchised Restaurant at the Franchised Location and off premises special events and catering within the Protected Area (as defined below) as we approve.
- **1.2 Forms of Agreement.** Over time, we may enter into agreements with other franchisees that may contain provisions, conditions and obligations that differ from those contained in this Agreement. The existence of different forms of agreement and the fact that we and other franchisees may have different rights and obligations does not affect our or your duties to comply with the terms of this Agreement.
- **1.3 Limited Exclusivity.** Provided you are in compliance with this Agreement, during the Term, we will not operate, or license others to operate, a Taco Cabana Restaurant in the geographic area described in **Exhibit A** ("**Protected Area**"). Notwithstanding this grant of limited exclusivity, during the Term, we may, among other things:
- 1.3.1 Operate and license others to operate Taco Cabana Restaurants in the Protected Area that are located in transportation facilities (including airports, train stations, subways, ferry terminals, rail and bus stations and other public transportation facilities); military bases and government offices; sports facilities (including stadiums and arenas); toll road plazas, highway rest areas and travel centers; universities, schools and educational facilities; hospitals and other health care facilities; amusement parks and recreational theme parks; museums; Indian reservations; casinos and other entertainment or tourist facilities; any location in which foodservice is or may be provided by a master concessionaire; and any other similar location we believe, in the exercise of our reasonable judgment, to be a captive market location.
- **1.3.2** Manufacture, distribute and sell at wholesale or retail, or license others to manufacture, distribute and sell at wholesale or retail, merchandise, products and services, whether or not authorized for sale at Taco Cabana Restaurants, under the Marks in the Protected Area through any channel of distribution, other a restaurant.

- 1.3.3 Operate and license others to operate delivery kitchens devoted to the preparation of products authorized for sale at Taco Cabana Restaurants (often referred to as ghost, dark or cloud kitchens), which may use the Marks and may deliver to customers regardless of their location and expressly including customers residing in or working in your Protected Area.
- **1.3.4** Merchandise and distribute products identified by any of the Marks to foodservice businesses in the Protected Area (other than Taco Cabana Restaurants), provided those foodservice businesses are not licensed to use the Marks in connection with their retail sales.
- **1.3.5** Develop and/or own other franchise systems and other restaurants for the same or similar products and services using trade names and trademarks other than the Marks.
- **1.3.6** Sell and distribute, or license others to sell and distribute, directly or indirectly, products identified by any of the Marks at special events in the Protected Area.
- **1.3.7** Sell and distribute, or license others to sell and distribute, directly or indirectly, products identified by any of the Marks over the Internet or in the metaverse.
- **1.3.8** Purchase, be purchased by, merge or combine with, businesses that directly compete with Taco Cabana Restaurants.
- **1.4 Reserved Rights.** Section 1.3 does not prohibit us from, among other things: (a) operating or licensing others to operate, during the Term, Taco Cabana Restaurants at any location outside the Protected Area; and (b) operating or licensing others to operate, after the Term terminates or expires, Taco Cabana Restaurants at any location, including the Franchised Location. We reserve to ourselves all rights to use and license the System and the Marks other than those expressly granted under this Agreement.

# 2 Term; Successor Term.

- 2.1 Term. The Term begins on the Effective Date and, unless this Agreement is terminated at an earlier date as provided in Section 19, expires at midnight on the day preceding the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the date the Franchised Restaurant first opened for business. (We may complete and forward to you a notice to memorialize the date the Franchised Restaurant first opened for business.) If, during the Term, you lose the right to possession of the Franchised Location through no action or failure to act on your part (other than the failure to extend the lease for the Franchised Location through the Term), you may relocate the Franchised Restaurant (without paying us any additional Initial Franchise Fee) at your expense, and the Term will not expire if: (a) we accept the new location; (b) you construct and equip a new Franchised Restaurant at the new location in accordance with our then-current System standards and specifications; (c) the Franchised Restaurant is open to the public for business at the new location within 6 months after your loss of possession of the Franchised Location; and (d) you reimburse us for all reasonable expenses actually incurred by us in connection with the acceptance of the new location. We may condition our consent to your relocation request upon, among other things, your payment of an agreed upon minimum Royalty to us during the period in which the Franchised Restaurant is not in operation.
- **2.2 Successor Term.** When this Agreement expires, you will have the option to obtain 1 successor franchise term equal to the successor term then being offered to franchisees, unless: (a) we have announced a decision to stop franchising the Taco Cabana Restaurant concept; or (b) we decide to withdraw the Taco Cabana Restaurant concept from the geographic market in which the Franchised Restaurant is located. You must give us written notice of your desire to exercise your option not more than 12 months, and not less than 6 months, before the end of the then-expiring Term. We may require you to satisfy any or all of the following as a condition of exercising your option for the successor franchise term:

- **2.2.1** You must execute the standard form of Taco Cabana Restaurant franchise agreement that we are then offering to new franchisees (or the standard form that we most recently offered, if we are not then offering franchises) ("Successor Franchise Agreement"). The terms of the Successor Franchise Agreement may be substantially different from the terms of this Agreement. We will modify the Successor Franchise Agreement to delete terms inapplicable to the successor term (such as opening deadlines).
- **2.2.2** During the then-expiring Term, you have substantially complied with this Agreement and the System.
- **2.2.3** Neither you nor your affiliates may be in default under this Agreement or any other agreements between you or your affiliates and us or our affiliates; you and your affiliates must not be in default beyond the applicable cure period under any real estate lease, equipment lease or financing instrument relating to the Franchised Restaurant; and you must not be in default beyond the applicable cure period with any vendor or supplier to the Franchised Restaurant.
- **2.2.4** You must have the right to continue operating at the Franchised Location for the full term of the Successor Franchise Agreement.
- **2.2.5** You must renovate and modernize the Franchised Restaurant to reflect the thencurrent image of Taco Cabana Restaurants.
- **2.2.6** You, all 10% Owners (as defined in Section 14.2) and all guarantors under this Agreement must sign a general release, in a form we prescribe, of any and all claims against us, our affiliates and our and their past, present and future officers, directors, members, managers, shareholders and employees.
- **2.2.7** You, your Operating Principal (as defined in Section 12.11.3) and those of your employees designated by us must successfully complete (as determined by us in our sole discretion) any additional training that we then require.
- **2.2.8** You must pay us a successor franchise fee equal to the initial franchise fee then being charged to new franchisees at the time the Successor Franchise Agreement is executed.

# 3 Development Procedures.

This Section 3 will not be applicable if the Franchised Restaurant is being developed pursuant to a Taco Cabana Development Agreement ("**Development Agreement**"). In addition, Sections 3.1-3.3, 3.4.1 and 3.4.4 will not be applicable if, as of the date of this Agreement, the site for the Franchised Restaurant has been accepted in writing by us.

- 3.1 Your Responsibility. You must select a site that is located within the general area to which you and we have mutually agreed in writing. If the Franchised Restaurant is your first Taco Cabana Restaurant, within 270 days after your execution of this Agreement, you must obtain site acceptance from us for the Franchised Restaurant. If the Franchised Restaurant is your second or subsequent Taco Cabana Restaurant, within 180 days after your execution of this Agreement, you must obtain site acceptance from us for the Franchised Restaurant. If we have not accepted a site within this time period, we, at our option, may terminate this Agreement pursuant to Section 19. You assume all cost, liability and expense for locating, obtaining and developing a site for the Franchised Restaurant. You may not make any binding commitments to purchase or lease a site until we have accepted the site in writing.
- 3.2 Site Selection Assistance. We may, but are not required to, provide you with the following site selection assistance: (a) our site selection guidelines and, as you may request, a reasonable amount of consultation with respect thereto; and (b) that on-site evaluation as we may deem advisable (subject to the

availability of our personnel) as part of our evaluation of your request for site acceptance, provided that, if we provide this assistance at your request, you must reimburse us for all travel, living and other expenses incurred by our representatives in connection with our on-site evaluation. Notwithstanding the foregoing, we have no obligation to conduct any on-site evaluations of locations you propose.

3.3 Site Information and Evaluation. For each proposed site, you must submit to us a site review report consisting of a description of the site, photographs, demographic information, site characteristics (including access and egress points and the amount of road traffic), other restaurant options in the area, and any other information that we may require, including, but not limited to, a letter of intent or other evidence satisfactory to us, which confirms your favorable prospects for obtaining the site. In addition, we may require a site analysis prepared by a third party vendor at your expense. We reserve the right to designate the third party vendor used to prepare the site analysis and the right to conduct an on-site evaluation of the proposed site before deciding whether to accept the site.

# 3.4 Site Acceptance.

- **3.4.1** Within 60 days after our receipt of a complete (as determined by us) site review report, we will review that information, evaluate the proposed site and advise you in writing whether we have accepted the site; however, we have no obligation to review any site review report if you and your affiliates are not in full compliance with all agreements with us and/or our affiliates. If we do not respond within that time period, we will be deemed to have rejected the site. Our acceptance or rejection of a site may be subject to reasonable conditions we determine in our sole discretion.
- 3.4.2 In order to preserve and enhance the reputation and goodwill of the System and all Taco Cabana Restaurants and the goodwill of the Marks and the Trade Dress, all Taco Cabana Restaurants must be properly developed, operated and maintained. Accordingly, we may refuse to accept a site for a proposed Franchised Restaurant unless you demonstrate sufficient financial capabilities, in the exercise of our Reasonable Business Judgment, applying standards consistent with criteria that we use to establish restaurants in other comparable market areas, to properly develop, operate and maintain the proposed Franchised Restaurant. To that end, you must provide us with those financial statements and other information regarding you and the development and operation of the proposed Franchised Restaurant, including, without limitation, investment and financing plans for the proposed Franchised Restaurant, as we may reasonably require.
- 3.4.3 Our acceptance of a site does not constitute a representation or warranty of any kind, express or implied, of the site's suitability for a Taco Cabana Restaurant or any other purpose. Our acceptance indicates only that we believe that the site meets the minimum standards of our thencurrent site selection criteria. Applying criteria that have appeared effective with other sites might not accurately reflect the potential for all sites, and demographic and/or other factors included in or excluded from our criteria could change, altering the potential of a site. The uncertainty and instability of these criteria are beyond our control, and we are not responsible if a site we accept fails to meet your expectations. Your submission of a proposed site for our acceptance is based on your own independent investigation of the site's suitability for a Franchised Restaurant.
- **3.4.4** Upon our acceptance of a site in accordance with this Section 3, we will identify the Franchised Location on the cover page and in Exhibit A.

**Lease Provisions.** You must obtain our consent to the proposed sublease, lease or purchase contract (collectively, "lease") for the Franchised Location prior to its execution. The lease must, in form and substance, be satisfactory to us and may not contain any covenants or other obligations that would prevent you from performing your obligations under this Agreement. In addition, the landlord and you must execute our standard Lease Addendum, the current form of which is attached as **Exhibit C**. The insurance required in Section 12.12 must be in effect when you take possession of the Franchised Location

Our consent to the lease does not constitute a warranty or representation of any kind, express or implied, as to its fairness or suitability or as to your ability to comply with its terms, and we do not assume any liability or responsibility to you or to any third parties due to our consent. You must deliver a copy of the fully signed lease to us within 7 days after its execution. You may not begin construction of the Franchised Restaurant until we have received a copy of the fully-executed lease.

# 5 Construction of Franchised Restaurant; Opening Date.

# 5.1 Restaurant Development.

- 5.1.1 You assume all cost, liability and expense for developing, constructing and equipping the Franchised Restaurant. We may provide you prototypical plans and specifications for a Taco Cabana Restaurant, which you must adapt, at your cost, to suit the shape and dimensions of the Franchised Location and you must ensure that your proposed plans for the Franchised Restaurant ("Plans") comply with all applicable ordinances, building codes and permit requirements, lease requirements and restrictions and the Americans with Disabilities Act. You must use only registered architects, engineers and professional and licensed contractors, each of whom must be approved by us. You must submit the Plans to us and revise the Plans as we require. Once we consent to the Plans, you may not change them unless you again obtain our consent. You may not submit the Plans to your local government agency or begin site preparation or construction before we have notified you, in writing, that we have consented to the Plans. You may not commence construction until you have obtained all required permits and licenses. We have no obligation to visit the Franchised Location during the course of construction, but if we choose to do so, you must (and require your architect, engineer, contractors and subcontractors to) cooperate fully with us and our representatives.
- **5.1.2** Since you, and not us, will be constructing the Franchised Restaurant, you will have the ability to keep track of the construction on a regular basis. We make no representation or warranty regarding the construction of the Franchised Restaurant or compliance with those laws, ordinances and/or regulations that may be applicable to the Franchised Restaurant, the Plans and your construction of the Franchised Restaurant.

# 5.2 Opening Date.

- **5.2.1** You must open the Franchised Restaurant for business at the Franchised Location no later than 180 days after we have consented to the proposed site ("**Opening Date**"). By the Opening Date, you must: (a) obtain and maintain all required building, utility, sign, health, sanitation, business and other applicable permits and licenses; (b) construct all required improvements to the Franchised Location and decorate the exterior and interior of the Franchised Restaurant as required by the Plans to which we have consented; (c) purchase or lease and install all specified and required fixtures, equipment, furnishings and signs for the Franchised Restaurant from suppliers designated or consented to by us (which may include us and our affiliates);
- (d) purchase an opening inventory for the Franchised Restaurant of only authorized products and other materials and supplies.
- **5.2.2** You must notify us at least seven days before the anticipated opening date and the date of issuance of the certificate of occupancy. Upon our request, you must submit a copy of the certificate

of occupancy to us. You may not open for business without our prior written consent, which will not be granted unless you have satisfied the conditions in Section 5.3; however, our consent will not be unreasonably withheld. If there is a change in the Opening Date not caused by us, you will reimburse us for any costs and expenses we incur due to that delay, including costs for travel, lodging, meals and wages. If you do not open the Franchised Restaurant for business by the Opening Date and we do not extend the deadline, we will have the right to terminate this Agreement under Section 19.1.2.

- **5.3 Right to Open the Franchised Restaurant.** We will not authorize the opening of the Franchised Restaurant unless all of the following conditions have been met:
- **5.3.1** You are not in material default under this Agreement; you and your affiliates are not in material default of any other agreements with us or our affiliates; you and your affiliates are not in default beyond the applicable cure period under any real estate lease, equipment lease or financing instrument relating to the Franchised Restaurant; and you are not in default beyond the applicable cure period with any vendor or supplier to the Franchised Restaurant.
  - **5.3.2** You, your affiliates and your 10% Owners are current on all obligations due to us.
- **5.3.3** We are satisfied that the Franchised Restaurant was constructed substantially in accordance with the Plans accepted by us, this Agreement and state and local codes and that you have hired and trained a staff as required by this Agreement and the System.
- **5.3.4** If the Franchised Location is leased or subleased, we have received a copy of the fully-executed lease or sublease.
- **5.3.5** You have obtained a certificate of occupancy and all other required building, utility, sign, health, safety, fire department, sanitation and business permits and licenses.
- **5.3.6** You have certified to us, in writing, that all furnishings, fixtures, equipment, signage, computer terminals, artwork/wall graphics and related equipment, supplies and other items are in place.
- **5.3.7** You have certified to us, in writing, that all furnishings, fixtures, equipment, signage, computer terminals, artwork/wall graphics and related equipment, supplies, other items and the color scheme in the Franchised Restaurant conform to our specifications.
- **5.3.8** You (or your Operating Principal) and those of your employees designated by us have attended and successfully completed (as determined by us in our sole discretion) the ITP (as defined in Section 9.1.1).
- **5.3.9** You have provided us with copies of all insurance policies required by, and in compliance, with Section 12.12 and evidence of payment of premiums as we may reasonably request.
- **5.3.10** You have provided us a Grand Opening Plan (as defined in Section 8.1) at least 60 days prior to the opening of the Franchised Restaurant.

# 6 Fees.

**6.1 Initial Franchise Fee.** No later than the date you sign this Agreement, you must pay us an initial franchise fee in the amount set forth in **Exhibit A** ("**Initial Franchise Fee**"). You acknowledge and agree that the Initial Franchise Fee is fully earned by us when this Agreement is signed by you and is not refundable for any reason.

# 6.2 Royalty Fee.

- **6.2.1** In addition to all other amounts that you will pay to us, you must pay to us a nonrefundable royalty fee in an amount equal to 5% of your Fiscal Period Gross Sales, as defined below ("**Royalty**"). As of the Effective Date, each fiscal period ("**Fiscal Period**") is a calendar week. We have the right, following written notice to you, to vary the time period that comprises each Fiscal Period. If, due to applicable law, you may not pay a Royalty on alcoholic beverage sales, you will pay us a Royalty on all Gross Sales (except alcoholic beverage sales) in the same dollar amount as would have been paid if alcoholic beverage sales were included.
- 6.2.2 The term "Gross Sales" means all revenue from the sale of all products, including all food and beverage products, all other products or services offered at or from the Franchised Restaurant, and all other income of every kind and nature related to, derived from, or originating from the Franchised Restaurant, including off-premises catering and special events, and proceeds of any business interruption insurance policies, whether at retail or wholesale (whether the sales are permitted or not), whether for cash, check, or credit, and regardless of collection in the case of check or credit. Gross Sales also includes all ancillary charges or fees, including delivery fees and other service charges, that are paid to you by a customer or by a third-party delivery or catering service (e.g., Uber Eats, Postmates, Grubhub, ezCater, or DoorDash) ("Third-Party Service") in connection with delivery or catering services related to your Franchised Restaurant (recognizing that though the Third-Party Service may pay you an amount equal to the purchase price charged to the customer less a commission, other fees, and any discounts, credits, or coupons applied to the order, such commission, fees, discounts, credits, and coupons will not be deducted from your Gross Sales). Gross Sales excludes any customer refunds, employee meals, customer discounts, coupon sales, sales taxes, and other taxes collected from customers by you and actually transmitted to the appropriate taxing authorities.
- **6.3 Advertising Obligation.** You must contribute for advertising up to 5% of your Fiscal Period Gross Sales ("**Advertising Obligation**"). The exact amount of the Advertising Obligation to be contributed by you, and the allocation of the Advertising Obligation, as of the Effective Date of this Agreement, are set forth in **Exhibit A**.
- **6.4 Technology Fee.** You must pay to us a monthly nonrefundable technology fee in the amount set forth in **Exhibit A** ("**Technology Fee**"). We reserve the right to adjust the Technology Fee at any time by giving you 30 days' written notice and by revising the relevant sections of the Manual.
- **6.5 Sales Reports.** By 5:00 p.m. on the day after the end of each Fiscal Period, you must submit to us, in writing, by email, polling by computer or that other form or method as we may designate, the amount of Gross Sales of the Franchised Restaurant during the preceding Fiscal Period and any other data or information as we may require.
- 6.6 Payment of Fees. You must participate in our electronic funds transfer program, which authorizes us to use a pre-authorized bank draft system. You agree to sign and complete those documents as we may require from time to time to authorize and direct your bank or financial institution to pay and deposit directly to our account. Your Royalty and Advertising Obligation paid to us and other amounts owed under this Agreement, including any interest charges, must be received by us or credited to our account by preauthorized bank debit before 5:00 p.m. on the 5th day after the end of each Fiscal Period or at a later point periodically specified by us ("Due Date"). You must furnish to us and your bank all authorizations necessary to effect payment by the methods we specify. We reserve the right to modify, at our option, the method by which you must pay the Royalty, Advertising Obligation and other amounts owed under this Agreement upon receipt of written notice from us. You may not, under any circumstances, set off, deduct or otherwise withhold any Royalties, Advertising Obligation, interest charges or any other monies payable under this Agreement on grounds of our alleged non-performance of any obligations. Following written notice from us, you also must make all payments to our affiliates through our electronic funds transfer program unless otherwise specified.

- 6.7 Interest and Late Fee. If any payments by you due to us are not received in full by the Due Date, in addition to paying the amount owed, you must pay to us interest on the amount owed from the Due Date until paid at the lesser of the maximum rate permitted for indebtedness of this nature in the state in which the Franchised Restaurant is located or 18% per annum. In addition, we have the right to charge you a late fee of \$100 on all payments by you due to us and not received by us by the Due Date. Payment of a late fee and/or interest by you on past due obligations is in addition to all other remedies and rights available to us pursuant to this Agreement or under applicable law.
- **6.8 Partial Payments.** No payment by you of a lesser amount than due will be treated as anything other than a partial payment on account, regardless of whether you include an endorsement, statement or accompanying letter to the effect that payment of the lesser amount constitutes full payment. We have sole discretion to apply any payments by you to any past due indebtedness and we have the right to accept payment from any other entity as payment by you without that entity being substituted for you.
- 6.9 Collection Costs and Expenses. You agree to pay us on demand any and all costs and expenses we incur in enforcing the terms of this Agreement, including costs and commissions due a collection agency, attorneys' fees (including attorneys' fees for in-house counsel employed by us), costs incurred in creating or replicating reports demonstrating Gross Sales of the Franchised Restaurant, court costs, expert witness fees, discovery costs and reasonable attorneys' fees and costs on appeal, together with interest charges on all of the foregoing.

# 7 Communications, Accounting and Records.

- **7.1 Recordkeeping.** You will keep complete and accurate books, records and accounts in the form and manner prescribed in the Manual. You must preserve all of your books and records in electronic form for at least 7 years from the date of preparation, or longer as required by government regulations, and make them available to us within 5 days after our written request.
- 7.2 Computer System. You must obtain and install, at your expense, the hardware, software and network connections ("Computer System") that we specify from time to time. We reserve the right to specify a vendor or supplier and, if acquired through us, charge you for that hardware, software, support, and other related services ourselves. You agree to: (a) maintain on the Computer System only the financial and operating data specified in the Manual; (b) transmit data to us in the form and at the times required by the Manual; (c) give us unrestricted access to your Computer System at all times (including user IDs and passwords, if necessary) to download and transfer data via any connection as we determine; (d) maintain the Computer System in good working order at your own expense; (e) replace or upgrade the Computer System as we require (but not more than once every 24 months); (f) install high speed Internet and/or communications connections; (g) ensure that your employees are adequately trained in the use of the Computer System and our related policies and procedures; (h) comply with the Payment Card Industry Data Security Standard ("PCI DSS") at all times; (i) engage any vendor we designate to ensure the security of your data and compliance with the PCI DSS; and (j) use any proprietary software or support service and other proprietary materials that we provide to you in connection with the operation of the Franchised Restaurant and, if we so require, execute a license agreement and pay to us a reasonable license fee for the use of that proprietary software. You may not install any software other than authorized upgrades or make any hardware modifications to the Computer System without our express written consent. You acknowledge that computer designs and functions change periodically and that we may make substantial modifications to our computer specifications or to require installation of entirely different systems during the Term.
- **7.3 Reports and Financial Statements.** You must, at your expense, submit to us, in the form prescribed by us, the following reports for the Franchised Restaurant: (a) a monthly profit and loss and balance sheet (both of which may be unaudited) within 20 days after the end of each calendar month; (b) a year to date quarterly profit and loss statement and balance sheet (both of which may be unaudited) within 30 days after

the end of each fiscal quarter (as defined by us) during each fiscal year (as defined by us); (c) a fiscal year profit and loss statement and balance sheet (both of which may be unaudited) within 60 days after the end of each fiscal year (as defined by us). We will have the right to require that you provide us profit and loss statements and balance sheets, or other reports and information relating to the Franchised Restaurant at other times that we request. We also reserve the right, in our reasonable discretion, to require that you, at your expense, submit audited financial statements prepared by a certified public accounting firm acceptable to us for any fiscal years. You or your treasurer or chief financial officer must sign each statement and balance sheet, attesting that it is correct and complete and uses accounting principles applied on a consistent basis that accurately and completely reflect your financial condition.

- 7.4 Audit Rights. During and after the Term, we have the right to inspect, copy and audit your books and records, your federal, state and local tax returns and any other forms, reports, information or data that we may reasonably designate. We will provide you 10 days' written notice before conducting an in-person financial examination or audit. We (or our designees) may conduct the examination or audit at our offices or those of a third party, in which case we may require you to send us your records. If the examination or audit reveals an understatement of Gross Sales, you must immediately pay to us any Royalty, Advertising Obligation or other amounts owed, plus interest (and a late fee if we so determine) as provided in Section 6.6. If an inspection or audit is made necessary by your failure to provide reports or supporting records as required under this Agreement, or to provide those reports or records on a timely basis, or if the audit or inspection reveals an understatement of Gross Sales of greater than 2% for the audit period, you must reimburse us for the full cost of the inspection or audit, including travel, lodging, meals and wages of our representatives and the reasonable charges of any attorneys or independent accountants we use for the inspection or audit and, upon our request, you must thereafter provide us with periodic audited financial statements. The remedies set forth in this Section are in addition to any other remedies and rights available to us under this Agreement or applicable law.
- **7.5 Ownership of Data.** You agree that all data that you collect from customers or others in connection with the Franchised Restaurant, including customer lists, is deemed to be owned by us. You have the right to use the customer data while this Agreement or a Successor Franchise Agreement is in effect, but only in accordance with any privacy policy that we may establish from time to time.

# **7.6 Data Protection.** You agree and undertake that you will:

- **7.6.1** Comply with the provisions of all applicable laws, regulations and best practices relating to privacy and data protection ("**Data Protection Laws**") in the use and processing of any personal data, including customer contact information (such as name, telephone numbers, e-mail and postal addresses), and transactional information collected by you from customers and prospective customers of the Franchised Restaurant ("**Customer Personal Data**").
- **7.6.2** Refrain from otherwise modifying, amending or altering the contents of the Customer Personal Data or disclosing or permitting the disclosure of any of the Customer Personal Data to any third party unless required by applicable law or specifically authorized in writing by us.
- **7.6.3** Implement and maintain throughout the Term appropriate technical and organizational measures to protect Customer Personal Data against an unauthorized or unlawful processing, access or use and/or accidental loss, destruction, damage, alteration or disclosure ("**Data Breach**").
- **7.6.4** Promptly notify us in writing if you suspect there has been a Data Breach, in which event you will do all such acts and things (at your own expense) as we may require in order to remedy or mitigate the effects of the Data Breach.
- **7.6.5** Promptly notify us of any complaint, communication or request of which you become aware relating to the Data Protection Laws.

# 8 Brand Fund and Marketing.

- **8.1 Grand Opening Plan.** You are required to spend the minimum amount set forth in **Exhibit A** ("**Grand Opening Spend**") over the period beginning one month prior to the Opening Date and continuing through the second month after the Opening Date ("**Grand Opening Marketing Period**") on grand opening initial marketing for the Franchised Restaurant in accordance with a grand opening plan that you have prepared and to which we have consented ("**Grand Opening Plan**"). We reserve the right to require you to pay us the Grand Opening Spend at least 30 days before the beginning of the Grand Opening Marketing Period, and if we elect to receive the Grand Opening Spend, our marketing team will execute the Grand Opening Plan based on local market conditions and other marketing needs, as determined by us in our sole discretion.
- **8.2** Contributions/Expenditures. During the Term, you will have a Fiscal Period Advertising Obligation as set forth in <u>Exhibit A</u>. Following written notice to you, we may modify the amount and allocation of the Advertising Obligation, subject to the provisions of Section 8.7. The portion of the Advertising Obligation allocated to the Brand Fund, a Regional Advertising Fund, or Local Marketing (as those terms are defined in this Section 8) will be paid at the same time and in the same manner as the Royalty.

# 8.3 Brand Fund.

- We have the right, in our sole discretion, to establish a Taco Cabana advertising fund ("Brand Fund"). If we establish an Brand Fund, you must contribute to the Brand Fund the amount set forth in Exhibit A, as subsequently modified by us. We may use the Brand Fund contributions and any earnings of the Brand Fund for any costs associated with advertising, marketing, public relations, promotional programs and materials (which may be national or regional in scope) and/or any other activities that we believe would benefit the System, including the following: advertising campaigns in various media; point-of-purchase materials; review of locally-produced ads; free standing inserts; brochures; purchasing and/or developing promotional materials; market research, including secret shoppers; sponsorships; design and maintenance of a web site; celebrity endorsements; trade shows; association dues; search engine optimization costs; social media communications; establishment of a third party facility for customizing local advertising; accounting costs; and holding an annual franchise convention. We will not use the Brand Fund for any activity whose sole purpose is the marketing of franchises; however, you acknowledge that our web site, public relations activities, social media communications, community involvement activities and other activities that may be supported by the Brand Fund may contain information about franchising opportunities. We have the right to direct all programs supported by the Brand Fund, with final discretion over creative concepts, the materials and media used in the programs and their placement. We do not guarantee that you will benefit from the Brand Fund in proportion to your contributions to the Brand Fund. You agree to participate in all advertising, marketing, promotions, research, public relations and other programs instituted by the Brand Fund.
- **8.3.2** We will not use any contributions to the Brand Fund to defray any of our general operating expenses, except for reasonable administrative costs and overhead that we incur in activities reasonably related to the administration of the Brand Fund or the management of Brand Fund-supported programs (including salaries of our personnel who devote time to Brand Fund activities). We will separately account for the Brand Fund, but we do not need to segregate Brand Fund monies from our other monies.
- **8.3.3** Any point-of-sale materials produced with Brand Fund monies will be made available to you at a reasonable cost and the proceeds from those sales will be credited to the Brand Fund. We are not required to have an independent audit of the Brand Fund completed. We may spend in any fiscal year an amount greater or less than the aggregate contribution of all Taco Cabana Restaurants to the Brand Fund during that year or cause the Brand Fund to invest any surplus for its future use or distribute any surplus to thencurrent franchisees who contributed to the Brand Fund and restaurants operated by us or our affiliates. (The Brand Fund will reimburse us for any monies advanced by us.) We will make available an unaudited statement

of contributions and expenditures for the Brand Fund no sooner than 90 days after the close of our fiscal year to franchisees who make a written request for a copy.

**8.3.4** We may terminate and subsequently restart the Brand Fund. On termination, we may spend the remaining monies in accordance with Section 8.3.1 or return the monies to the restaurants that contributed to the Brand Fund on a pro rata basis.

# 8.4 Regional Advertising Fund.

- **8.4.1** We have the right, in our sole discretion, to establish one or more regional advertising funds for Taco Cabana Restaurants ("**Regional Advertising Fund(s)**"). If a Regional Advertising Fund is established for a geographical area that includes the Franchised Location, you must contribute to that Regional Advertising Fund in the amount set forth in **Exhibit A**, as may be subsequently modified by us. Taco Cabana Restaurants operated by us or our affiliates in an area covered by a Regional Advertising Fund will contribute to the Regional Advertising Fund on the same basis as comparable franchisees.
- We or our designee will direct all advertising, marketing, and public relations programs and activities financed by the Regional Advertising Fund, with sole discretion over the creative concepts, materials and endorsements used in those programs and activities, and the geographic, market and media placement and allocation of advertising and marketing materials. We may use the Regional Advertising Fund contributions and any earnings of the Regional Advertising Fund for any costs associated with advertising, marketing, public relations, promotional programs and materials (which may be national or regional in scope) and/or any other activities that we believe would benefit the System, including the following: advertising campaigns in various media; point-of-purchase materials; review of locally-produced ads; free standing inserts; brochures; purchasing and/or developing promotional materials; market research, including secret shoppers; sponsorships; design and maintenance of a web site; celebrity endorsements; trade shows; association dues; search engine optimization costs; social media communications; establishment of a third party facility for customizing local advertising; accounting costs; and holding an annual franchise convention. We will not use the Regional Advertising Fund for any activity whose sole purpose is the marketing of franchises; however, you acknowledge that our web site, public relations activities, social media communications, community involvement activities and other activities that may be supported by the Regional Advertising Fund may contain information about franchising opportunities. You agree to participate in all advertising, marketing, promotions, research, public relations and other programs instituted by the Regional Advertising Fund.
- 8.4.3 We will separately account for each Regional Advertising Fund, but we do not need to segregate any Regional Advertising Fund monies from our other monies. We are not required to have an independent audit of the Regional Advertising Fund completed. We may spend in any fiscal year an amount greater or less than the aggregate contribution of all applicable Taco Cabana Restaurants to a particular Regional Advertising Fund during that year or cause the Regional Advertising Fund to invest any surplus for its future use or distribute any surplus to then-current franchisees who contributed to the Regional Advertising Fund and restaurants operated by us or our affiliates. (A Regional Advertising Fund will reimburse us for any monies advanced by us.) If we spend in any fiscal year an amount greater than the aggregate contribution of Taco Cabana Restaurants to a Regional Advertising Fund, we may advance monies to the Fund and be reimbursed from contributions made in the next fiscal year. We will make available an unaudited statement of contributions and expenditures for a Regional Advertising Fund no sooner than 90 days after the close of our fiscal year to franchisees who contribute to that Regional Advertising Fund and who make a written request for a copy.
- **8.4.4** We may terminate and subsequently restart any Regional Advertising Fund. On termination, we may spend the remaining monies in accordance with Section 8.4.1 or return the monies to the restaurants that contributed to that Regional Advertising Fund on a pro rata basis.

# 8.5 Local Marketing.

- **8.5.1** A portion of your Advertising Obligation will be dedicated to local marketing in advertising media and other selected advertising and marketing endeavors ("**Local Marketing**"). The exact amount of your Advertising Obligation allocated to Local Marketing shall be set forth in **Exhibit A**. The portion of your Advertising Obligation allocated to Local Marketing will be directed and controlled by us.
- **8.5.2** You may not conduct your own any advertising or marketing without first obtaining our advanced written consent, which we have the right to grant or deny for any reason or no reason. If we permit you to conduct your own advertising or marketing, you agree to conduct all marketing in a dignified manner and in accordance with the standards and requirements we specify periodically. You agree that all advertising and promotional materials must bear the Marks in the form, color, location and manner that we prescribe. We will have the final decision on all creative development of advertising and promotional messages. You also agree that we own all advertising and promotional materials developed by you, and you will take all actions we specify to vest ownership in us. Any additionally advertising or marketing that we permit you to conduct will not reduce your Advertising Obligation.
- **8.5.3** You must submit to us in writing for our prior acceptance all sales promotion materials and advertising that have not been prepared, or previously accepted, by us and identify the proposed media in which you propose to place the advertising. If our written consent to the material and its proposed placement is not received within 14 days after the date that we received the material, the material may not be used. In no event will your advertising or marketing materials contain any statement or material that, in our sole discretion, may be considered: (a) in bad taste or offensive to the public or to any group of persons; (b) defamatory of any person or an attack on any competitor; (c) to infringe upon the use, without permission, of any other persons' trade name, trademark, service mark or identification; (d) inconsistent with the public image of the System or the Marks; or (e) not in accordance with any federal or state law. We reserve the right to require you to discontinue the use of any advertising or marketing materials.
- **8.6** Required Listings and Advertising. We may require that you list and advertise with us and other franchisees on electronic yellow pages directories and other on-line directories as we may designate. We reserve the right to place, and subsequently modify or remove, those on-line listings and advertisements on your behalf. Unless we choose to pay for these listings and advertisements from the Brand Fund, you will pay your pro rata share of the cost.
- **8.7 Changes in the Advertising Obligation.** We have the right, following written notice to you, to reallocate the Advertising Obligation and to increase the Advertising Obligation to the cap set forth in Section 6.3.
- **8.8 Point of Sale Materials.** If we develop any point-of-sale materials (other than through the use of Brand Fund monies), we may offer to sell those to you at our cost.
- 8.9 Social Media. You agree not to promote, offer or sell any products or services relating to the Franchised Restaurant through, or use any of the Marks in, any form of electronic communications, including Internet web sites, social networking sites, applications or other future technological avenues that enable users to create and share content or to participate in social networking (collectively, "Social Media"), without our prior written consent, which we have the right to withhold for any or no reason. You must, at all times, comply with our Social Media policy, as modified periodically. You expressly acknowledge and agree that your use of any Social Media relating to the Franchised Restaurant is subject to our prior written approval. Unless approved by us, you may not establish an independent site or page on any Social Media. If we authorize you to have and/or design a site or a page on any Social Media for the Franchised Restaurant, your site and page may only be accessed from our site or page, and we may prohibit links between your site or page and any other site, unless we otherwise advise you. You acknowledge that any use of Social Media by you with respect to

the Franchised Restaurant constitutes advertising and promotion subject to this Section 8, and you agree to comply with any additional policies and standards we issue from time to time with respect to Social Media. You acknowledge that any copyright in your sites or pages on any Social Media will be deemed to be owned by us, and you agree to sign any documents that we reasonably deem necessary to affirm our ownership of the copyright. If necessary, you must ensure cooperation with us by any web site service provider or web site hosting company with which you do business. You represent that you have or will have the lawful right to use any proprietary materials of others that appear on your sites or pages on Social Media. We periodically may provide to you content for your sites and pages on Social Media, including copy, news stories and photographs. We must consent to any changes to your sites and pages on Social Media.

**8.10 Public and Media Relations.** You agree that you will not issue any press or other media releases or other communications without our prior consent. As a franchisee of the System, you agree to only participate in internal and external communications activities that create goodwill, enhance our public image and build the Taco Cabana brand.

# 9 Training.

# 9.1 Initial Training Program.

- **9.1.1** Before the Franchised Restaurant opens for business, you (or your Operating Principal), the Franchised Restaurant's general manager, and at least two other managerial personnel whom we designate (collectively, "**Trained Personnel**") must attend, and become certified in, the Initial Training Program ("**ITP**"). We will provide the ITP at a Taco Cabana Restaurant operated by us or our affiliates, at our designated training facilities and/or online. We also have the right to provide some or all of the ITP remotely via the Internet or some other communication format. We will not authorize the Franchised Restaurant to open until those employees whom we designate have attended and successfully completed (as determined by us in our sole discretion) the ITP.
- **9.1.2** Upon our request, as a prerequisite to the ITP, attendees must successfully complete (as determined by us), at your cost, a ServSafe food safety training and certification program currently administered by the National Restaurant Association Educational Foundation.
- **9.1.3** You must pay all salaries, benefits, travel, living and other expenses incurred by the Trained Personnel while attending the training. We have the right to dismiss from the ITP any person whom we believe will not perform acceptably in the position for which he/she has been hired, and you must provide a suitable replacement within 30 days of dismissal. In that event, we have no obligation to extend the Opening Date. Additional employees who desire to attend the ITP may do so, subject to space availability and your payment of a training fee as determined by us.
- **9.1.4** If any of your Trained Personnel fail to complete the ITP to our satisfaction, we may terminate this Agreement pursuant to Section 19.1.1 or permit the applicable Trained Personnel to repeat the ITP at the next available scheduled training session; however, we will have no obligation to extend the Opening Date. We may charge a fee as determined by us if any Trained Personnel are required to repeat the ITP.

# 9.2 Ongoing Training; Training of Replacement Personnel.

**9.2.1** We may require you and your Trained Personnel to attend and complete satisfactorily various training courses that we periodically choose to provide at the times and locations that we designate, as well as periodic conventions, regional meetings, and conferences that we specify. We may charge a fee as determined by us for these courses and meetings. You will be required to pay all salaries, benefits, travel, living and other expenses incurred by you and your employees during all training courses and programs.

- **9.2.2** We require that, subject to space availability, any replacement Operating Principal and manager satisfactorily complete our training programs within the time period required by the Manual. We may charge a fee for these training programs as determined by us.
- **9.2.3** You understand and agree that any specific ongoing training or advice we provide does not create an obligation (whether by course of dealing or otherwise) to continue to provide that specific training or advice, all of which we may discontinue and modify from time to time.
- **9.3 Training Materials and Methods.** All training materials that we provide to you remain our property. We have the right to provide training programs in person, on DVD, via the Internet and/or an Intranet, in printed or other electronic format or by other means, as we determine.

# 10 Additional Services Offered by Us.

- **10.1 Pre-Opening Assistance.** We may provide consultation and advice to you, as we deem appropriate, with regard to construction or renovation and operation of the Franchised Restaurant, building layout, furnishings, fixtures and equipment plans and specifications, employee selection and training, purchasing and inventory control and those other matters that we deem appropriate.
- **10.2 Opening Assistance.** We may, in our sole discretion, provide assistance in opening the Franchised Restaurant and in training your employees as we deem appropriate in light of your needs and the availability of our personnel. If we determine that you require opening assistance for the Franchised Restaurant beyond that which we deem reasonable, we have the right to charge you a fee for that additional assistance.
- 10.3 Post-Opening Assistance. We periodically, as we deem appropriate, will advise and consult with you regarding the operation of the Franchised Restaurant. We, as we believe appropriate, will make available to you information regarding the System and new developments, techniques and improvements in the areas of restaurant design, implementation of technology, operations, management, menu-development, sales and customer service, marketing and other areas. We may provide these services through visits by our representatives to the Franchised Restaurant or your offices (although we are not obligated to make any visits), the distribution of printed or filmed material, an Intranet or other electronic communication, meetings or seminars, training programs, telephone communications or other forms of communications.

# 11 Manual.

- 11.1 We will furnish you with one copy of, or provide electronic access to, the Manual, on loan, for as long as this Agreement remains in effect. (As used in this Agreement, the term Manual also includes all written and electronic correspondence from us regarding the System, other publications, materials, drawings, memoranda, videotapes, CDs, DVDs, audio tapes, and electronic media that we from time to time may provide to you.) The Manual contains detailed standards, specifications, instructions, forms, reports and procedures for management and operation of the Franchised Restaurant. We reserve the right to furnish all or part of the Manual to you in electronic form or online (including via an Intranet) and establish terms of use for access to any restricted portion of our web site.
- 11.2 You acknowledge that we own the copyright in the Manual and that all copies of the Manual in your possession remain our property. You agree to treat the Manual, training materials and any other manuals or materials created or authorized by us for use with the System as secret and confidential. You agree not to copy, duplicate, record or otherwise reproduce the Manual or other materials provided by us, in whole or in part. In addition, you agree not to make any confidential information or materials supplied by us available to any unauthorized person without our prior written consent.

11.3 We periodically may amend the Manual by letter, email, bulletin, DVD, CD, videotape, audio tapes, software or other forms of communication. We also reserve the right to replace the entire Manual with an updated version at our sole discretion. You agree to keep your copy of the Manual up-to-date, to acquire all equipment and related services to do so and to comply with each new or changed standard promptly upon receipt of notice from us. If a dispute relating to the contents of the Manual develops, our copy of the Manual maintained at our principal office controls. You agree to operate the Franchised Restaurant at all times in strict conformity with the Manual.

# 12 Operations.

- **12.1** Compliance with Standards. In recognition of the mutual benefits that come from maintaining the System's reputation for quality, you agree to comply with all mandatory specifications and procedures set forth periodically in the Manual or otherwise in writing. You acknowledge that the appearance, Trade Dress, services and operation of the Franchised Restaurant are important to us and all Taco Cabana Restaurant franchisees.
- 12.2 System Modifications. We have the right to periodically change the System, including modifications to the Manual, the menu, the required equipment, the signage, the Marks and the Trade Dress. You must accept, use or display in the Franchised Restaurant any such System changes and make those expenditures as the System changes require. We also have the right to vary System standards in particular instances as we deem appropriate in our Reasonable Business Judgment.
- 12.3 Authorized Products and Services. You may offer for sale and sell in the Franchised Restaurant only the products, services and brands that we have designated in the Manual or otherwise in writing. You must offer all items that we designate as mandatory. We may also designate some items as optional. We may change the mandatory and optional menu items, recipes, ingredients and other products and services in our sole discretion. We may require that you sell certain brands and prohibit you from selling other brands. You may sell products only in the varieties, weights, sizes, forms and packages that we have designated. You must use only authorized ingredients and follow our recipes in the preparation of menu items. You may not use the Franchised Location for the sale or display of items not authorized by us.
- **12.3.1** Within 15 days after we provide written notice to you, you must begin selling any newly authorized menu items (or using any newly authorized ingredients) and cease selling any menu item that is no longer authorized (or using any ingredient that is no longer authorized); however, if we determine in our Reasonable Business Judgment that the discontinued menu item or ingredient could pose a hazard to the public or prove detrimental to the System, you must cease selling or using that item or ingredient immediately. All food, beverages and merchandise authorized for sale at the Franchised Restaurant must be offered for sale under the name that we specify.
- 12.3.2 We periodically will provide you suggested retail prices for the products and services offered at the Franchised Restaurant and, to the extent permitted by applicable law, we may require that you adhere to our suggested prices, including maximum prices. If you have a suggestion for a new menu item or ingredient (or for a change to an authorized menu item or ingredient) or you wish to participate in a test market program, you must notify us before you implement any such change or commence any such program. You may not add or modify any menu item or participate in a test market program without first obtaining our prior written approval, which we can withhold for any or no reason.
- 12.4 Market Research and Testing. We may periodically conduct market research and testing to determine consumer trends and the salability of new food products and services. You must cooperate with us in connection with the conduct of those test marketing programs at your own expense and you must comply with our procedures that we establish from time to time in connection with those programs as set forth in the Manual, including your obligation to keep appropriate records and report their results to us.

12.5 Your Development of System Improvements. If you develop any new concepts, processes, improvements (including new menu items or ingredients) or materials relating to the System or any other developments relating to the System, you must promptly notify us and provide us with all information regarding the new concept, process, improvement, development or material, all of which will become our property and may be incorporated into the System without any payment to you. You, at your expense, promptly must take all actions deemed necessary or desirable by us to vest in us ownership of those concepts, processes or improvements.

# 12.6 Sourcing of Products and Services.

- 12.6.1 We have the right to require that all food and non-food products, supplies, equipment and services that you purchase for use, sale or resale in the Franchised Restaurant: (a) meet specifications that we establish from time to time; (b) be purchased only from suppliers to whom we have consented (which may include us and our affiliates); and/or (c) be purchased only from a single source or from a limited number of designated sources (which may include us and our affiliates). To the extent that we establish specifications, require our consent to suppliers or designate specific suppliers for particular items, we will publish our requirements in the Manual or otherwise in writing. We have developed and may continue to develop certain proprietary food products that will be prepared by or for us according to our proprietary special recipes and formulas, and you agree to purchase those food products developed by us pursuant to a special recipe or formula only from us, our affiliates or a third party designated and licensed by us to prepare and sell those products. We may create purchasing restrictions to control the quality and selection, and ensure the consistency, of menu items, ingredients and other merchandise; to consolidate System purchases to reduce costs or ensure availability of products; or for other valid business reasons.
- **12.6.2** You may not engage in "grey market" activities in which you take advantage of any group purchasing arrangements for Taco Cabana Restaurants to purchase products that you then resell to purchasers outside of the System or use in a business outside of the System.
- 12.6.3 We and our affiliates may earn income on sales of products, ingredients and/or supplies to you. If we or our affiliates receive any rebates, commissions or other payments from third-party suppliers based on your purchases from them, we may retain the rebates, commissions or other payments. You agree that we are entitled to that income and consideration.
- 12.6.4 If you would like to purchase other products or services from a supplier to whom we have not consented, you must submit a written request for consent. We have the right to inspect the proposed supplier's facilities and test samples of the proposed products. You agree to pay to us a reasonable fee, not to exceed the actual cost of the inspection and testing the proposed product or evaluating the proposed supplier, including personnel and travel costs, whether or not the product or supplier is accepted. We have the right to grant, deny or revoke consent to products, services and suppliers at any time upon written notice to you. We will notify you of our decision as soon as practicable following our evaluation. We reserve the right to reinspect the facilities and products of any accepted supplier and revoke acceptance upon the supplier's failure to meet any of our then-current criteria.
- 12.7 Upkeep of the Franchised Restaurant. You must maintain the interior and exterior of the Franchised Restaurant and all fixtures, furnishings, signs and equipment in first-class condition and in the highest degree of cleanliness, orderliness, sanitation and repair in accordance with the requirements of the System and the Manual and the lease or sublease for the Franchised Location (if applicable). Expenditures in connection with signage (including point of sale, exterior and interior signage) and equipment (including equipment needed to prepare new menu items) are considered a maintenance expenditure (whether for repair or replacement) under this Section rather than a refurbishment expenditure under Section 12.8. There is no limitation on the amount that you may be required to spend for repairs and maintenance. You may not make

any alteration, addition, replacement or improvement in, or to, the interior or exterior of the Franchised Restaurant without our prior written consent.

**12.8 Refurbishment.** In addition to ordinary maintenance and upkeep, we have the right to require you to undertake structural changes, remodeling, refurbishment and renovations and other modifications to the Franchised Restaurant to conform to the design, Trade Dress, color schemes and presentation of the Marks that we are then requiring of new Taco Cabana Restaurants. You must undertake a refurbishment of the Franchised Restaurant every 5 years from the prior remodel (or 5 years after the Opening Date if you have not yet refurbished.)

# 12.9 Maximum Operation of the Franchised Restaurant.

- 12.9.1 During the Term, you must use the Franchised Location solely for the operation of the Franchised Restaurant and maintain sufficient inventories, adequately staff each shift with qualified employees and continuously operate the Franchised Restaurant at its maximum capacity and efficiency for the minimum number of days and hours set forth in the Manual or as we otherwise specify in writing (subject to the requirements of local laws and licensing requirements).
- 12.9.2 You must immediately resolve any customer complaints regarding the quality of food or beverages, service and/or cleanliness of the Franchised Restaurant or any similar complaints. When any customer complaints cannot be immediately resolved, you must use your best efforts to resolve the customer complaints as soon as practical and, whenever feasible, give the customer the benefit of the doubt. If we, in our Reasonable Business Judgment, determine that our intervention is necessary or desirable to protect the System or the goodwill associated with the System, or if we, in our Reasonable Business Judgment, believe that you have failed adequately to address or resolve any customer complaints, we may, without your consent, resolve any complaints and charge you an amount sufficient to cover our reasonable costs and expenses in resolving the customer complaints, which amount you must pay to us immediately on demand.
- 12.10 Employees. You have sole responsibility for all employment decisions and functions related to the Franchised Restaurant, including hiring, firing, compensation, benefits, work hours, work rules, training, recordkeeping, supervision and discipline of employees. You must enforce all dress and appearance standards for employees that we may establish. We may, from time to time, based upon our experience, provide you guidance in human resource matters such as hiring and scheduling. This guidance is provided as a resource only, and you will be entirely free to not adopt our suggestions, in your sole discretion. You must maintain a competent, conscientious, trained staff with enough members to operate the Franchised Restaurant in compliance with our standards. You must verify that your employees meet all state and local requirements for certification and meet all prerequisites for employment in the United States.

#### 12.11 Management Supervision.

- **12.11.1** The Franchised Restaurant must at all times be under the personal, on-premises supervision of the Operating Principal, a manager or an assistant manager. At all times that the Franchised Restaurant is open for business, at least one person must be on site who has been trained in ServSafe as required by Section 9.1.2 and completed any other locally-required safety or health training.
- 12.11.2 The Franchised Restaurant must employ two managerial personnel each of whom have met our training requirements for their position. Prior to participation in the ITP, you must provide us such information we request regarding your initial (and any subsequent) managerial personnel, each of whom must be accepted by us before they can assume the applicable position and who must devote full-time and best efforts to supervising the operation of the Franchised Restaurant. You must also provide to us, prior to participation in the ITP, that information we request regarding your initial (and all subsequent) managerial personnel, each of whom must be accepted by us before he can assume that position.

**12.11.3** You must appoint an individual to serve as your Operating Principal. The Operating Principal: (a) must be accepted by us, (b) must be a 10% Owner if the Operating Principal is a partner in more than one Taco Cabana Restaurant, or must be a 25% Owner if the Operating Principal is only an Owner in the Franchised Business; (c) must live within a reasonable driving distance of the Franchised Restaurant, and (d) must devote full-time and best efforts to supervising the operation of the Franchised Restaurant and other Taco Cabana Restaurants that you operate. The Operating Principal must remain active in overseeing the operations of the Franchised Restaurant, including without limitation, regular, periodic visits to the Franchised Restaurant and sufficient communications with us to ensure that the Franchised Restaurant's operations comply with the operating standards as promulgated by us from time to time in the Manual or otherwise in written or oral communications. The Operating Principal as of the Effective Date is identified in **Exhibit A**. The Operating Principal must complete the ITP, have authority over all business decisions related to the Franchised Restaurant and have the authority to bind you in your dealings with us. We will provide all services to, and communicate primarily with, the Operating Principal.

You must obtain our prior written consent before you change the Operating Principal. If the Operating Principal no longer qualifies, you must designate another qualified person to act as the Operating Principal within 30 days after the date the prior Operating Principal ceases to be qualified. We will advise you whether we have consented to the new Operating Principal within a reasonable time after receipt of your notice. If we do not consent, you will have 15 days from your receipt of our decision to designate another person to act as Operating Principal who satisfies the preceding qualifications.

12.12 Insurance. You must maintain in full force and effect that insurance which you determine to be necessary, which must include at least the types of insurance and the minimum policy limits we specify in the Manual or otherwise in writing. Each insurance policy must be written by an insurance company that maintains an "A+" or better rating by the latest edition of Best's Insurance Rating Service (or another rating service designated by us). The insurance policy or policies must carry the types and amounts of coverage as specified in the Manual, protect you, us and our respective past, present and future officers, directors, managers, members, owners, employees, representatives, consultants, attorneys and agents. We and any entity with an insurable interest designated by us must be named as additional insureds in the policy or policies (statutory policies excepted). Each policy must include a waiver of subrogation in our favor. We may require additional types of coverage or increase the required minimum amount of coverage upon reasonable notice. Your obligation to obtain coverage is not limited in any way by insurance that we maintain. You must provide us with certificates of insurance evidencing the required coverage and proof of payment therefor no later than the date you sign this Agreement. The evidence of insurance must include a statement by the insurer that the policy or policies will not be canceled or materially altered without at least 30 days' prior written notice to us. If you fail to obtain and maintain insurance coverage as required by this Agreement, we have the right, but not the obligation, to obtain the required insurance on your behalf and to charge you for the cost of the insurance, plus a reasonable fee for our services in procuring the insurance.

12.13 Inspections; Guest Satisfaction. We and our designees have the right, but not the obligation, at any time during normal business hours to: (a) conduct inspections of (and photograph and record) the Franchised Location and the Franchised Restaurant; (b) interview your employees, suppliers and customers; and (c) review your business records, including those maintained electronically or off-premises. We can initiate these actions (collectively, "QA Audits") with or without prior notice to you, except that prior notice is required for a financial examination or audit as provided in Section 7.4. You must reimburse us for all costs and expenses incurred in connection with the QA Audits. You must cooperate by giving our representatives unrestricted access and rendering that assistance as they may reasonably request. If we notify you of any deficiencies after a QA Audit, you must promptly take steps to correct them.

**12.13.1** You agree to participate in programs initiated to verify customer satisfaction and/or your compliance with all operational and other aspects of the System, including (but not limited to) an 800 number, secret shoppers or other programs as we may require. We will share the results of these programs, as

they pertain to the Franchised Restaurant, with you. You will reimburse us for all costs related to the Franchised Restaurant associated with any and all of these programs.

#### 12.14 Taxes.

- **12.14.1** You must promptly pay when due all taxes levied or assessed (including, without limitation, unemployment and sales taxes) and all accounts and other indebtedness of every kind incurred by you in the operation of the Franchised Restaurant. If any taxes, fees or assessments are imposed on us by reason of our acting as franchisor or licensing the Marks, you must reimburse us the amount of those taxes, fees or assessments within 30 days after receipt of an invoice from us.
- **12.14.2** In the event of any bona fide dispute as to your liability for taxes assessed or other indebtedness, you may contest the validity or the amount of the tax or indebtedness in accordance with procedures of the taxing authority or applicable law; however, in no event will you permit a tax sale or seizure by levy of execution or similar writ or warrant, or attachment by a creditor, to occur against the Franchised Restaurant and/or the Franchised Location (or any improvements thereon).
- 12.15 Compliance with Laws and Good Business Practices. You must secure and maintain in force in your name all required licenses, permits and certificates relating to the operation of the Franchised Restaurant. You must operate the Franchised Restaurant in full compliance with all applicable laws, ordinances and regulations, including those governing or relating to the handling of food products, immigration and discrimination, occupational hazards and health insurance, employment laws, including workers' compensation insurance, unemployment insurance and the withholding and payment of federal and state income taxes, social security taxes and sales taxes. You must notify us, in writing, within 5 days after: (a) the commencement of any proceeding or the issuance of any decree of any court or government agency that may adversely affect the operation or financial condition of you or the Franchised Restaurant; or (b) receiving any notice of violation of any law, ordinance or regulation relating to health or sanitation at the Franchised Restaurant. In your dealings with customers, suppliers and the public, you will adhere to the highest standards of honesty, integrity, fair dealing and ethical conduct and you will refrain from any business or advertising practice that may harm the goodwill associated with the Marks or the System.
- **12.16** Adoption of Quality and Assurance Programs. You must adopt, at your expense, those customer quality and assurance programs that we specify, including, but not limited to, participation in programs associated with guest satisfaction.
- 12.17 Non-Cash Payment Systems. You must accept debit cards, credit cards, stored value gift cards or other non-cash payment systems specified by us to enable customers to purchase authorized products and you must obtain all necessary hardware and/or software used in connection with these non-cash payment systems. You will reimburse us for all costs associated with those non-cash payment systems as they pertain to the Franchised Restaurant.
- **12.18 Amusement Equipment.** You will not permit at the Franchised Restaurant any juke box, vending or game machine, gum machine, game, ride, gambling or lottery device, coin or token operated machine, or any other music, film or video device not authorized by us.
- **12.19** Advisory Board. We may establish a Franchise Advisory Board. If established, you must actively participate in the Advisory Board. The purpose of the Advisory Board will include, but not be limited to, discussing and evaluating strategies, opportunities, accomplishments, challenges, ideas and concerns for the purpose of advancing the interests of the System. If established, the Advisory Board will serve solely in an advisory capacity and will have no authority to modify our policies and we, in our sole discretion, can accept or reject any opinions or recommendations of the Advisory Board. We may require you to pay your pro rata

share of the expenses of the Advisory Board and we may dissolve and subsequently restart, the Advisory Board.

#### 13 Marks and Trade Dress.

- 13.1 Limited Right to Use. Your right to use the Marks and Trade Dress applies only to the Franchised Restaurant operated at the Franchised Location as expressly provided in this Agreement. We will provide you guidelines for the use of the Marks and Trade Dress. Both during and after the Term, you agree not to directly or indirectly contest or aid in contesting the validity of our rights and/or our affiliates' rights in the Marks or take any action detrimental to our rights in the Marks and Trade Dress.
- 13.2 Acknowledgments. You acknowledge that: (a) the Marks are valid and serve to identify our products, services and Taco Cabana Restaurants; (b) your use of the Marks and Trade Dress under this Agreement does not give you any ownership interest in them; and (c) all goodwill associated with the Marks and Trade Dress inures exclusively to our benefit and is our property. Upon the expiration or termination of the Term, no monetary amount will be attributable to goodwill associated with your activities as a franchisee under this Agreement.
- 13.3 Specific Restrictions on Use. You agree: (a) to use only the Marks and Trade Dress that we designate, and only in the manner we authorize; (b) to use the Marks and Trade Dress only for the operation of the Franchised Restaurant at the Franchised Location and in authorized advertising for the Franchised Restaurant; (c) to operate and advertise the Franchised Restaurant only under the name "Taco Cabana" without prefix or suffix; (d) to display the Marks in the Franchised Restaurant, on the Franchised Location, and on brochures and other printed materials, employee uniforms and vehicles only in the manner that we authorize; (e) not to use the Marks or any names confusingly similar to the Marks as part of your entity or legal name; (f) to permit our representatives to inspect your operations to verify that you are properly using the Marks and Trade Dress; (g) to use the Marks to promote and to offer for sale only the products and services that we have authorized, and not use any of the Marks or Trade Dress in association with any other products, materials or services; (h) not to use or permit the use of the Marks or any names confusingly similar to the Marks as part of any Internet domain name or email address or in the operation of any Internet web site without our prior written consent; (i) not to use the Marks to incur any obligation or indebtedness on our behalf; and (j) to ensure that the Marks bear the "®", "TM", or "SM" symbol, as we prescribe from time to time.
- 13.4 Changes to the Marks. We have the absolute right to change, discontinue, or substitute for any of the Marks and to adopt new Marks for use with the System without any liability for any impact to the System. You agree to implement any such change at your own expense, regardless of the reason for the change or the cost to you of the change, within the time that we reasonably specify.
- 13.5 Third-Party Challenges. You agree to notify us promptly of any unauthorized use of the Marks or Trade Dress that you suspect or of which you have knowledge. You also agree to inform us promptly of any challenge by any person or entity to the validity of, our ownership of, or our right to license others to use, any of the Marks or Trade Dress. You acknowledge and agree that we have the right, but not the obligation, to initiate, direct and control any litigation or administrative proceeding relating to the Marks or Trade Dress, including, but not limited to, any settlement. You agree to sign all documents and render any other assistance we may deem necessary to the defense or prosecution of any such proceeding.

#### 14 Your Organization.

#### 14.1 Governing Documents.

- **14.1.1** If you are or become a business entity, during the Term, your governing documents must provide that your activities are limited exclusively to the development and operation of the Franchised Restaurant and other restaurants operated by you that are franchised by us and that no Transfer (as defined in Section 16) of an ownership interest in you may be made except in accordance with Section 16. Any stock or other ownership certificates that you issue must bear a conspicuous printed legend to that effect.
- **14.1.2** You represent that you have furnished us with a list of all holders of direct or indirect equity interests in you and their respective percentage interests, as well as copies of your governing documents (and any amendments thereto) and any other corporate documents, books or records that we may request, and that all information is current as of the Effective Date. Your direct and indirect owners and their respective equity interests as of the Effective Date are identified in **Exhibit A**. You must promptly update this information as changes occur.
- **14.2 Guarantees.** All holders of direct or indirect equity interests in you of 10% or more ("10% Owners") must jointly and severally guarantee your payment and performance under this Agreement and must bind themselves to the terms of this Agreement pursuant to the Guarantee and Assumption of Franchisee's Obligations attached as **Exhibit B** ("**Guarantee**"). If any 10% Owner is married, such 10% Owner's spouse must sign a Guarantee as well. Notwithstanding the foregoing, we reserve the right, in our sole discretion, to waive the requirement that some or all of the 10% Owners execute the Guarantee and/or to limit the scope of the Guarantee. We reserve the right to require that any guarantor provide personal financial statements to us from time to time.
- 14.2.1 You acknowledge that, unless otherwise agreed to in writing by us, it is our intent to have individuals (and not corporations, limited liability companies or other business entities) execute the Guarantee. Accordingly, if any 10% Owner is not an individual, we will have the right to have the Guarantee executed by individuals who have only an indirect ownership interest in you. (By way of example, if a 10% Owner is a corporation, we have the right to require that the Guarantee be executed by individuals who have an ownership interest in that corporation who indirectly own at least a 10% interest in you.)
- 14.2.2 If you, any guarantor or any parent, subsidiary or affiliate of yours holds any interest in other businesses that are franchised by us or our affiliates, at our request, the party who owns that interest will execute, concurrently with this Agreement, a form of cross-guarantee to us and/or our affiliates for the payment of all obligations for those businesses, unless waived in writing by us in our sole discretion. For purposes of this Agreement, an affiliate of yours is any company controlled, directly or indirectly, by you, your owners or your parent or subsidiary.
- 15 Transfers by Us. We have the unrestricted right to transfer or assign ownership interests in us and all or any part of our interest in this Agreement to any person or legal entity without your consent. You agree that we will have no liability after the effective date of the transfer or assignment for the performance of, or any failure to perform, any obligations transferred. We also have the right to delegate to others the performance of any of our duties under this Agreement.

#### 16 Transfers by You.

**16.1 Definition of Transfer.** For purposes of this Agreement, "**Transfer**" means any sale, assignment, transfer, merger, conveyance, give away, pledge, mortgage or other encumbrance, either voluntarily or by operation of law (such as through divorce or bankruptcy proceedings) of: (a) any interest in this Agreement; (b) any interest in the Franchised Restaurant; (c) any interest in the Franchised Location; (d)

the lease, or any interest in the lease, for the Franchised Restaurant; (e) any direct or indirect ownership interests in you; (f) substantially all of the assets of the Franchised Restaurant; or (g) substantially all of your other assets pertaining to your operations under this Agreement.

- 16.2 No Transfer Without our Consent. This Agreement is personal to you, and we have selected you as a franchisee based on our reliance on your (and your direct and indirect owners') character, skill, aptitude and business and financial capacity. Neither you nor any of your direct or indirect owners may undertake any Transfer or permit any Transfer to occur without obtaining our prior written consent. The decision as to whether to consent to a Transfer will be made in the exercise of our business judgment, but our consent will not be unreasonably withheld. We have the right to communicate with and counsel you, your direct and indirect owners and the proposed transferee on any aspect of a proposed Transfer. You agree to provide any information and documentation relating to the proposed Transfer that we reasonably require, including, but not limited to, a copy of the proposed offer. Unless otherwise agreed, we do not waive any claims against the transferring party if we consent to the Transfer.
- **16.3 Transfer Generally.** Except as otherwise provided in this Section 16, if you or your direct or indirect owners propose to undertake a Transfer, the following conditions apply (unless waived by us):

#### **16.3.1** You and your direct and indirect owners must:

- (a) Be in compliance with all obligations to us under this Agreement and any other agreements you have with us, our affiliates, any lenders that have provided financing to you and your major suppliers as of the date of the request for our consent to the Transfer.
- (b) Pay us a Transfer fee equal to \$10,000 to reimburse us for our reasonable costs and expenses incurred in reviewing and documenting the Transfer, including legal and accounting fees, provided that you will not be required to pay us a Transfer fee in connection with a Transfer undertaken in accordance with Section 16.5.
- (c) Advise us in writing of any proposed Transfer, submit (or cause the proposed transferee to submit) a franchise application for the proposed transferee, submit a copy of all contracts and all other agreements or proposals and submit all other information requested by us relating to the proposed Transfer.
- 16.3.2 The proposed transferee and all persons that have any direct or indirect ownership interest in the proposed transferee as we may require must demonstrate to our satisfaction extensive experience in high quality restaurant operations of a character and complexity similar to Taco Cabana Restaurants; must meet the managerial, operational, experience, quality, character and business standards for a franchisee promulgated by us from time to time; must possess a good character, business reputation and credit rating; must have an organization whose management culture is compatible with our management culture; and must have adequate financial resources and working capital to meet the obligations under this Agreement. If the proposed transferee is an existing Taco Cabana Restaurant franchisee, the transferee and its direct and indirect owners must not be in default under their agreements with us and must have substantially complied with our operating standards.
- 16.3.3 An assignment agreement and/or any other agreements that we require to reflect the Transfer must be signed by the transferor and the proposed transferee. In addition, we may require, at our option, that amendments to this Agreement or our then-current standard form of franchise agreement (for an initial term ending on the expiration date of the Term) be signed which may provide for a different Royalty, Advertising Obligation, local marketing requirements and other rights and obligations than those provided in this Agreement. There is no limitation on the extent to which the terms of the amended or new franchise agreement may differ from the terms of this Agreement.

- **16.3.4** We may require that the proposed transferee make arrangements to modernize and upgrade the Franchised Restaurant, at the transferee's expense, to comply with our standards and specifications for new Taco Cabana Restaurants.
- 16.3.5 You, your 10% Owners, all of your guarantors under this Agreement and the transferee must execute a general release, in a form prescribed by us, of all claims against us, our affiliates and our and their past, present and future affiliates, officers, directors, members, managers, shareholders, agents and employees. You and your guarantors under this Agreement will remain liable to us for all obligations arising before the effective date of the Transfer.
- **16.3.6** The price and other proposed terms of the Transfer must not, in our reasonable business judgment, have the effect of negatively impacting the future viability of the Franchised Restaurant.
- 16.3.7 Those persons or entities designated by us, which may include, but are not limited to, those with a direct or indirect ownership interest of 10% or more in the transferee, must execute our thencurrent form of Guarantee.
- **16.3.8** Unless waived by us in our sole discretion, the transferee and those employees of the transferee designated by us will complete the ITP in accordance with Section 9.1. We may charge a fee to provide this training.
- **16.3.9** Each of your affiliates that have entered into a franchise agreement with us must, as of the date of the request for our consent to the Transfer, be in compliance with all obligations to us under those agreements and with all obligations under any agreement with any lenders that have provided financing relating to Taco Cabana Restaurants.
- 16.4 Transfer of Partial Ownership Interest. If you propose to admit a new owner who will have less than a 10% ownership interest in you, remove an existing owner or change the distribution of ownership interests among your owners, you must give us advance notice and submit a copy of all proposed contracts and other information concerning the Transfer that we may request. You must also pay to us a Transfer fee as provided in Section 16.3.1.(b). We may withhold our consent on any reasonable grounds or give our consent subject to reasonable conditions, including the conditions in Sections 14.1, 16.3.1(a), 16.3.3 and 16.3.5. Any new owner must submit a franchise application and, if applicable, execute our then-current form of Guarantee.
- 16.5 Transfer for Convenience of Ownership. If you are an individual or a partnership, we will consent to the Transfer of this Agreement to a business entity that you form for the convenience of ownership, provided that: (a) the entity has and will have no business other than the operation of Taco Cabana Restaurants; (b) you comply with the requirements in Sections 14.1, 16.3.1(a), 16.3.3 and 16.3.5; (c) your owners hold equity interests in the new entity in the same proportion shown on Exhibit A; and (d) the top-level management of the Franchised Restaurant does not change. You will not be required to pay a transfer fee for a Transfer under this Section 16.5.
- 16.6 Transfer upon Death or Permanent Incapacity. If the Transfer is a transfer of direct or indirect ownership interests in you following the death or permanent incapacity (as reasonably determined by us) of a person that has a direct or indirect ownership interest in you, that person's executor, administrator or personal representative must apply to us in writing within 3 months after the death or declaration of permanent incapacity for consent to Transfer the person's interest. The Transfer will be subject to the provisions of Sections 16.3 or 16.4, as applicable. In the case of Transfer by bequest or by intestate succession, if the heirs or beneficiaries are unable to meet the conditions of Section 16.3 or 16.4, as applicable, the executor may Transfer the decedent's interest to another successor that we have accepted, subject to all of the terms and conditions for Transfers contained in this Agreement. If an interest is not disposed of under this Section 16.6

within 6 months after the date of death or appointment of a personal representative, we may terminate this Agreement without opportunity to cure.

- 16.7 Securities Offerings. If you are a business entity, ownership interests in you may be sold, by private or public offering, only with our prior written consent (whether or not our written consent is required under any other provision of this Section), which consent will not be unreasonably withheld. In addition to the requirements of Section 16.3 or 16.4, as applicable, prior to the time that any public offering or private placement of securities or ownership interests in you is made available to potential investors, you, at your expense, must deliver to us a copy of the offering documents. We have the right to have our legal counsel review those offering documents and to provide comments required by us to the offering documents. You must reimburse us for all costs we incur, including reasonable attorneys' fees and internal staff time, to review, negotiate, and accept your offering documents. You, at your expense, also must deliver to us an opinion of your legal counsel (addressed to us and in a form acceptable to us) that the offering documents properly use the Marks and accurately describe your relationship with us and/or our affiliates. The indemnification provisions of Section 23 will also include any losses or expenses incurred by us and/or our affiliates in connection with any statements made by or on behalf of you in any public or private offering of your securities.
- **16.8** Non-Conforming Transfers. Any purported Transfer that is not in compliance with this Section 16 is null and void and constitutes a material breach of this Agreement, for which we may terminate this Agreement without an opportunity to cure. Our consent to a Transfer does not constitute a waiver of any claims that we have against the transferor, nor is it a waiver of our right to demand exact compliance with the terms of this Agreement.
- 16.9 Right of First Refusal. We have the right, exercisable within 30 days after receipt of the notice (and information) specified in Section 16.2 to send written notice to you that we intend to purchase the interest or assets proposed to be transferred. We may assign our right of first refusal to someone else either before or after we exercise it. However, our right of first refusal will not apply with regard to Transfers under Section 16.5 or Transfers to the spouse or adult child of a direct or indirect owner in you (including Transfers to a spouse or adult child as a result of death or permanent incapacity as described in Section 16.6), provided that the transferees meet all criteria required of new franchisees.
- 16.9.1 If the Transfer is proposed to be made pursuant to a sale, we or our designee may purchase the interest proposed to be transferred on the same economic terms and conditions offered by the third-party. Closing on our purchase must occur within 60 days after the date of our notice to the seller electing to purchase the interest (or, if the parties cannot agree on the cash equivalent, as provided in the next sentence, within 60 days after the appraiser's determination). If we cannot reasonably be expected to furnish the same consideration as the third-party, we may substitute the reasonable equivalent in cash. If the parties cannot agree within 30 days on the reasonable equivalent in cash, we and you will each select a professionally certified appraiser and the two selected appraisers will select a third professionally certified appraiser to determine the fair market value of the interest proposed to be transferred. The third appraiser will appraise the fair market value of the interest proposed to be transferred and the value set by the third appraiser will be conclusive. Closing on the purchase will occur within 30 days after our notice to the transferor of the appraiser's determination of fair market value. The appraisers' fees and costs will be borne equally by us and you. Any material change in the terms of the offer from a third party after we have elected not to purchase the seller's interest will constitute a new offer subject to the same right of first refusal as the third party's initial offer.
- 16.9.2 If a Transfer is proposed to be made by gift, we and you will each select a professionally certified appraiser and the two selected appraisers will select a third professionally certified appraiser to determine the fair market value of the interest proposed to be transferred. The third appraiser will appraise the fair market value of the interest proposed to be transferred and the value set by the third appraiser will be conclusive. We may purchase the interest at the fair market value determined by the appraiser. Closing on the purchase will occur within 30 days after our notice to the transferor of the appraiser's determination of

fair market value. The appraisers' fees and costs will be borne equally by us and you. Any material change in the terms of the offer from a third party after we have elected not to purchase the seller's interest will constitute a new offer subject to the same right of first refusal as the third party's initial offer.

- 16.9.3 At any point, we may decline to exercise our rights under this Section. The decision by us and/or our designee to decline to exercise our right of first refusal will not constitute our consent to the proposed Transfer or a waiver of any other provision of this Section 16 with respect to the proposed Transfer. If we elect not to exercise our rights under this Section, the transferor may not complete the Transfer until he has complied with this Section 16. Closing of that Transfer must occur within 90 days of our election (or that longer period as applicable law may require); otherwise, the third-party's offer will be treated as a new offer subject to our right of first refusal. The Transfer is conditional upon our determination that the Transfer was completed on terms substantially the same as those offered to us. You must provide to us copies of all fully-executed agreements and any other information we request relating to the Transfer.
- General Release. You (on behalf of yourself and your parent, subsidiaries and affiliates) (collectively, "Releasors") freely and without any influence forever release and covenant not to sue us, our parent, subsidiaries and affiliates and their and our respective past and present officers, directors, shareholders, members, managers, agents and employees, in their corporate and individual capacities, with respect to any and all claims, demands, liabilities and causes of action of whatever kind or nature, whether known or unknown, vested or contingent, suspected or unsuspected (collectively, "Claims"), that any Releasor now owns, has or claims to have or holds, or may in the future own or hold, or at any prior time owned, held, had or claimed to have, based on, arising out of or relating to, in whole or in part any fact, event, conduct or omission occurring on or before the Effective Date, including, without limitation, Claims arising under federal, state and local laws, rules and ordinances and Claims arising out of, or relating to this Agreement and all other agreements between any Releasor and us or our parent, subsidiaries or affiliates, the sale of any franchise to any Releasor, the development and operation of the Franchised Restaurant and the development and operation of all other restaurants operated by any Releasor that are franchised by us. Releasors expressly agree that fair consideration has been given by us for this release, and they fully understand that this is a negotiated, complete and final release of all claims.

#### 18 Covenants.

- 18.1 Confidential Information. During and after the Term, you may not communicate, divulge or use for any purpose other than the development and/or operation of the Franchised Restaurant any confidential information, knowledge, trade secrets or know-how which may be communicated to you or which you may learn by virtue of this Agreement or the operation of the Franchised Restaurant. You may divulge confidential information only to your professional advisers, your employees who must have access to the information to develop or operate the Franchised Restaurant, your contractors and your landlord, provided that you obtain our prior consent. All information, knowledge and know-how relating to us, our business plans or the System are deemed confidential for purposes of this Agreement, except information that you can demonstrate came to your attention by lawful means prior to our disclosure, or that is or becomes a part of the public domain other than through you. At our request, you will require your employees, and any other person or entity to whom you wish to disclose any confidential information to sign agreements providing that they will maintain the confidentiality of the disclosed information. The agreements, which may be provided by us, must be in a form satisfactory to us and must identify us as a third-party beneficiary with the independent right to enforce the agreements.
- **18.2 Restrictions During the Term.** You acknowledge and agree that: **(a)** pursuant to this Agreement, you will have access to valuable trade secrets, specialized training and confidential information from us and our affiliates regarding the development, operation, management, purchasing, sales and marketing methods and techniques of the System; **(b)** the System and the opportunities, associations and experience established by us and acquired by you under this Agreement are of substantial and material value; **(c)** in

developing the System, we and our affiliates have made and continue to make substantial investments of time, technical and commercial research, and money; (d) we would be unable to adequately protect the System and its trade secrets and confidential information against unauthorized use or disclosure and would be unable to adequately encourage a free exchange of ideas and information among Taco Cabana Restaurants if franchisees were permitted to hold interests in competitive businesses; and (e) restrictions on your right to hold interests in, or perform services for, competitive businesses will not hinder your activities. Accordingly, you agree that, during the Term, you will not, without our prior written consent, either directly or indirectly through any other person or entity:

- **18.2.1** Divert or attempt to divert any business or customer, or potential business or customer, of any Taco Cabana Restaurant to any Competitive Business (as defined in Section 18.2.4).
- **18.2.2** Directly or indirectly own, manage, engage in, advise, make loans to, be employed by, assist or have any interest in any Competitive Business (as defined in Section 18.2.4).
  - **18.2.3** During the Term, there is no geographical limitation on these restrictions.
- 18.2.4 As used in this Agreement, the term "Competitive Business" means any business, store, restaurant or location: (1) whose sales of Tex-Mex and Mexican-style entrees collectively are reasonably likely to account for 10% or more of the food sales of the business in any calendar month; and/or (2) whose trade dress is similar to that used in the System. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the term Competitive Business does not include those businesses in which any of your owners or you have a direct or indirect, legal or beneficial interest and: (a) that had been in operation prior to the date of the first franchise-related agreement between you and us; or (b) that your owners or you had contracted to develop prior to the date of the first franchise-related agreement between you and us, provided those businesses are listed in **Exhibit A** ("Existing Businesses").
- **18.3 Restrictions After Termination, Expiration or Transfer.** In light of your acknowledgments and agreements as set forth in Section 18.2, you agree as follows:
- **18.3.1** For a period of 2 years following the expiration or termination of this Agreement or a Transfer, you covenant and agree that you will not directly or indirectly own, manage, engage in, advise, make loans to, be employed by, assist or have any interest in any Competitive Business that is (or is intended to be) located at or within 10 miles of the Franchised Location or within 2 miles of any other Taco Cabana Restaurant.
- 18.3.2 For a period of 2 years following the expiration or termination of this Agreement or a Transfer, you further covenant and agree that you will not, either directly or indirectly, for yourself, or through, on behalf of, or in conjunction with any person, firm, partnership, corporation, or other entity, sell, assign, lease or transfer the Franchised Location to any person, firm, partnership, corporation, or other entity which you know, or have reason to know, intends to operate a Competitive Business at the Franchised Location. You, by the terms of any conveyance selling, assigning, leasing or transferring your interest in the Franchised Location, must include restrictive covenants as are necessary to ensure that a Competitive Business that would violate this Section is not operated at the Franchised Location for this 2-year period, and you must take all steps necessary to ensure that these restrictive covenants become a matter of public record.
- **18.4 Modification.** We have the right to reduce the scope of any covenant in this Section 18 effective immediately upon your receipt of written notice, and you agree that you will comply with any covenant as so modified, which will be fully enforceable notwithstanding the provisions of Section 26. If any part of these restrictions is found to be unreasonable in time or distance, each month of time or mile of distance may be deemed a separate unit so that the time or distance may be reduced by appropriate order of the court to that deemed reasonable. If, at any time during the 2-year period following expiration or termination of this Agreement or a Transfer, you fail to comply with your obligations under this Section, that period of

noncompliance will not be credited toward your satisfaction of the 2-year obligation. Following the resolution of any dispute regarding the enforceability of this Section that is resolved in our favor, the 2-year period (or that other period as may be deemed reasonable by the court) will run from the date of the resolution.

- **18.5 Applicability.** The restrictions contained in this Section 18 apply to you, all 10% Owners and all guarantors under this Agreement. This Section 18 does not prohibit you, any 10% Owner or any guarantor under this Agreement from having: (a) interests in any other franchise-related agreement with us or our affiliates that remains in effect; or (b) ownership of less than 5% of the outstanding equity securities of any publicly-held corporation, as defined in the Securities and Exchange Act of 1934.
- **18.6 Enforcement.** The existence of any claim you may have against us, whether or not arising from this Agreement, will not constitute a defense to our enforcement of this Section 18. You agree to pay all costs and expenses that we reasonably incur in enforcing this Section 18, including reasonable attorneys' fees. You acknowledge that a violation of the terms of this Section 18 would result in irreparable injury to us for which no adequate remedy at law may be available. Accordingly, you consent to the issuance of an injunction prohibiting any conduct in violation of the terms of this Section 18. Injunctive relief will be in addition to any other remedies that we may have.
- **18.7 Survival.** The terms of this Section 18 will survive the termination or expiration of this Agreement or any Transfer. You and we agree this Section 18 will be construed as independent of any other provision of this Agreement.

#### 19 Default and Termination.

- **19.1 Grounds for Termination.** In addition to the grounds for termination stated elsewhere in this Agreement, we may terminate this Agreement, and the rights granted by this Agreement, by written notice to you, without giving you an opportunity to cure, upon the occurrence of any of the following events:
  - **19.1.1** Any Trained Personnel fail to complete the ITP.
- 19.1.2 You fail to open the Franchised Restaurant for business by the Opening Date, unless we, in our Reasonable Business Judgment, extend this period to address unforeseen construction delays that are not within your control.
- 19.1.3 You are insolvent or unable to pay your creditors (including us); file a petition in bankruptcy, an arrangement for the benefit of creditors or a petition for reorganization; there is filed against you a petition in bankruptcy, an arrangement for the benefit of creditors or petition for reorganization that is not dismissed within 60 days of the filing; you make an assignment for the benefit of creditors; or a receiver or trustee is appointed for you and not dismissed within 60 days of the appointment.
- **19.1.4** Execution is levied against your business or property; suit to foreclose any lien or mortgage against the Franchised Location or equipment of the Franchised Restaurant is instituted against you and is not dismissed within 60 days; or the real or personal property of the Franchised Restaurant is sold after levy thereupon by any sheriff, marshal or constable.
  - **19.1.5** There is a material breach of any obligation under Section 18.
- **19.1.6** We discover that you made a material misrepresentation or omitted a material fact in the information that you furnished to us in connection with our decision to enter into this Agreement.
- **19.1.7** You knowingly falsify any report required to be furnished to us or knowingly make any material misrepresentation in your dealings with us or knowingly fail to disclose any material facts to us.

- **19.1.8** You, any 10% Owner, any guarantor under this Agreement or any of your managers, members, officers or directors is convicted of, or pleads no contest to, a crime that we reasonably believe is likely to harm the reputation of the System or our goodwill.
- **19.1.9** Any Transfer that requires our prior written consent occurs without your having obtained that prior written consent or occurs on terms contrary to or not included in our prior written consent.
- 19.1.10 You, your Operating Principal, any 10% Owner or any other entity that is a Taco Cabana Restaurant franchisee and in which you, your Operating Principal or any 10% Owner have a direct or indirect ownership interest remain in default beyond the applicable cure period under: (a) any other agreement with us or our affiliates; (b) any real estate lease, equipment lease or financing instrument relating to the Franchised Restaurant; or (c) any agreement with any vendor or supplier to the Franchised Restaurant; provided that if the default is not by you, we provide you written notice of the default and 10 days to cure the default.
- **19.1.11** You refuse to permit, or try to hinder, an examination or audit of your books and records or inspection of the Franchised Restaurant or Franchised Location as permitted by this Agreement.
- **19.1.12** Any condition exists with respect to the Franchised Restaurant that, in our reasonable judgment, seriously jeopardizes public health or safety.
- **19.1.13** You lose the right to operate at the Franchised Location and, if applicable, fail to secure our acceptance of another site within the time permitted by Section 2.1.
- **19.1.14** During any 12-month period, you fail to operate the Franchised Restaurant for 3 or more consecutive days, or 5 total days, that you were required to operate the Franchised Restaurant, unless we determine, in our sole discretion, that such failure was beyond your control.
- **19.1.15** An entity that is not a party to this Agreement is operating the Franchised Restaurant without our prior written consent.

#### 19.2 Termination Following Expiration of Cure Period.

- days after written notice of default from us within which to remedy the default and provide evidence of that remedy to us. If any default is not cured within that time, this Agreement will terminate without further notice to you effective immediately upon expiration of that time, unless we notify you otherwise in writing. Notwithstanding the foregoing, if the default cannot be corrected within 30 days, you will have that additional time to correct the default as we believe to be reasonably required (not to exceed 90 days) provided that you begin taking the actions necessary to correct the default during the 30-day cure period and diligently and in good faith pursue those actions to completion. You will be in default under this Section 19.2.1 for any failure to materially comply with any of the requirements imposed by this Agreement or otherwise in writing, or to carry out the terms of this Agreement in good faith.
- 19.2.2 Notwithstanding the provisions of Section 19.2.1, if you fail to pay any monies owed to us or our affiliates when those monies become due and payable and you fail to pay those monies within 10 days after receiving written notice of default, this Agreement will terminate effective immediately upon expiration of that time, unless we notify you otherwise in writing.
- 19.2.3 If you have received 2 or more notices of default under this Agreement within the previous 12 months, we will be entitled to send you a notice of termination upon your next default under this Agreement in that 12-month period without providing you an opportunity to remedy that default.

- **19.2.4** Notwithstanding the foregoing, upon the occurrence of a default under this Section 19.2, in lieu of terminating this Agreement, we may, in our discretion, elect to terminate your limited exclusive rights in the Protected Area and/or to modify the Protected Area.
- 19.3 Statutory Limitations. If any valid, applicable law or regulation of a competent governmental authority with jurisdiction over this Agreement requires a notice or cure period prior to termination longer than set forth in this Agreement, this Agreement will be deemed amended to conform to the minimum notice or cure period required by the applicable law or regulation.

#### **20** Obligations on Termination or Expiration.

- **20.1** Your Obligations. Upon termination or expiration of this Agreement for any reason, unless we direct you otherwise:
- **20.1.1** All rights and licenses granted to you under this Agreement (including, without limitation, rights to use the System, the Manual and the Marks) will immediately terminate and any right, title, and interest claimed by you to any such matters will immediately revert to us without further notice or documentation.
- **20.1.2** You must immediately cease to operate the Franchised Restaurant and may not thereafter, directly or indirectly, represent to the public or hold yourself out as a present or former franchisee of the System.
- **20.1.3** You will immediately and permanently cease to use, in any manner whatsoever, the System, the Marks and the Manual.
- **20.1.4** You must promptly pay all sums owing to us, our affiliates and your suppliers. These sums include, but are not limited to, the Royalty, Advertising Obligation, interest or other fees, damages, expenses and attorneys' fees incurred as a result of your default.
- **20.1.5** You must cease to use in advertising or in any manner the confidential methods, procedures and techniques associated with the System, including all proprietary recipes, ingredients, and processes.
- **20.1.6** You and all persons and entities subject to the restrictions contained in Section 18 will continue to abide by those restrictions and will not, directly or indirectly, take any action that violates those restrictions.
- **20.1.7** Unless we direct you to maintain your existing signage while we determine if we will exercise our option to purchase under Section 21, you must immediately cease to use, by advertising or in any other manner, the "Taco Cabana" name, all other Marks and all other distinctive forms, slogans, signs, symbols, web sites, domain names, email addresses, and devices associated with the System. If you subsequently begin to operate another business, you must not use any reproduction, counterfeit, copy, or colorable imitation of the Marks in connection with that business that is likely to cause confusion, mistake or deception, or which is likely to dilute our exclusive rights in and to the Marks, nor any trade dress or designation of origin or description or representation that falsely suggests or represents an association or connection with us. Within 15 days, you must promptly take those actions as may be necessary to cancel any assumed name registration or equivalent registration, and any domain name registration that contains the "Taco Cabana" name.
- **20.1.8** Unless we direct you to maintain the existing appearance of the Franchised Location while we determine if we will exercise our option under Section 21, you must make modifications or alterations to the Franchised Location and the Franchised Restaurant immediately upon termination or expiration of this

Agreement as necessary to prevent the operation of any business in violation of this Section 20 and any specific additional changes we reasonably request for that purpose. Upon our request, you must return to us, at our cost, any signage that we specify. If you fail to comply with this Section within 30 days following termination or expiration of this Agreement, we have the right to enter the premises, without being guilty of trespass or any other tort, for the purpose of removing signs and any other articles that display the Marks or Trade Dress. You agree to reimburse us on demand for our expenses in making those changes.

- **20.1.9** You must immediately deliver to us all hard copies, and delete all electronic copies, of the Manual and all training materials, marketing materials, records, files, instructions, and correspondence in your possession or control that contain confidential information (as described in Section 18.1). You also must deliver to us all hard copies, and delete all electronic copies, of customer information and customer lists that you have compiled and uninstall any software that we have provided.
- **20.1.10** The limited exclusive rights granted to you in the Protected Area will terminate, and we will have the right to operate, and license others to operate, Taco Cabana Restaurants anywhere in the Protected Area.
- **20.2 Evidence of Compliance.** You will furnish to us, within 30 days after the effective date of termination or expiration, evidence (certified to be true, correct and complete, by an officer, manager or 10% Owner) satisfactory to us of your compliance with Section 20.1.
- **20.3 Other Business Operations.** You will not, except with respect to a Taco Cabana Restaurant franchised by us that is then open and operating pursuant to an effective franchise agreement: (a) operate or do business under any name or in any manner that might tend to give the public the impression that you are connected in any way with us or our affiliates or have any right to use the System or the Marks; (b) make, use or avail yourself of any of the materials or information furnished or disclosed by us or our affiliates under this Agreement or disclose or reveal any such materials or information or any portion thereof to anyone else; or (c) assist anyone not licensed by us to construct or equip a restaurant substantially similar to a Taco Cabana Restaurant.
- **20.4 Listings.** We will have the option, exercisable by written notice within 30 days after the termination or expiration of this Agreement, to take an assignment of all telephone numbers, facsimile numbers, domain names, social media accounts (and associated domain names) or other numbers, names and directory listings (collectively, "**Listings**") associated with any Mark or the Franchised Restaurant, and you must notify the telephone company, all telephone directory publishers, and all domain name registries and Internet service providers of the termination or expiration of your right to use any Listing associated with the Franchised Restaurant, and authorize and instruct their transfer to us or to a third party, at our direction and/or to instruct the telephone company, domain name registries and Internet service providers to forward all calls, e-mails and electronic communications made to your names, numbers or addresses to names, numbers or addresses we specify. If you fail to promptly make these notifications, you agree that we may do so as your attorney in fact. You are not entitled to any compensation from us if we exercise this option.
- 20.5 Lost Revenue Damages. If we terminate this Agreement because of your breach or if you terminate this Agreement without cause, you and we agree that it would be difficult, if not impossible, to determine the amount of damages that we would suffer due to the loss or interruption of the revenue stream we otherwise would have derived from your continued payment of the Royalty and the Brand Fund and Regional Advertising Fund contributions through the remainder of the Term. Therefore, you and we agree that a reasonable estimate of such damages, less any cost savings we might have experienced ("Lost Revenue Damages"), is an amount equal to the net present value of the Royalty and the Brand Fund and Regional Advertising Fund contributions that would have been paid had this Agreement not been terminated, from the date of termination to the earlier of: (a) 3 years following the date of termination; or (b) the scheduled expiration of the Term ("Measurement Period").

- **20.5.1** For the purposes of this Section, Lost Revenue Damages will be calculated as follows: (1) the aggregate of the Royalty, the Brand Fund contribution and Regional Advertising Fund contribution percentages (if any) multiplied by the average monthly Gross Sales of the Franchised Restaurant during the 12 full calendar months immediately preceding the termination date (or, if as of the effective date of termination, the Franchised Restaurant has not been operating for at least 12 full calendar months, we will use the average monthly Gross Sales of all Taco Cabana Restaurants operating during that 12 month period); (2) multiplied by the number of calendar months in the Measurement Period.
- **20.5.2** You agree to pay us Lost Revenue Damages, as damages and not as a penalty, as calculated in accordance with this Section, within 15 days after the effective date of termination, or on any later date that we determine. You and we agree that the calculation described in this Section is a calculation only of the Lost Revenue Damages and that nothing will preclude or limit us from proving and recovering any other damages caused by your breach of this Agreement.

#### 21 Option to Purchase.

- **Scope.** Upon the expiration or termination of this Agreement for any reason, we will have the option to purchase from you some or all of the assets used in the Franchised Restaurant ("Assets"). We may exercise our option by giving written notice to you at any time following expiration or termination up until 30 days after the later of: (a) the effective date of expiration or termination; or (b) the date you cease operating the Franchised Restaurant. As used in this Section 21, Assets means, without limitation, equipment, vehicles, furnishings, fixtures, signs and inventory (non-perishable products, materials and supplies) used in the Franchised Restaurant, all licenses necessary to operate the Franchised Restaurant (if transferable) and the real estate fee simple or the lease or sublease for the Franchised Location. As provided in Section 7.5, customer information and customer lists are owned by us and accordingly are not included within the definition of Assets. Customer information and customer lists will be returned to us without charge upon expiration or termination and you may not sell the information or lists to a third party. We will be entitled to the entry of interlocutory and permanent orders of specific performance by a court of competent jurisdiction if you fail or refuse to timely meet your obligations under this Section 21. We will have the unrestricted right to assign this option to purchase the Assets. We or our assignee will be entitled to all customary representations and warranties that the Assets are free and clear (or, if not, accurate and complete disclosure) as to: (1) ownership, condition and title; (2) liens and encumbrances; (3) environmental and hazardous substances; and (4) validity of contracts and liabilities inuring to us or affecting the Assets, whether contingent or otherwise.
- 21.2 Purchase Price. The purchase price for the Assets ("Purchase Price") will be their fair market value (or, for leased assets, the fair market value of the lease), determined as of the effective date of expiration or termination in a manner that accounts for reasonable depreciation and condition of the Assets; provided, however, that the Purchase Price will take into account the termination of this Agreement. Further, the Purchase Price for the Assets will not contain any factor or increment for any trademark, service mark or other commercial symbol used in connection with the operation of the Franchised Restaurant nor any goodwill or "going concern" value for the Franchised Restaurant. We may exclude from the Assets purchased in accordance with this Section any equipment, vehicles, furnishings, fixtures, signs, and inventory that are not accepted as meeting then-current standards for a Taco Cabana Restaurant or for which you cannot deliver a Bill of Sale in a form satisfactory to us.
- **21.3 Certified Appraisers.** If we and you are unable to agree on the fair market value of the Assets within 30 days after the date you receive our notice expressing our intent to exercise our option to purchase the Assets, we and you will each select a professionally certified appraiser and the two selected appraisers will select a third professionally certified appraiser. The third appraise will appraise the fair market value of the Assets. The value set by the third appraiser will be conclusive and will be the Purchase Price.

- **21.4** Access to Franchised Restaurant. The appraiser will be given full access to the Franchised Restaurant, the Franchised Location and your books and records during customary business hours to conduct the appraisal and will value the leasehold improvements, equipment, furnishings, fixtures, signs and inventory in accordance with the standards of this Section 21. The appraisers' fees and costs will be borne equally by us and you.
- **21.5 Exercise of Option.** Within 10 days after the Purchase Price has been determined, we may exercise our option to purchase the Assets by so notifying you in writing ("**Purchase Notice**"). The Purchase Price will be paid in cash or cash equivalents at the closing of the purchase ("**Closing**"), which will take place no later than 60 days after the date of the Purchase Notice. From the date of the Purchase Notice until Closing:
- **21.5.1** You will operate the Franchised Restaurant and maintain the Assets in the usual and ordinary course of business and maintain in full force all insurance policies required under this Agreement.
- **21.5.2** We will have the right to appoint a manager, at our expense, to control the day-to-day operations of the Franchised Restaurant, and you will cooperate, and instruct your employees to cooperate, with the manager appointed by us.
- **21.5.3** We may require you to close the Franchised Restaurant during that time period without removing any Assets from the Franchised Restaurant.
- **21.6 Due Diligence.** For a period of 30 days after the date of the Purchase Notice ("**Due Diligence Period**"), we will have the right to conduct such investigations as we deem necessary and appropriate to determine: (a) the ownership, condition and title of the Assets; (b) liens and encumbrances on the Assets; (c) environmental and hazardous substances at or upon the Franchised Location; and (d) the validity of contracts and liabilities inuring to us or affecting the Assets, whether contingent or otherwise. You will afford us and our representatives access to the Franchised Restaurant and the Franchised Location at all reasonable times for the purpose of conducting inspections of the Assets; provided that such access does not unreasonably interfere with your operations of the Franchised Restaurant.
- 21.7 Our Rights During Due Diligence Period. During the Due Diligence Period, at our sole option and expense, we may: (a) cause the title to the Assets that consist of real estate interests ("Real Estate Assets") to be examined by a nationally recognized title company and conduct lien searches as to the other Assets; (b) procure "AS BUILT" surveys of the Real Estate Assets; (c) procure environmental assessments and testing with respect to the Real Estate Assets; and/or (d) inspect the Assets that consist of leasehold improvements, equipment, vehicles, furnishings, fixtures, signs and inventory ("Fixed Assets") to determine if the Fixed Assets are in satisfactory working condition. Prior to the end of the Due Diligence Period, we will notify you in writing of any objections that we have to any finding disclosed in any title to lien search, survey, environmental assessment or inspection. If you cannot or elect not to correct any such title defect, environmental objection or defect in the working condition of the Fixed Assets, we will have the option to either accept the condition of the Assets as they exist or rescind our option to purchase on or before the Closing.
- 21.8 Compliance with Law. Prior to the Closing, we and you will comply with all applicable legal requirements, including the bulk sales provisions of the Uniform Commercial Code of the state in which the Franchised Restaurant is located and the bulk sales provisions of any applicable tax laws and regulations. You will, prior to or simultaneously with the Closing, pay all tax liabilities incurred in connection with the operation of the Franchised Restaurant prior to Closing. We will have the right to set off against and reduce the Purchase Price by any and all amounts owed by you to us, and the amount of any encumbrances or liens against the Assets or any obligations assumed by us.

#### 21.9 The Franchised Location.

- **21.9.1** If the Franchised Location is leased and the lease is assigned to us or we sublease the Franchised Location from you, we will indemnify and hold you harmless from any ongoing liability under the lease from the date we assume possession of the Franchised Location, and you will indemnify and hold us harmless from any liability under the lease prior to and including that date.
- **21.9.2** If you own the Franchised Location, we, at our option, will either purchase the fee simple interest or, upon purchase of the other Assets, enter into a lease with you on terms comparable to those for which similar commercial properties in the area are then being leased. The initial term of this lease with you will be at least 20 years with one option to renew for 10 years and the rent will be the fair market rental value of the Franchised Location. If we and you cannot agree on the fair market rental value of the Franchised Location, appraisers (selected in the manner described in Section 21.3) will determine the rental value.
- **21.10** Your Obligations at Closing. At the Closing, you will deliver instruments transferring to us or our assignee: (a) good and merchantable title to the Assets purchased, free and clear of all liens and encumbrances (other than liens and security interests acceptable to us or our assignee), with all sales and other transfer taxes paid by you; (b) all licenses and permits for the Franchised Restaurant that may be assigned or transferred, with appropriate consents, if required; and (c) if applicable, the lease or sublease for the Franchised Location, with appropriate consents, if required. If you cannot deliver clear title to all of the purchased Assets as indicated in this Section, or if there are other unresolved issues, the Closing will be accomplished through an escrow.
- Relationship of the Parties. This Agreement does not create a fiduciary or other special relationship or make you or us an agent, legal representative, joint venturer, joint employer, partner, employee or servant of each other for any purpose. You are not authorized to make any contract, agreement, warranty or representation on our behalf, or to create any obligation, express or implied, on our behalf. During the Term, you agree to hold yourself out to the public as an independent contractor operating the Franchised Restaurant under license from us, and you agree to exhibit a notice to that effect (the location and content of which we reserve the right to specify) in a conspicuous place at the Franchised Restaurant.
- Indemnification. You agree to defend, indemnify, and hold harmless us and our past, present and future affiliates, officers, directors, managers, members, shareholders, agents, attorneys, consultants, and employees against any claims, losses, costs, expenses, liabilities and damages arising directly or indirectly from, as a result of, or in connection with the Franchised Restaurant, as well as the costs of defending against those claims, losses, costs, expenses, liabilities and damages (including, but not limited to, reasonable attorneys' fees, costs of investigation, settlement costs and interest). You promptly will give us written notice of any litigation, proceeding, or dispute filed or instituted against you that could directly or indirectly affect us or any of the other indemnitees under this Section and, upon request, you will furnish us with copies of any documents from those matters as we may request.
- **23.1** With respect to any threatened or actual litigation, proceeding, or dispute that could directly or indirectly affect us or any of the other indemnitees under this Section, we will have the right, but not the obligation, to: (a) choose counsel; (b) direct and control the handling of the matter; and/or (c) settle any claim against the indemnitees. Our exercise of these rights does not affect your obligation to indemnify and hold us harmless in accordance with this Section. This Section will survive the expiration or termination of this Agreement, and applies to claims, losses, costs, expenses, liabilities and damages even if they exceed the limits of your insurance coverage.

#### 24 Consents and Waivers.

- **24.1 Consent.** Whenever our prior written approval, acceptance or consent is required under this Agreement, you agree to make a timely written request to us for that approval, acceptance or consent. Our approval, acceptance or consent must be in writing and signed by an authorized officer or manager to be effective.
- **24.2 No Warranties.** We make no warranties or guarantees upon which you may rely by providing any waiver, approval, consent or suggestion to you in connection with this Agreement and assume no liability or obligation to you therefor, or by reason of any neglect, delay, or denial of any request therefor. We will not, by virtue of any waivers, approvals, consents, advice or services provided to you, assume responsibility or liability to you or to any third parties to which we would not otherwise be subject.
- **24.3 Waivers.** No delay or failure to exercise any right under this Agreement or to insist upon your strict compliance with any obligation or condition, and no custom or practice that differs from the terms of this Agreement, will constitute a waiver of our right to exercise the contractual right or demand your strict compliance with the terms of this Agreement. Our waiver of any particular default does not affect or impair our rights with respect to any subsequent default you may commit. Our waiver of a default by another franchisee does not affect or impair our right to demand your strict compliance with the terms of this Agreement. Our acceptance of any payments due from you does not waive any prior defaults.
- Notices. Notices related to this Agreement will be effective upon receipt (or first rejection) and may be given by any of the following delivery methods: (a) certified or registered mail; (b) U.S. Priority Mail or national commercial delivery service (e.g., UPS, Federal Express); or (c) email (if receipt is verified within 24 hours of transmission). Notices to you and us must be sent to the addresses on the first page of this Agreement; however, we also may send notices addressed to you at the Franchised Location. Email notices must be sent to the email address provided by the party. Either party can change its notice address by informing the other party.
- **Entire Agreement**. Each element of this Agreement is essential and material. This Agreement, the Manual, the documents referred to in this Agreement and the attachments to this Agreement constitute the entire agreement between you and us with respect to the Franchised Restaurant at the Franchised Location and supersede all prior negotiations, representations, correspondence and agreements concerning the same subject matter. Except for our Franchise Disclosure Document, there are no other representations, inducements, promises, agreements, arrangements, or undertakings, oral or written, between the parties relating to the matters covered by this Agreement other than those set forth in this Agreement and in the attachments. No obligations or duties that contradict or are inconsistent with the express terms of this Agreement may be implied into this Agreement. Except as expressly set forth in this Agreement, no amendment, change or variance from this Agreement will be binding on either party unless mutually agreed to by the parties and executed in writing. Notwithstanding the foregoing, nothing in this Agreement is intended to disclaim any representation made in our Franchise Disclosure Document.

#### 27 Severability and Construction.

- **27.1 Severability.** Each provision of this Agreement is severable from the others. If, for any reason, any provision is determined by a court to be invalid, the invalidity will not impair the operation of the remaining provisions of this Agreement. The latter will continue to be given full force and effect and bind us and you and the invalid provision(s) will be deemed not to be a part of this Agreement.
- **27.2 Survival.** Each provision of this Agreement that, expressly, or by reasonable implication, is to be performed, in whole or in part, after the expiration, termination or Transfer of this Agreement will survive expiration, termination or Transfer.

- **27.3 Interpretation.** This Agreement will not be interpreted in favor of or against any party based on a party's sophistication or based on the party that drafted this Agreement. Except as otherwise expressly provided, nothing in this Agreement is intended, or will be deemed, to confer any rights or remedies upon any person or legal entity other than you and us.
- **27.4 Gender and Number.** All references to gender and number will be construed to include such other gender and number as the context may require.
- **27.5 Captions.** All captions in this Agreement are intended solely for the convenience of the parties and none will be deemed to affect the meaning or construction of any provision of this Agreement.
- **27.6 Counterparts and Signatures.** This Agreement may be executed in counterparts, and each copy so executed and delivered will be deemed an original. This Agreement may be signed using electronic signatures, and those signatures will have full legal force and effect.
  - **27.7 Time.** Time is of the essence of this Agreement for each provision in which time is a factor.
- 27.8 Injunctive Relief. Your failure to comply with the terms of this Agreement, including, but not limited to, the failure to fully comply with the restrictions contained in 18 or the failure to comply with all post-termination obligations, is likely to cause irreparable harm to us, our affiliates and the System. Therefore, you agree that, in the event of a breach or threatened breach of any of the terms of this Agreement by you, we will be entitled to declaratory and injunctive relief (both preliminary and permanent) restraining that breach and/or to specific performance without showing or proving actual damages and without posting any bond or security.
- 27.9 Reasonable Business Judgment. Whenever we reserve discretion in a particular area or where we agree to exercise our rights reasonably or in good faith, we will satisfy our obligations whenever we exercise reasonable business judgment ("Reasonable Business Judgment") in making our decision or exercising our rights. Our decisions or actions will be deemed to be the result of Reasonable Business Judgment, even if other reasonable or even arguably preferable alternatives are available, if our decision or action is intended, in whole or significant part, to promote or benefit the System generally even if the decision or action also promotes our financial or other individual interest. Examples of items that will promote or benefit the System include, without limitation, enhancing the value of the Marks, improving customer service and satisfaction, improving product quality, improving uniformity, enhancing or encouraging modernization and improving the competitive position of the System.
- **27.10 Force Majeure.** If the performance of any obligation by you or us under this Agreement is prevented, hindered or delayed by reason of Force Majeure, which cannot be overcome by reasonable commercial measures, your and our respective obligations (to the extent that the you and we, having exercised best efforts, are prevented, hindered or delayed in such performance) will be suspended during the period of the Force Majeure event. The party whose performance is affected by an event of Force Majeure will give prompt written notice of the Force Majeure event to the other party of the Force Majeure event and an estimate as to its duration.

As used in this Agreement, "Force Majeure" means any act of God, strike, lock-out or other industrial disturbance, war (declared or undeclared), riot, epidemic, pandemic, outbreak of disease, fire or other catastrophe, act of any government or a third party and any other cause not within the control of the affected party (including, without limitation, any act of terrorism). The existence of Force Majeure will not affect your obligation to pay us, our affiliates or any supplier any monies owed to us when due. Your inability to obtain financing or pay us any monies owed to us (regardless of the reason) will not constitute Force Majeure.

#### 28 Dispute Resolution.

- **28.1 Choice of Law.** This Agreement and the relationship between the parties is governed by and will be construed in accordance with the laws of the State of Texas. Nothing in this Section is intended, or will be deemed, to make any Texas law regulating the offer or sale of franchises or business opportunities or the franchise relationship applicable to this Agreement if that law would not otherwise be applicable.
- **28.2** Choice of Forum. The parties agree that, to the extent any disputes cannot be resolved directly between them, you must file any suit against us only in the federal or state court having jurisdiction where our principal offices are located at the time suit is filed. We must file suit in the federal or state court located in the jurisdiction where our principal offices are located at the time suit is filed or in the jurisdiction where you reside or do business or where the Franchised Restaurant is or was located or where the claim arose. You consent to the personal jurisdiction of those courts over you and to venue in those courts.
- **28.3 Limitation of Actions.** Any legal action or proceeding (including a proceeding related to the offer and sale of a franchise to you) brought or instituted with respect to any dispute arising from or related to this Agreement or with respect to any breach of the terms of this Agreement must be brought or instituted within a period of 2 years after the initial occurrence of any act or omission that is the basis of the legal action or proceeding, regardless of when discovered. The preceding limitation period does not apply: (a) with respect to payments owed by one party to the other; (b) if prohibited by applicable law; or (c) if applicable law provides for a shorter limitations period.
- 28.4 Mutual Waiver of Jury Trial. You and we irrevocably waive trial by jury in any litigation.
- **28.5** Other Waivers. You and we waive: (a) any right to or claim of punitive, exemplary, multiple or consequential damages against the other in litigation and agrees to be limited to the recovery of actual damages sustained; and (b) any right to participate in any action or proceeding a consolidated, common, representative, group or class basis..
- **28.6** Remedies not Exclusive. Except as provided in Sections 28.1 through 28.5, no right or remedy that the parties have under this Agreement is exclusive of any other right or remedy under this Agreement or under applicable law.
- **28.7 Reimbursement of Costs and Expenses.** If either party brings an action to enforce this Agreement in a judicial proceeding, the party prevailing in that proceeding will be entitled to reimbursement of costs and expenses, including, but not limited to, reasonable accountants', attorneys' assistants' and expert witness fees, the cost of investigation and proof of facts, court costs, other litigation expenses, and travel and living expenses, whether incurred prior to, in preparation for, or in contemplation of the filing of, the proceeding. If we utilize legal counsel (including in-house counsel employed by us) in connection with any failure by you to comply with this Agreement, you must reimburse us for any of the above-listed costs and expenses incurred by us. In any judicial proceeding, the amount of these costs and expenses will be determined by the court and not by a jury.
- **28.8 Rights of Parties are Cumulative.** The parties' rights under this Agreement are cumulative and the exercise or enforcement of any right or remedy under this Agreement will not preclude the exercise or enforcement by a party of any other right or remedy under this Agreement that it is entitled by law or this Agreement to exercise or enforce.
- **28.9 Survival.** The provisions of this Section 28 will survive the expiration, termination or Transfer of this Agreement.

#### 29 Miscellaneous.

- **29.1 Control During Crisis Situation.** If an event occurs at the Franchised Restaurant that has or reasonably may cause harm or injury to customers, guests or employees (*i.e.*, food spoilage/poisoning, food tampering/sabotage, slip and fall injuries, natural disasters, robberies, shootings, Data Breach, etc.) or may damage the Marks, the System or our reputation (collectively "**Crisis Situation**"), you must: (a) immediately contact appropriate emergency care providers to assist it in curing the harm or injury; and (b) immediately inform us by telephone of the Crisis Situation. You must refrain from making any internal or external announcements (*i.e.*, no communication with the news media) regarding the Crisis Situation (unless otherwise directed by us or public health officials).
- 29.1.1 To the extent we deem appropriate, in our sole discretion, we or our designee may control the manner in which the Crisis Situation is handled by the parties, including, without limitation, conducting all communication with the news media, providing care for injured persons and/or temporarily closing the Franchised Restaurant. The parties acknowledge that, in directing the management of any Crisis Situation, we or our designee may engage the services of attorneys, experts, doctors, testing laboratories, public relations firms and those other professionals as we deem appropriate. You and your employees must cooperate fully with us or our designee in our efforts and activities in this regard and will be bound by all further Crisis Situation procedures developed by us from to time hereafter. The indemnification under Section 23 will include all losses and expenses that may result from the exercise by us or our designee of the management rights granted in this Section 29.1.
- **29.2** Compliance with U.S. Laws. You acknowledge that under applicable U.S. law, including, without limitation, Executive Order 13224, signed on September 23, 2001 ("Order"), we are prohibited from engaging in any transaction with any person engaged in, or with a person aiding any person engaged in, acts of terrorism, as defined in the Order. Accordingly, you represent and warrant to us that, as of the Effective Date, neither you nor any person holding any ownership interest in you, controlled by you, or under common control with you is designated under the Order as a person with whom business may not be transacted by us, and that you: (a) do not, and hereafter will not, engage in any terrorist activity; (b) are not affiliated with and do not support any individual or entity engaged in, contemplating, or supporting terrorist activity; and (c) are not acquiring the rights granted under this Agreement with the intent to generate funds to channel to any individual or entity engaged in, contemplating, or supporting terrorist activity, or to otherwise support or further any terrorist activity.
- 29.3 No Guarantee of Success. This Agreement involves significant legal and business rights and risks. We do not guarantee your success. You have not received from us or our affiliates or anyone acting on our behalf any representation of your potential sales, expenses, income, profit or loss. You have conducted an independent investigation of the business contemplated by this Agreement and recognize that the nature of the business conducted by Taco Cabana Restaurants may change over time. The prospect for success of the business undertaken by you is speculative and depends to a material extent upon your personal commitment, capability and direct involvement in the day-to-day management of the business.
- 29.4 Site Acceptance. Acceptance of one or more sites by us and our refusal to accept other sites is not a representation that a Franchised Restaurant at a site we have accepted will achieve a certain sales volume or a certain level of profitability, or that a Franchised Restaurant at a site we have accepted will have a higher sales volume or be more profitable than a site which we did not accept. Acceptance by us merely means that the minimum criteria which we have established for identifying suitable sites for proposed Taco Cabana Restaurants have been met. Because real estate development is an art and not a precise science, you agree that acceptance, or refusal to accept a proposed site by us, whether or not a site review report is completed and/or submitted to us will not impose any liability or obligation on us. The decision whether to develop a particular site is yours, subject to acceptance of the site by us. Preliminary acceptance of a proposed site by any of our representatives is not conclusive or binding, because his or her recommendation may be rejected by us.

- 29.5 No Warranty. We expressly disclaim the making of, and you acknowledge that you have not received, any warranty or guaranty, express or implied, as to the potential volume, profits or success of the business venture contemplated by this Agreement. We do not, by virtue of any approvals or advice provided to you, assume responsibility or liability to you or any third-party to which we would otherwise not be subject. You have not received from us or our affiliates or anyone acting on our behalf any representations other than those contained in our Franchise Disclosure Document provided to you as inducements to enter this Agreement.
- **29.6 Other Agreements.** We will continue to enter into agreements with other franchisees. The manner in which we enforce our rights and the franchisees' obligations under any of those other agreements will not affect our ability to enforce our rights or your obligations under this Agreement.
- **29.7 No Refund.** The Initial Franchise Fee is not refundable for any reason once this Agreement has been signed by you.
- **29.8 System Modification.** We may change or modify the System, from time to time, including the Manual, and you will be required to make such expenditures as those changes or modifications in the System may require.
- **29.9 No Control.** Even though this Agreement contains provisions requiring you to operate the Franchised Restaurant in compliance with the System: (a) we and our affiliates do not have actual or apparent authority to control the day-to-day conduct and operation of your business or employment decisions; (b) neither you nor we intend for us or our affiliates to incur any liability in connection with or arising from any aspect of the System or your use of the System, whether or not in accordance with the requirements of the Manual; and (c) you are the sole employer of your employees and you and we are not joint employers.
- **29.10 Sole Employer.** You will be solely responsible for: (a) hiring, training and supervising efficient, competent and courteous employees of good character for the operation of the Franchised Restaurant; (b) the terms of their employment and compensation; and (c) the proper training of the employees in the operation of the Franchised Restaurant.
- **29.11 Limitations on Exclusivity.** You understand that there are certain limitations to your exclusive rights in the Protected Area during the Term and that, following termination or expiration of the Term, we may develop and operate, or license others to develop and operate Taco Cabana Restaurants at any location in the Protected Area.
- **29.12** No Conflict. Your execution of this Agreement does not and will not conflict or interfere, directly or indirectly, intentionally or otherwise, with the terms of any other agreement with any third party to which you, any of your owners or any affiliate of yours is a party, including, but not limited to, any noncompetition provision.
- **29.13 Jury Waiver.** In the event of a dispute between us, you and we have waived our right to a jury trial.
- **29.14 Receipt of FDD.** You acknowledge that you have received our Franchise Disclosure Document at least 14 days prior to your signing this Agreement or payment of any monies to us, or earlier if required by applicable law.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties have executed this Agreement by their duly authorized representatives.

FRANCHISEE:	TACO CABANA:
	TACO CABANA FRANCHISING, INC.
By:	By:
Print Name:	Print Name:
Title:	Title:
Date:	Date:

#### **EXHIBIT A**

#### FRANCHISE INFORMATION

	Area: The Protected Area will	be:	
Initial Fra	nchise Fee: \$		
	<b>g Obligation:</b> The Advertising led by us as provided in Section		ocated as set forth below, u
	Advertising Expenditure	Percent of Fis Gross Sale Paid/S <sub>1</sub>	es to be
	Brand Fund	T uiu/S	<del>, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , </del>
	Regional Advertising Fu	nd	
	Local Advertising		
	TOTAL ADVERTISING OBLIGATION:		
Technolog	y Fee: \$		
Grand Ope	ening Spend: \$		
	est in you and their respective p		t of all holders of a direct of
equity inter	e A	ddress	Ownership Interes
Nam			

#### 9. Existing Businesses:

Name of Business	Description of Business

#### **EXHIBIT B**

#### GUARANTEE AND ASSUMPTION OF FRANCHISEE'S OBLIGATIONS

In consideration of, and as an inducement to, the	e execution of the Taco Cabana Franchise Agreement
dated as of	_ ("Agreement") by Taco Cabana Franchising, Inc.
("Taco Cabana"), entered into with	("Franchisee"), the undersigned
("Guarantor(s)") hereby personally and unconditionally	agree as follows:

- 1. Guarantee and Assumption of Franchisee's Obligations. Each Guarantor hereby: (A) guarantees to Taco Cabana and its successors and assigns, for the term of the Agreement and thereafter as provided in the Agreement or at law or in equity, that Franchisee and any assignee of Franchisee's interest under the Agreement will: (i) punctually pay and perform each and every undertaking, agreement and covenant set forth in the Agreement and (ii) punctually pay all other monies owed to Taco Cabana and/or its affiliates; (B) agrees to be personally bound by each and every provision in the Agreement, including, without limitation, the provisions of Section 18 and 23; and (C) agrees to be personally liable for the breach of each and every provision in the Agreement.
- General Release. Each Guarantor (if an individual, on behalf of him/herself and his/her heirs, representatives, successors and assigns, and if a business entity, on behalf of itself and its parent, subsidiaries and affiliates) (collectively, "Releasors"), freely and without any influence, forever releases and covenants not to sue Taco Cabana, its parent, subsidiaries and affiliates and their respective past and present officers, directors, managers, members, shareholders, agents and employees, in their corporate and individual capacities, with respect to any and all claims, demands, liabilities and causes of action of whatever kind or nature, whether known or unknown, vested or contingent, suspected or unsuspected (collectively, "Claims"), that any Releasor now owns, has or claims to have or holds, or may in the future own or hold, or at any prior time owned, held, had or claimed to have, based on, arising out of or relating to, in whole or in part, any fact, event, conduct or omissions occurring on or before the date of this Guarantee, including, without limitation, Claims arising under federal, state and local laws, rules and ordinances and Claims arising out of, or relating to this Guarantee, the Agreement and all other agreements between any Releasor and Taco Cabana or its parent, subsidiaries or affiliates, the sale of any franchise to any Releasor, the development and operation of the Franchised Restaurant and the development and operation of all other restaurants operated by any Releasor that are franchised by Taco Cabana or its parent, subsidiaries or affiliates. Releasors expressly agree that fair consideration has been given by Taco Cabana for this release, and they fully understand that this is a negotiated, complete and final release of all claims.
- **3. General Terms and Conditions.** The following general terms and conditions will apply to this Guarantee:
- A. Each Guarantor waives: (i) acceptance and notice of acceptance by Taco Cabana of the foregoing undertakings; (ii) notice of demand for payment of any indebtedness or nonperformance of any obligations hereby guaranteed; (iii) protest and notice of default to any party with respect to the indebtedness or nonperformance of any obligations hereby guaranteed; (iv) any right he/she/it may have to require that an action be brought against Franchisee or any other person as a condition of liability; (v) all rights to payments and claims for reimbursement or subrogation which any of the undersigned may have against Franchisee arising as a result of the execution of and performance under this Guarantee by the undersigned; (vi) any law or statute which requires that Taco Cabana make demand upon, assert claims against or collect from Franchisee or any others, foreclose any security interest, sell collateral, exhaust any remedies or take any other action against Franchisee or any others prior to making any demand upon, collecting from or taking any action against the undersigned with respect to this Guarantee; (vii) any and all other notices and legal or equitable defenses to which he may be entitled; and (vii) any and all right to have any legal action under this Guarantee decided by a jury.

- В. Each Guarantor consents and agrees that: (i) his/her/its direct and immediate liability under this Guarantee will be joint and several; (ii) he/she/it will render any payment or performance required under the Agreement if Franchisee fails or refuses punctually to do so; (iii) such liability will not be contingent or conditioned upon pursuit by Taco Cabana of any remedies against Franchisee or any other person; (iv) such liability will not be diminished, relieved or otherwise affected by any amendment of the Agreement, any extension of time, credit or other indulgence which Taco Cabana may from time to time grant to Franchisee or to any other person including, without limitation, the acceptance of any partial payment or performance or the compromise or release of any claims, none of which will in any way modify or amend this Guarantee, which will be continuing and irrevocable during the term of the Agreement and for so long thereafter as there are monies or obligations owing from Franchisee to Taco Cabana or its affiliates under the Agreement; and (v) monies received from any source by Taco Cabana for application toward payment of the obligations under the Agreement and under this Guarantee may be applied in any manner or order deemed appropriate by Taco Cabana. In addition: (a) each Guarantor acknowledges that the obligations under this Guarantee will continue to remain in force and effect unless Taco Cabana in its sole discretion, in writing, releases him/her/it from this Guarantee; and (b) following any Transfer, the obligations of each Guarantor under this Guarantee will continue to remain in force and effect unless Taco Cabana in its sole discretion, in writing, releases the Guaranter from this Guarantee. Notwithstanding the provisions of the previous sentence, unless prohibited by applicable law, the obligations contained in Sections 18.3 of the Agreement will remain in force and effect for a period of 2 years after any such release by Taco Cabana. A release by Taco Cabana of any Guarantor will not affect the obligations of any other Guarantor.
- **C.** If Taco Cabana brings a legal action to enforce this Guarantee, the prevailing party in that proceeding will be entitled to reimbursement of its costs and expenses, including, but not limited to, reasonable accountants', attorneys' assistants' and expert witness fees, cost of investigation and proof of facts, court costs, other litigation expenses and travel and living expenses, whether incurred prior to, in preparation for or in contemplation of the filing of any such proceeding. In any judicial proceeding, these costs and expenses will be determined by the court and not by a jury.
- **D.** If Taco Cabana utilizes legal counsel (including in-house counsel employed by Taco Cabana or its affiliates) in connection with any failure by the undersigned to comply with this Guarantee, the undersigned will reimburse Taco Cabana for any of the above-listed costs and expenses incurred by it.
- **E.** Upon the death of a Guarantor, the estate will be bound by this Guarantee for all obligations existing at the time of death. The obligations of the surviving Guarantors will continue in full force and effect.
- **F.** This Guarantee will inure to the benefit of and be binding upon the parties and their respective heirs, legal representatives, successors and assigns. Taco Cabana interests in and rights under this Guarantee are freely assignable, in whole or in part, by Taco Cabana. Any assignment will not release the undersigned from this Guarantee.

**G.** Section 28 of the Agreement is incorporated by reference into this Guarantee and all capitalized terms that are not defined in this Guarantee will have the meaning given them in the Agreement.

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, each of the undersigned has hereunto affixed his signature.

**GUARANTORS:** 

# Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_ Print Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_ Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Print Name: \_\_\_\_\_

## EXHIBIT C TACO CABANA LEASE ADDENDUM

THIS ADDENDUM to the Lease Agr	eement dated as of _		
("Lease") between	("Landlord")	and	
("Tenant") is entered into as of the effective da	ate of the Lease.		

#### **RECITALS**:

Pursuant to the Lease, Landlord will lease or has leased to Tenant certain real property as defined in the Lease ("**Premises**") for the operation of a franchised Taco Cabana Restaurant ("**Restaurant**").

Tenant will develop and operate the Restaurant pursuant to a franchise agreement ("**Franchise Agreement**") with Taco Cabana Franchising, Inc. ("**Taco Cabana**"), and the Lease is contingent upon Tenant's execution of the Franchise Agreement with Taco Cabana.

The Franchise Agreement requires, among other things, that the Lease contain certain provisions. Landlord and Tenant desire to modify the Lease to add those required provisions as set forth below.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, Landlord and Tenant agree to amend the Lease as follows:

**1. Effectiveness of Lease Contingent.** Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in the Lease, the effectiveness of the Lease is contingent upon Tenant's execution of the Franchise Agreement.

#### 2. Advance Consent to Assignment.

- **A.** Landlord acknowledges that Tenant alone is responsible for all obligations under the Lease unless and until Taco Cabana or, with Taco Cabana's prior written consent, another Taco Cabana franchisee expressly assumes in writing those obligations and takes actual possession of the Premises.
- **B.** Notwithstanding anything to contrary in the Lease, Landlord hereby consents, without payment of a fee, without the need for further Landlord consent and without any increase in rent or other charges payable to Landlord, to: (1) Taco Cabana's or another Taco Cabana franchisee succeeding to Tenant's interest in the Lease by mutual agreement of Taco Cabana and Tenant, as a result of Taco Cabana's exercise of rights under the Franchise Agreement or following a cure of Tenant's default pursuant to Section 4; and/or (2) the assignment of the Lease to another Taco Cabana franchisee that has entered into a Taco Cabana Franchise Agreement for the Restaurant. Taco Cabana will be released from all liability under the Lease or otherwise accruing after the date of the assignment. Landlord further agrees that all unexercised renewal or extension rights and other rights stated to be personal to Tenant will not be terminated in the event of any assignment, but will inure to the benefit of the applicable assignee.
- 3. Landlord Consent to Use of Proprietary Marks. Landlord consents to Tenant's use of the proprietary signs, distinctive exterior and interior designs, colors and layouts and the trademarks prescribed by Taco Cabana ("Proprietary Marks") and, upon expiration or the earlier termination of the Lease or the Franchise Agreement, consents to permit Tenant, at Tenant's expense, to remove all of those items and other trade fixtures, so long as Tenant makes repairs to the Premises caused by the removal.
- **4. Notice and Cure Rights of Taco Cabana**. Prior to exercising any remedies under the Lease (except in the event of imminent danger to the Premises), Landlord will give Taco Cabana written notice

Taco Cabana Lease Addendum 01/24

of any default by Tenant. Commencing upon Taco Cabana's receipt of the notice, Taco Cabana will have, in addition to the prescribed applicable cure period granted to Tenant, a cure period of no less than: (A) with respect to monetary defaults, 10 days after Taco Cabana's receipt of notice; or (B) with respect to non-monetary defaults, 30 days after Taco Cabana's receipt of notice. Landlord agrees to accept the cure tendered by Taco Cabana as if the same was tendered by Tenant, but Taco Cabana has no obligation to cure the default. Taco Cabana's notice address is Taco Cabana Franchising, Inc.

5. Tenant's De-Identification Rights. Landlord agrees that, following expiration or earlier termination of the Lease or the Franchise Agreement, Tenant will have the right to make those alterations and modifications (including removal and demolition of improvements installed by Tenant or Taco Cabana, if necessary) to the Premises as may be necessary to distinguish to the public the Premises from a Taco Cabana Restaurant and to make those specific additional changes as Taco Cabana may require for that purpose.

- **Taco Cabana's Right to Enter.** Following reasonable notice to Landlord, Taco Cabana will have the right to enter the Premises to make any modifications or alternations necessary to protect the Taco Cabana brand and the Proprietary Marks and have the right, but not the obligation, to cure any Tenant default under the Lease within the time period set forth in Section 4 and charge Tenant for all costs incurred by Taco Cabana in making those modifications or alternations and for curing any default, without being guilty of trespass or other tort. In addition, upon the expiration or earlier termination of the Lease or the Franchise Agreement, if Tenant fails to make the necessary alternations and modifications to the Premises in accordance with this Section 6, Taco Cabana or its designee will have the right to do so.
- 7. Failure to Exercise Term Renewal or Extension. If Tenant fails to exercise, for any reason, any term renewal or term extension right under the Lease, Taco Cabana may exercise that right, and upon Taco Cabana's exercise of that right, Tenant agrees that the Lease will be deemed transferred and assigned to Taco Cabana, effective upon the commencement of the renewal or extension term, without any further action of the parties, and Landlord consents to the transfer and assignment. If Tenant fails to exercise, for any reason, any purchase option or right of first refusal or similar right under the Lease, Taco Cabana may exercise that right, and upon Taco Cabana's exercise of that right, Tenant agrees that the right will be deemed transferred and assigned to Taco Cabana without any further action of the parties, and Landlord consents to that transfer and assignment. Landlord and Tenant acknowledge that Taco Cabana's exercise of the foregoing rights is subject to Tenant's right to exercise those rights, and that if Tenant legally exercises that right within the time permitted under the Lease, Taco Cabana's exercise of the rights, whether before or after Tenant's exercise, will be void.
- **8. Third Party Beneficiary.** Taco Cabana is a third party beneficiary of the Lease and this Addendum and, consequently, will have all right (but not the obligation) to enforce the same. Taco Cabana's acceptance of the Lease (as amended by this Addendum) only indicates that the Lease meets Taco Cabana's minimum criteria, and the parties agree that Taco Cabana's acceptance of the Lease will not, in and of itself, impose any liability or obligation on Taco Cabana.
- **9. Amendments.** Landlord and Tenant agree that the Lease may not be amended without Taco Cabana's prior written consent. Landlord and Tenant agree to provide Taco Cabana (at the same time as sent to the other party) copies of all proposed amendments to the Lease, true and correct copies of the signed amendments and any other material documents, correspondence or notices relating to the Lease or the Premises.

- **10. Application; Conflict; Limited Modification.** The terms of this Addendum will apply during the entire term of the Lease, including any renewal or extension term. To the extent that there is a conflict between the terms of the Lease and this Addendum, the terms of this Addendum will control. Except as expressly modified by this Addendum, the Lease remains unmodified and in full force and effect.
- 11. Counterparts and Signatures. This Addendum may be executed in counterparts, and each counterpart so executed and delivered will be deemed an original. This Addendum may be signed using electronic signatures and records and those signatures will have full legal force and effect.

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, the parties have duly executed, sealed and delivered this Addendum as of the day and year first above written.

TENANT:	LANDLORD:
By:	By:
Print Name:	Print Name:
Title:	Title:
Date:	Date:

## EXHIBIT D MANUAL TABLE OF CONTENTS

The TC Operations Manual is comprised of several reference manuals that fall under the "Ops Manual" umbrella and is designed to provide Operations an efficient way to access up to date information. The majority of content is available digitally on store ipads and chromebooks. Those components are organized as follows (some parts are currently in revision and/or redesign):

Category	Folder	Used for
Operating the	TC Overview	TC history, Core Values, etc.
Restaurant	Service	Guest Service, Counter, Drive Thru
	Administrative	Reporting, Cash management, inventory, scheduling, etc.
	TC Playbook	Operations playbook
	Catering and Off Premise	Catering, online ordering, curbside, TC on Wheels, Driver manuals, Catering for alcohol deliveries, etc.
	Food Safety	Requirements, contaminants, personal hygiene, handwashing, etc.
	Risk, Safety & Security	Policies & procedures (Camera systems, injuries, media relations, Hurricane Preparedness, fire drill procedures, etc.)
	Equipment	Anything equipment related - programming, operating, cleaning, maintenance (stick blenders, pouchmate, GRILLS, LINE, etc.)
	Technology	POS Manual, Corrigo, Crunchtime, iPads, Chromebooks, PODS, scanners, digital menu boards, tech manuals, etc.
	Training & Development	Onboarding, Shift Leader Manager guides, the TC Training process, OJT Guides and Verifications, etc.
	Employee Handbook	Handbook for all Team Members
	HR Policies & Systems	HRIS Manual, HR policies, uniform policy, etc.
	Talent Acquisition	ATS Manual
Delivering the Menu	3.0 Kitchen Skills	Storage, cleaning, using scales, thawing, ice baths, understanding the prep chart, sanitizing produce, timers, Knife skills, Keeping it Safe Playbook, cooling & reheating, etc.
	3.1 TC Recipe Book	Same as current – all recipes for everything we offer (hot prep, cold prep, RTU products, breakfast, everything)
	3.2 Drinks, Alcohol and TABC	Drink station, coffee, tea, margaritas, TABC requirements, etc.

	Job-Aids	All job aids and posters including Accompaniment Chart, Hold Time Chart, Tortilla Size Chart, Cashier job aids , line job aids, smallwares poster, all other learning tools and reference material for ops
	Menu Item Builds	All menu builds and videos
	Plating Guides	All plating and packaging
Executing Promotions & Initiatives	<b>Current New Products</b>	Any file related to the current promotion – videos, plating guides, builds etc.
	Current Initiatives	Gift Card Program, Apraxia Kids, Seasonal, Menu Board Changes, etc.

# EXHIBIT E FINANCIAL STATEMENTS



Report of Independent Auditors and Financial Statements

Taco Cabana Franchising, Inc.

September 30, 2023



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#### **Report of Independent Auditors**

The Stockholder
Taco Cabana Franchising, Inc.

#### Report on the Audit of the Financial Statements

#### **Opinion**

We have audited the financial statements of Taco Cabana Franchising, Inc., which comprise the balance sheet as of September 30, 2023, and the related statements of operations, changes in stockholder's equity, and cash flows for the period from January 17, 2023 (Inception) through September 30, 2023, and the related notes to the financial statements.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements presents fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Taco Cabana Franchising, Inc., as of September 30, 2023, and the results of its operations and its cash flows for the period from January 17, 2023 (Inception) through September 30, 2023, in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAP).

#### **Basis for Opinion**

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAS). Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of our report. We are required to be independent of Taco Cabana Franchising, Inc. and to meet our other ethical responsibilities, in accordance with the relevant ethical requirements relating to our audit. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

#### Responsibilities of Management for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with GAAP, and for the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, management is required to evaluate whether there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about Taco Cabana Franchising, Inc.'s ability to continue as a going concern within one year after the date that the financial statements are available to be issued.

#### Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not absolute assurance and therefore is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with GAAS will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control. Misstatements are considered material if there is a substantial likelihood that, individually or in the aggregate, they would influence the judgment made by a reasonable user based on the financial statements.

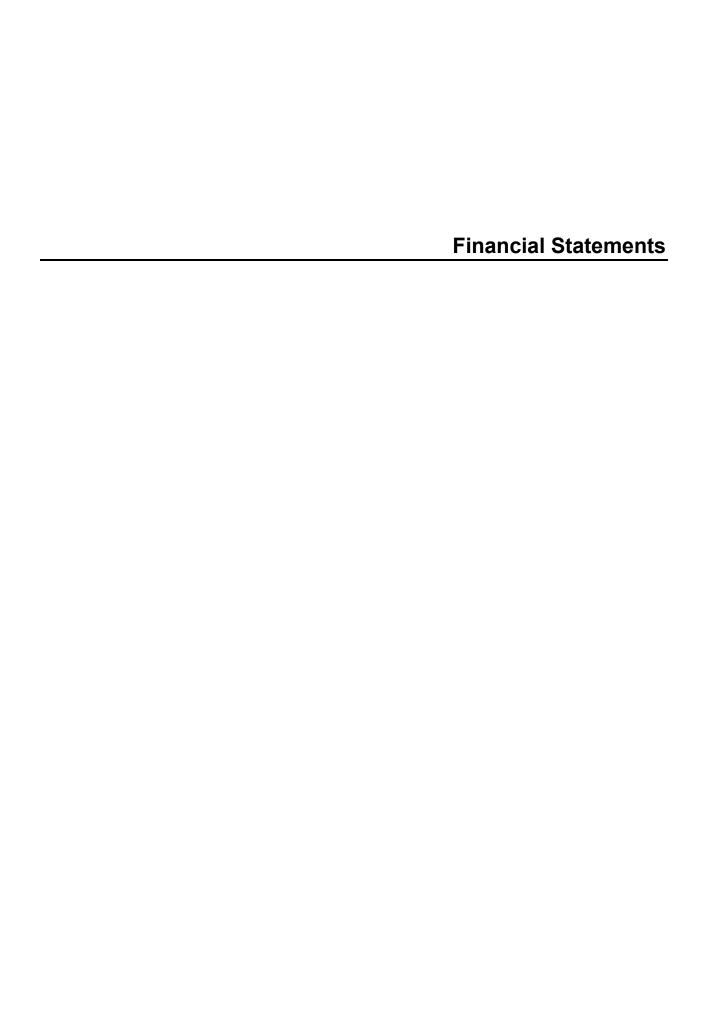
In performing an audit in accordance with GAAS, we:

- Exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit.
- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to
  fraud or error, and design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks. Such
  procedures include examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding the amounts and disclosures
  in the financial statements.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit
  procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an
  opinion on the effectiveness of Taco Cabana Franchising, Inc.'s internal control. Accordingly, no
  such opinion is expressed.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluate the overall presentation of the financial statements.
- Conclude whether, in our judgment, there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about Taco Cabana Franchising, Inc.'s ability to continue as a going concern for a reasonable period of time.

We are required to communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit, significant audit findings, and certain internal control–related matters that we identified during the audit.

Los Angeles, California January 12, 2024

Moss Adams HP



# Taco Cabana Franchising, Inc. Balance Sheet September 30, 2023

#### **ASSETS CURRENT ASSETS** 500,000 Cash \$ 500,000 Total assets **LIABILITIES AND STOCKHOLDER'S EQUITY CURRENT LIABILITIES** Accounts payable and accrued liabilities \$ 5,250 **Total liabilities** 5,250 STOCKHOLDER'S EQUITY Common stock, no par value; 100 shares authorized, issued, and outstanding 494,750 Total liabilities and stockholder's equity 500,000 \$

## Taco Cabana Franchising, Inc. Statement of Operations

### Period from January 17, 2023 (Inception) through September 30, 2023

REVENUES	\$ 
OPERATING EXPENSES  General and administrative	 5,250
NET LOSS	\$ (5,250)

### Taco Cabana Franchising, Inc. Statement of Changes in Stockholder's Equity Period from January 17, 2023 (Inception) through September 30, 2023

	Common Shares Outstanding	Common Stock	Accumulated Deficit	Total Stockholder's Equity
BALANCE, January 17, 2023 (Inception)	-	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Contributions Net loss	100	500,000	- (5,250)	500,000 (5,250)
BALANCE, September 30, 2023	100	\$ 500,000	\$ (5,250)	\$ 494,750

## Taco Cabana Franchising, Inc. Statement of Cash Flows

#### Period from January 17, 2023 (Inception) through September 30, 2023

CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES  Net loss	\$ (5,250)
Changes in operating assets and liabilities Accounts payable	5,250
Net cash provided by operating activities	 
CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES Contributions	 500,000
Net cash provided by financing activities	 500,000
NET CHANGE IN CASH	500,000
CASH, April 12, 2023	
CASH, September 30, 2023	\$ 500,000

## Taco Cabana Franchising, Inc. Notes to Financial Statements

#### Note 1 - Organization and Description of Business

Taco Cabana Franchising, Inc. (the "Company") was incorporated in the state of Texas as a Corporation on January 17, 2023 (Inception), for the purpose of franchising fast casual restaurants under the concept "Taco Cabana." The Company is a wholly owned subsidiary of Taco Cabana, Inc. (the "Parent"), which was founded in San Antonio, Texas, in 1978. An affiliate entity, Texas Taco Cabana, L.P., is the owner of all intellectual property rights in certain systems, trademarks, service marks, and other intellectual property used in the operation of Taco Cabana restaurants (the "TC IP") and has licensed the TC IP and other know-how and confidential information to the Company to develop the Taco Cabana franchise system to offer, sell, and support the franchised business.

The Company will franchise Taco Cabana restaurants throughout the United States through a 10-year royalty free renewable trademark license agreement with its affiliate. The license agreement grants the Company a non-exclusive right to use the TC IP and to license the TC IP to franchisees under franchise agreements. There were no operations of the Company prior to April 12, 2023.

The Parent contributed \$500,000 in cash at the formation of the Company to fund operations on April 12, 2023. The Company has relied on resources from its Parent to support initial operations, and its Parent has committed to continue to provide financial support to the Company sufficient for the Company during the start-up phase of the franchising operations. Until such time that the Company is actively selling franchises and opening up franchise locations, it is dependent on its Parent to provide financial resources, administrative, management, support activities, and various other items. The accompanying financial statements may not be indicative of conditions that would have existed if the Company had been operated as an unaffiliated entity.

The Company is in the business of franchising fast casual Tex-Mex restaurants, which offer a variety of Mexican inspired dishes to their customers. The franchise agreements are typically for 10 years and will require the franchisee to pay an initial franchise fee for each location to be opened. Once the franchise begins operations, the Company will charge a royalty fee and advertising fee of up to 5% and up to 4%, respectively, of the franchise gross sales. As of September 30, 2023, the Company had not sold rights to develop any franchises. The Company does not operate, and has never operated, any Taco Cabana restaurants, and the Company's future operations are dependent upon the success of its Parent's business.

#### Note 2 - Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

Basis of presentation – The Company's financial statements have been prepared in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAP). The Company believes this information includes all adjustments, consisting of normal recurring accruals, necessary to fairly present the financial condition. References to ASC and ASU included hereinafter refer to the Accounting Standards Codification and Accounting Standards Update established by the Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB) as the source of authoritative GAAP.

**Use of estimates** – The preparation of the financial statements, in accordance with GAAP, requires that management makes certain estimates and assumptions. These estimates and assumptions affect the reported amount of assets and the disclosure of contingent assets as of the balance sheet date. The actual results could differ significantly from those estimates.

## Taco Cabana Franchising, Inc. Notes to Financial Statements

**Cash** – The Company considers all highly liquid debt instruments purchased with an original maturity of ninety days or less to be cash equivalents. As of September 30, 2023, the Company carried no cash equivalents.

Concentration of credit risk – Financial instruments, which may potentially be subject to a concentration of credit risk, consist of cash. The Company maintains substantially all of the day-to-day operating cash balances with a major financial institution. For the period from January 17, 2023 (Inception) through September 30, 2023, the cash balance was in excess of Federal Depository Insurance Corporation insurance limits. The Company has experienced no loss or lack of access to cash in its operating account.

**Fair value measurements** – The Company's financial instruments, none of which are held for trading purposes, include only cash. Management estimates that the fair value of all financial instruments at September 30, 2023, do not differ materially from the aggregate carrying values of its financial instruments recorded in the accompanying financial statements.

**Income taxes** – The Company accounts for income taxes in accordance with ASC 740, *Income Taxes*, which prescribes an asset and liability approach. Under the asset and liability method, deferred income taxes are recognized for the tax consequences of "temporary differences" by applying enacted statutory rates applicable to future years to the difference between the financial statement carrying amounts and the tax basis of existing assets and liabilities. The effect on deferred taxes of a change in tax rates is recognized in income in the period that includes the enactment date. A valuation allowance is established to reduce net deferred tax assets to the amount expected to be realized.

**General and administrative** – General and administrative expenses consist primarily of professional services.

**Subsequent events** – Subsequent events are events or transactions that occur after the balance sheet date but before the financial statements are available to be issued. The Company recognizes in the financial statements the effects of all subsequent events that provide additional evidence about conditions that existed at the date of the balance sheet, including the estimates inherent in the process of preparing the financial statements. The Company's financial statements do not recognize subsequent events that provide evidence about conditions that did not exist at the date of the balance sheet but arose after the balance sheet date and before the financial statements are available to be issued.

The Company has evaluated subsequent events through January 12, 2024, which is the date the financial statements were available to be issued, and concluded that there were no additional events or transactions that need to be disclosed.

#### Note 3 - Stockholder's Equity

The Company is authorized to issue one class of stock to be designated as common stock. As of September 30, 2023, the total number of shares authorized, issued, and outstanding is 100 with no par value. Each holder of shares of common stock is entitled to one vote for each share of common stock. Dividends or other distributions are determined by the Board of Directors. To date, no such dividends or other distributions have occurred. Upon liquidation, each holder of common stock is entitled to receive an amount per share as defined in the Articles of Incorporation (Liquidation Amount).



Report of Independent Auditors and Financial Statement

Taco Cabana Franchising, Inc.

April 12, 2023



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#### **Report of Independent Auditors**

The Stockholder
Taco Cabana Franchising, Inc.

#### Report on the Audit of the Financial Statement

#### Opinion

We have audited the accompanying balance sheet of Taco Cabana Franchising, Inc., as of April 12, 2023, and the related notes to the balance sheet (collectively, the Financial Statement).

In our opinion, the accompanying Financial Statement presents fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Taco Cabana Franchising, Inc., as of April 12, 2023, in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

#### **Basis for Opinion**

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAS). Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statement section of our report. We are required to be independent of Taco Cabana Franchising, Inc. and to meet our other ethical responsibilities, in accordance with the relevant ethical requirements relating to our audit. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

#### Responsibilities of Management for the Financial Statement

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the Financial Statement in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, and for the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of the Financial Statement that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the Financial Statement, management is required to evaluate whether there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about Taco Cabana Franchising, Inc.'s ability to continue as a going concern within one year after the date that the Financial Statement is available to be issued.

#### Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statement

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the Financial Statement as a whole is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not absolute assurance and therefore is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with GAAS will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control. Misstatements are considered material if there is a substantial likelihood that, individually or in the aggregate, they would influence the judgment made by a reasonable user based on the Financial Statement.

In performing an audit in accordance with GAAS, we:

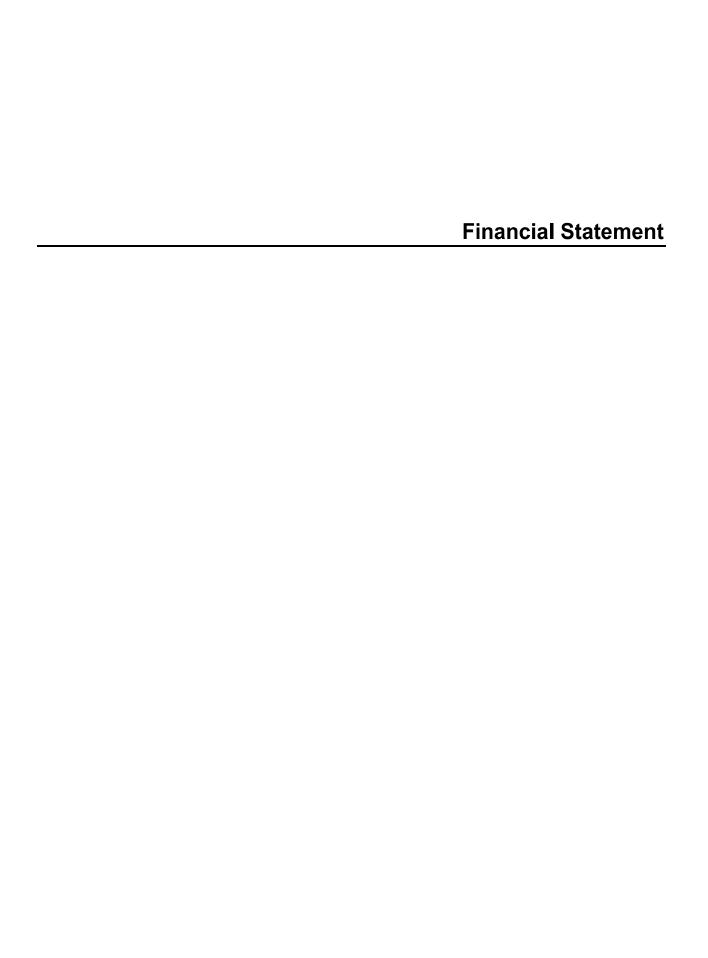
- Exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit.
- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the Financial Statement, whether due to
  fraud or error, and design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks. Such
  procedures include examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding the amounts and disclosures
  in the Financial Statement.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit
  procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an
  opinion on the effectiveness of Taco Cabana Franchising, Inc.'s internal control. Accordingly, no
  such opinion is expressed.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluate the overall presentation of the Financial Statement.
- Conclude whether, in our judgment, there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about Taco Cabana Franchising, Inc.'s ability to continue as a going concern for a reasonable period of time.

We are required to communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit, significant audit findings, and certain internal control—related matters that we identified during the audit.

Los Angeles, California

Moss Adams IIP

April 19, 2023



#### Taco Cabana Franchising, Inc. Balance Sheet April 12, 2023

ASSETS	
CURRENT ASSETS Cash	\$ 500,000
Total assets	\$ 500,000
LIABILITIES AND STOCKHOLDER'S EQUITY	
STOCKHOLDER'S EQUITY	
Common stock, no par value; 100 shares	
authorized, issued and outstanding	\$ 500,000
Total liabilities and stockholder's equity	\$ 500,000

## Taco Cabana Franchising, Inc. Notes to Financial Statement

#### Note 1 - Organization and Description of Business

Taco Cabana Franchising, Inc. (the "Company"), was incorporated in the state of Texas as a C Corporation on January 17, 2023 (inception), for the purpose of franchising fast casual restaurants under the concept "Taco Cabana." The Company is a wholly owned subsidiary of Taco Cabana, Inc. (the "Parent"), which was founded in San Antonio, Texas, in 1978. An affiliate entity, Texas Taco Cabana, L.P., is the owner of all intellectual property rights in certain systems, trademarks, service marks, and other intellectual property used in the operation of Taco Cabana restaurants (the "TC IP"), and has licensed the TC IP and other know-how and confidential information to the Company to develop the Taco Cabana franchise system to offer, sell, and support the franchised business.

The Company will franchise Taco Cabana restaurants throughout the United States through a 10- year royalty free renewable trademark license agreement with its affiliate. The license agreement grants the Company a non-exclusive right to use the TC IP, and to license the TC IP to franchisees under franchise agreements. There were no operations of the Company prior to April 12, 2023.

The Parent contributed \$500,000 in cash at the formation of the Company to fund operations on April 12, 2023. The Company has relied on resources from its Parent to support initial operations, and its Parent has committed to continue to provide financial support to the Company sufficient for the Company during the start-up phase of the franchising operations. Until such time that the Company is actively selling franchises and opening up franchise locations, it is dependent on its Parent to provide financial resources, administrative, management, support activities, and various other items. The accompanying financial statement may not be indicative of conditions that would have existed if the Company had been operated as an unaffiliated entity.

The Company is in the business of franchising fast casual Tex-Mex restaurants, which offers a variety of Mexican inspired dishes to their customers. The franchise agreements are typically for 10 years and will require the franchisee to pay an initial franchise fee for each location to be opened. Once the franchise begins operations, the Company will charge a royalty fee and advertising fee of up to 5% and up to 4%, respectively, of the franchise gross sales. As of April 12, 2023, the Company had not sold rights to develop any franchises. The Company does not operate, and has never operated any Taco Cabana restaurants, and the Company's future operations are dependent upon the success of its Parent's business.

#### Note 2 – Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

Basis of presentation – The Company's financial statement has been prepared in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (U.S. GAAP). The Company believes this information includes all adjustments, consisting of normal recurring accruals, necessary to fairly present the financial condition as of April 12, 2023. References to ASC and ASU included hereinafter refer to the Accounting Standards Codification and Accounting Standards Update established by the Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB) as the source of authoritative U.S. GAAP.

**Use of estimates** – The preparation of the financial statement, in accordance with U.S. GAAP, requires that management makes certain estimates and assumptions. These estimates and assumptions affect the reported amount of assets and the disclosure of contingent assets as of the balance sheet date. The actual results could differ significantly from those estimates.

## Taco Cabana Franchising, Inc. Notes to Financial Statement

Cash – The Company considers all highly liquid debt instruments purchased with an original maturity of ninety days or less to be cash equivalents. As of April 12, 2023, the Company carried no cash equivalents.

Concentration of credit risk – Financial instruments, which may potentially be subject to a concentration of credit risk, consists of cash. The Company maintains substantially all of the day-to-day operating cash balances with a major financial institution. The cash balance is in excess of Federal Depository Insurance Corporation ("FDIC") insurance limits. The Company has experienced no loss or lack of access to cash in its operating account.

Fair value measurements – The Company's financial instruments, none of which are held for trading purposes, include only cash. Management estimates that the fair value of all financial instruments at April 12, 2023, do not differ materially from the aggregate carrying values of its financial instruments recorded in the accompanying financial statement.

**Income taxes** – The Company accounts for income taxes in accordance with ASC 740, *Income Taxes*, which prescribes an asset and liability approach. Under the asset and liability method, deferred income taxes are recognized for the tax consequences of "temporary differences" by applying enacted statutory rates applicable to future years to the difference between the financial statement carrying amounts and the tax basis of existing assets and liabilities. The effect on deferred taxes of a change in tax rates is recognized in income in the period that includes the enactment date. A valuation allowance is established to reduce net deferred tax assets to the amount expected to be realized.

**Subsequent events** – Subsequent events are events or transactions that occur after the balance sheet date but before the financial statement is available to be issued. The Company recognizes in the financial statement the effects of all subsequent events that provide additional evidence about conditions that existed at the date of the balance sheet, including the estimates inherent in the process of preparing the financial statement. The Company's financial statement does not recognize subsequent events that provide evidence about conditions that did not exist at the date of the balance sheet but arose after the balance sheet date and before the financial statement is available to be issued.

The Company has evaluated subsequent events through April 19, 2023, which is the date this financial statement was available to be issued, and concluded that there were no additional events or transactions that need to be disclosed.

#### Note 3 – Stockholder's Equity

The Company is authorized to issue one class of stock to be designated as common stock. As of April 12, 2023 the total number of shares authorized, issued, and outstanding is 10 with no par value. Each holder of shares of common stock is entitled to one vote for each share of common stock. Dividends or other distributions are determined by the Board of Directors. To date, no such dividends or other distributions have occurred. Upon liquidation, each holder of common stock is entitled to receive an amount per share as defined in the Articles of Incorporation (Liquidation Amount).

## EXHIBIT F ADDITIONAL INFORMATION REQUIRED BY CERTAIN STATES

# ADDENDUM TO FRANCHISE DISCLOSURE DOCUMENT, FRANCHISE AGREEMENT, AND DEVELOPMENT AGREEMENT FOR CERTAIN STATES FOR TACO CABANA FRANCHISING, INC.

The following modifications are made to the Taco Cabana Franchising, Inc. ("Franchisor," "us," "we," or "our") Franchise Disclosure Document ("FDD") given to Franchisee ("Franchisee," "you," or "your") and may supersede, to the extent then required by valid applicable state law, certain portions of the Franchise Agreement ("Franchise Agreement") and/or Development Agreement ("Development Agreement") between you and us.

#### **CALIFORNIA**

THE CALIFORNIA FRANCHISE INVESTMENT LAW REQUIRES THAT A COPY OF ALL PROPOSED AGREEMENTS RELATING TO THE SALE OF THE FRANCHISE BE DELIVERED TOGETHER WITH THE FRANCHISE DISCLOSURE DOCUMENT.

Item 3 of the Franchise Disclosure Document is amended by the addition of the following language:

Neither Taco Cabana Franchising, Inc. nor any person identified in Item 2 of the Franchise Disclosure Document is subject to any currently effective order of any national securities association or national securities exchange, as defined in the Securities Exchange Action of 1934, 15 U.S.C.A.78a, et seq., suspending or expelling such persons from membership in such association or exchange.

California Business and Professions Code Sections 20000 through 20043 provide rights to the franchise concerning termination, transfer or non-renewal of a franchise. If the franchise agreement contains a provision that is inconsistent with the law, the law will control.

The franchise agreement provides for termination upon bankruptcy. This provision may not be enforceable under federal bankruptcy law (11 U.S.C.A. Section 101 and following). The franchise agreement contains a covenant not to compete, which extends beyond the termination of the franchise. This provision may not be enforceable under California law. The franchise agreement contains a liquidated damages clause. Under California Civil Code Section 1671, certain liquidated damages clauses are unenforceable.

Section 18.3 of the Franchise Agreement contains a covenant not to compete which extends beyond the term of the franchise. This provision may not be enforceable under California law.

Section 28.1 of the Franchise Agreement requires application of the laws of the state of Texas. This provision may not be enforceable under California law.

Section 31125 of the Franchise Investment Law requires us to give to you a disclosure document approved by the Commissioner of Financial Protection and Innovation before we ask you to consider a material modification of your Franchise Agreement.

You must sign a general release of claims if you renew or transfer your franchise. California Corporations Code Sections 31512 voids a waiver of your rights under the Franchise Investment Law (California Corporations Code Sections 31000 through 31516.) Business and Professions Code Section

200010 voids a waiver of your rights under the Franchise Relations Act (Business and Professions Code Sections 20000 through 20043).

Our website has not been reviewed or approved by the California Department of Financial Protection and Innovation. Any complaints concerning the content of this website may be directed to the California Department of Financial Protection and Innovation at <a href="https://www.dfpi.ca.gov">www.dfpi.ca.gov</a>.

In the state of California, the highest interest rate permitted by law is ten percent (10%).

No disclaimer, questionnaire, clause or statement signed by a franchisee in connection with the commencement of the franchise relationship shall be construed or interpreted as waiving any claim of fraud in the inducement, whether common law or statutory, or as disclaiming reliance on or the right to rely upon any statement made or information provided by any franchisor, broker or other person acting on behalf of the franchisor that was a material inducement to a franchisee's investment. This provision supersedes any other or inconsistent term of any document executed in connection with the franchise.

Registration of this franchise does not constitute approval, recommendation, or endorsement by the Commissioner of the Department of Financial Protection and Innovation.

#### **HAWAII**

The following is added to the Cover Page:

THIS FRANCHISE WILL BE/HAS BEEN FILED UNDER THE FRANCHISE INVESTMENT LAW OF THE STATE OF HAWAII. FILING DOES NOT CONSTITUTE APPROVAL, RECOMMENDATION OR ENDORSEMENT BY THE DIRECTOR OF COMMERCE AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS OR A FINDING BY THE DIRECTOR OF COMMERCE AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS THAT THE INFORMATION PROVIDED IN THIS FRANCHISE DISCLOSURE DOCUMENT IS TRUE, COMPLETE AND NOT MISLEADING.

THE FRANCHISE INVESTMENT LAW MAKES IT UNLAWFUL TO OFFER OR SELL ANY FRANCHISE IN THIS STATE WITHOUT FIRST PROVIDING TO YOU OR SUBFRANCHISOR AT LEAST SEVEN (7) DAYS PRIOR TO THE EXECUTION BY YOU OR SUBFRANCHISOR OF ANY BINDING FRANCHISE OR OTHER AGREEMENT, OR AT LEAST SEVEN (7) DAYS PRIOR TO THE PAYMENT OF ANY CONSIDERATION BY YOU, WHICHEVER OCCURS FIRST, A COPY OF THE FRANCHISE DISCLOSURE DOCUMENT, TOGETHER WITH A COPY OF ALL PROPOSED AGREEMENTS RELATING TO THE SALE OF THE FRANCHISE.

THIS FRANCHISE DISCLOSURE DOCUMENT CONTAINS A SUMMARY ONLY OF CERTAIN MATERIAL PROVISIONS OF THE FRANCHISE AGREEMENT. THE CONTRACT OR AGREEMENT SHOULD BE REFERRED TO FOR A STATEMENT OF ALL RIGHTS, CONDITIONS, RESTRICTIONS AND OBLIGATIONS OF BOTH US AND YOU.

Registered agent in the state authorized to receive service of process:

Commissioner of Securities of the State of Hawaii Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs Business Registration Division 335 Merchant Street, Room 203 Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

#### **ILLINOIS**

The following information applies to franchises and franchises subject to the Illinois Franchise Disclosure Act of 1987. Item numbers correspond to those in the main body:

Item 17.

The other conditions under which your franchise can be terminated and your rights of nonrenewal may be affected by Illinois Law, 815 Illinois Compiled Statues 705/19 and 705/20.

Item 17(v) of this Franchise Disclosure Document is revised to include the following: "Any provision in the franchise agreement which designates jurisdiction or venue in a forum outside of Illinois may be unenforceable as to any cause of action which otherwise is enforceable in the courts of the State of Illinois."

Item 17(w) of the Franchise Disclosure Document is revised to provide that Illinois law governs the Franchise Agreement.

"Any condition, stipulation, or provision purporting to bind any person acquiring any franchise to waive requirements with any provisions of the Illinois Franchise Disclosure Act or any other law of the State of Illinois is void. This shall not prevent any person from entering into a settlement agreement or executing a general release regarding a potential or actual lawsuit filed under the provisions of the Illinois Franchise Disclosure Act, nor shall it prevent the arbitration of any claims according to the provisions of Title 9 of the United States Code.

Sections 28.1 and 28.2 (*Choice of Law and Choice of Forum*) of the franchise agreement are revised to provide that Illinois law (including the Illinois Franchise Disclosure Act) will govern the Agreement.

Section 19.1 and 19.2 (*Choice of Law and Choice of Forum*) of the Development Agreement are revised to provide that Illinois law (including the Illinois Franchise Disclosure Act) will govern the Agreement.

#### **INDIANA**

Item 13 of the FDD is amended to add the following:

Under Indiana Code Section 23-2-2.7-1(4), we will not accept any rebates from any person with whom you do business or associate in relation to transactions between you and the other person, other than for compensation for services rendered by us, unless the rebate is properly accounted for and submitted to you.

Item 17 of the FDD is amended to add the following:

Indiana Code 23-2-2.7-1(7) makes it unlawful for us to unilaterally terminate your Franchise Agreement unless there is a material violation of the Franchise Agreement and termination is not in bad faith.

Indiana Code 23-2-2.7-1(5) prohibits us to require you to agree to a prospective general release of claims subject to the Indiana Deceptive Franchise Practices Act.

The "Summary" column in Item 17.t. of the FDD is amended to include the following:

Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in this provision, you do not waive any right under the Indiana Statutes with regard to prior representations made by us.

The "Summary" column in Item 17.v. of the FDD is amended to include the following:

Litigation regarding Franchise Agreement in Indiana; other litigation in the Franchisor's Choice of Law State. This language has been included in this Franchise Disclosure Document as a condition to registration. The Franchisor and the Franchisee do not agree with the above language and believe that each of the provisions of the Franchise Agreement, including all venue provisions, is fully enforceable. The Franchisor and the Franchisee intend to fully enforce all of the provisions of the Franchise Agreement and all other documents signed by them, including but not limited to, all venue, choice-of-law, arbitration provisions and other dispute avoidance and resolution provisions and to rely on federal pre-emption under the Federal Arbitration Act.

The "Summary" column in Item 17.w. of the FDD is amended to include the following:

Indiana law applies to disputes covered by Indiana franchise laws; otherwise Franchisor's Choice of Law State law applies.

Despite anything to the contrary in the Franchise Agreement, the following provisions will supersede and apply to all Franchises offered and sold in the State of Indiana:

- 1. The laws of the State of Indiana supersede any provisions of the FDD OR the Franchise Agreement, if such provisions are in conflict with Indiana law.
- 2. The prohibition by Indiana Code 23-2-2.7-1(7) against unilateral termination of the Franchise without good cause or in bad faith, good cause being defined under law as including any material breach of the Franchise Agreement, will supersede the provisions of the Franchise Agreement relating to termination for cause, to the extent those provisions may be inconsistent with such prohibition.
- 4. The covenant not to compete that applies after the expiration or termination of the Franchise Agreement for any reason modified to the extent necessary to comply with Indiana Code 23-2-2.7-1 (9).

#### MARYLAND

The following applies to franchises and franchisees subject to Maryland statutes and regulations. Item numbers correspond to those in the main body:

#### Item 17. The following statements are added to Item 17:

The franchise agreements provide for termination upon bankruptcy. These provisions may not be enforceable under federal bankruptcy law.

Any provisions requiring you to sign a general release of claims against Taco Cabana, including upon renewal or transfer, does not release any claim you may have under the Maryland Franchise Registration and Disclosure Law.

Any claims arising under the Maryland Franchise Registration and Disclosure Law must be brought within 3 years after the grant of the franchise.

A franchisee may bring a lawsuit in Maryland for claims arising under the Maryland Franchise Registration and Disclosure Law.

Each provision of these Additional Disclosures will be effective only to the extent, with respect to such provision, that the jurisdictional requirements of the Maryland Franchise Registration and Disclosure Law are met independently without reference to these Additional Disclosures.

#### Exhibit B – The Development Agreement is amended as follows:

1. The following sentence is added to the end of Sections 9.3.4 and 10:

Any provision requiring you to sign a general release of claims against us does not release any claim you may have under the Maryland Franchise Registration and Disclosure Law.

2. The following sentence is added to the end of Section 19.2:

Notwithstanding the foregoing, you may bring a lawsuit in Maryland for claims arising under the Maryland Franchise Registration and Disclosure Law.

3. The following sentence is added to the end of Section 19.3:

Any claims arising under the Maryland Franchise Registration and Disclosure Law must be brought within 3 years after the grant of the franchise.

4. The following sentence is added to the end of Section 21:

Section 14-226 of the Maryland Franchise Registration and Disclosure Law prohibits a franchisor from requiring a prospective developer to assent to any release, estoppel, or waiver of liability as a condition of purchasing a franchise. Representations in this Agreement are not intended to, nor will they act as a release, estoppel, or waiver of any liability incurred under the Maryland Franchise Registration and Disclosure Law.

- 5. The provisions set forth above will be effective only to the extent that the jurisdictional requirements of the Maryland Franchise Registration and Disclosure Law are met.
- 6. Except as expressly modified by the provisions set forth above, the Development Agreement remains unmodified and in full force and effect.

#### <u>Exhibit C</u> – The Franchise Agreement is amended as follows:

1. The following sentence is added to the end of Sections 2.2.6, 16.3.5 and 17:

Any provision requiring you to sign a general release of claims against us does not release any claim you may have under the Maryland Franchise Registration and Disclosure Law.

2. The following sentence is added to the end of Section 28.2:

Notwithstanding the foregoing, you may bring a lawsuit in Maryland for claims arising under the Maryland Franchise Registration and Disclosure Law.

3. The following sentence is added to the end of Section 28.3:

Any claims arising under the Maryland Franchise Registration and Disclosure Law must be brought within 3 years after the grant of the franchise.

4. The following sentence is added to the end of Section 30:

Section 14-226 of the Maryland Franchise Registration and Disclosure Law prohibits a franchisor from requiring a prospective franchisee to assent to any release, estoppel, or waiver of liability as a condition of purchasing a franchise. Representations in this Agreement are not intended to, nor will they act as a release, estoppel, or waiver of any liability incurred under the Maryland Franchise Registration and Disclosure Law.

- 5. The provisions set forth above will be effective only to the extent that the jurisdictional requirements of the Maryland Franchise Registration and Disclosure Law are met.
- 6. Except as expressly modified by the provisions set forth above, the Franchise Agreement remains unmodified and in full force and effect.

#### **MINNESOTA**

The following applies to franchises and franchisees subject to Minnesota statutes and regulations. Item numbers correspond to those in the main body.

The State Cover Page to the Franchise Disclosure Document and Item 17 are modified by the following language:

"Minn. Stat. § 80C.21 and Minn. Rule 2860.4400(J) prohibit us from requiring litigation to be conducted outside of Minnesota. In addition, nothing in the Franchise Disclosure Document shall abrogate or reduce any of your rights as provided for in Minn. Stat. § 80C, or your rights to any procedure, forum or remedies provided for by the laws of the jurisdiction."

"These franchises have been registered under the Minnesota Franchise Act. Registration does not constitute approval, recommendation, or endorsement by the Commissioner of Commerce of Minnesota or a finding by the Commissioner that the information provided herein is true, complete and not misleading."

"The Minnesota Franchise Act makes it unlawful to offer or sell any franchise in this state which is subject to registration without first providing to the franchisee, at least 7 days prior to the execution by the prospective franchisee of any binding franchise or other agreement, or at least 7 days prior to the payment of any consideration by the franchisee, whichever occurs first, a copy of this Franchise Disclosure Document, together with a copy of all proposed agreements relating to the franchise. This Franchise Disclosure Document contains a summary only of certain material provisions of the franchise agreement. The contract or agreement should be referred to for an understanding of all rights and obligations of both the franchisor and franchisee."

Item 13 of the Franchise Disclosure Document, under the heading "Trademarks" shall be supplemented by the addition of the following paragraph:

"The Minnesota Department of Commerce requires that a franchisor indemnify Minnesota franchisees against liability to third parties resulting from claims by third parties that the franchisee's use of the franchisor's trademark infringes upon the trademark rights of the third party. The franchisor does not indemnify against the consequences of a franchisee's use of a franchisor's trademark except in accordance with the requirements of the franchise agreement, and as a condition of indemnification, the franchisee must provide notice to the franchisor of any such claim immediately and tender defense of the claim to the franchisor. If the franchisor accepts tender of defense, the franchisor has the right to manage the defense of the claim, including the right to compromise, settle or otherwise resolve the claim, or to determine whether to appeal a final determination of the claim."

The last paragraph of Item 17 of the Franchise Disclosure Document shall be supplemented by the addition of the following language:

"Any condition, stipulation or provision, including any choice of law provision, purporting to bind any person who, at the time of acquiring a franchise is a resident of the State of Minnesota or in the case of a partnership or corporation, organized or incorporated under the laws of the State of Minnesota, or purporting to bind a person acquiring any franchise to be operated in the State of Minnesota to waive compliance or which has the effect of waiving compliance with any provision of the Minnesota Franchise Law is void. Taco Cabana Franchising, Inc. will comply with Minn. Stat. § 80C.14, Subds. 3-5, which requires, except in certain specified cases, that a franchisee be given 90 days' notice of termination (with 60 days to cure) and 180 days' notice for nonrenewal of the Franchise Agreement."

"Minnesota Rule 2860.4400(D) prohibits a franchisor from requiring a franchisee to assent to a general release, assignment, novation, or waiver that would relieve any person from liability imposed by Minnesota Statute §§ 80C.01-80C.22; provided this part shall not bar the voluntary settlement of disputes."

The Franchise Agreement is amended as follows:

We will undertake the defense of any claim of infringement by third parties involving the Taco Cabana mark, and you will cooperate with the defense in any reasonable manner prescribed by us with any direct cost of such cooperation to be borne by us.

Minnesota law provides franchisees with certain termination and nonrenewal rights. As of the date of this Franchise Agreement, Minn. Stat. Sec. 80C.14, Subd. 3, 4 and 5 require, except in certain specified

cases, that a franchisee be given 90 days' notice of termination (with 60 days to cure) and 180 days' notice for nonrenewal of the franchise agreement.

Minn. Stat. § 80C.21 and Minn. Rule 2860.4400J prohibit us from requiring litigation to be conducted outside Minnesota. In addition, nothing in the Franchise Disclosure Document or Franchise Agreement can abrogate or reduce any of your rights as provided for in Minnesota Statutes, Chapter 80C, or your rights to any procedure, forum, or remedies provided for by the laws of the jurisdiction.

No Section providing for a general release as a condition to renewal or transfer will act as a release or waiver of any liability incurred under the Minnesota Franchise Act; provided that this part shall not ban the voluntary settlement of disputes.

Each provision of this Addendum is effective only to the extent, with respect to such provision, that the jurisdictional requirements of Minnesota Statutes Sections 80C.01 to 80C.22 are met independently without reference to this addendum.

#### **NEW YORK**

1. The following information is added to the cover page of the Franchise Disclosure Document:

THE FRANCHISOR MAY, IF IT CHOOSES, NEGOTIATE WITH YOU ABOUT ITEMS COVERED IN THE FRANCHISE DISCLOSURE DOCUMENT. HOWEVER, THE FRANCHISOR CANNOT USE THE NEGOTIATING PROCESS TO PREVAIL UPON A PROSPECTIVE FRANCHISEE TO ACCEPT TERMS WHICH ARE LESS FAVORABLE THAN THOSE SET FORTH IN THIS FRANCHISE DISCLOSURE DOCUMENT.

2. The following is added at the end of Item 3:

Except as provided above, with regard to the franchisor, its predecessor, a person identified in Item 2, or an affiliate offering franchises under the franchisor's principal trademark:

- A. No such party has an administrative, criminal or civil action pending against that person alleging: a felony, a violation of a franchise, antitrust, or securities law, fraud, embezzlement, fraudulent conversion, misappropriation of property, unfair or deceptive practices, or comparable civil or misdemeanor allegations.
- B. No such party has pending actions, other than routine litigation incidental to the business, which are significant in the context of the number of franchisees and the size, nature or financial condition of the franchise system or its business operations.
- C. No such party has been convicted of a felony or pleaded nolo contendere to a felony charge or, within the 10-year period immediately preceding the application for registration, has been convicted of or pleaded nolo contendere to a misdemeanor charge or has been the subject of a civil action alleging: violation of a franchise, antifraud, or securities law; fraud; embezzlement; fraudulent conversion or misappropriation of property; or unfair or deceptive practices or comparable allegations.
- D. No such party is subject to a currently effective injunctive or restrictive order or decree relating to the franchise, or under a Federal, State, or Canadian franchise, securities, antitrust, trade regulation or trade practice law, resulting from a concluded or pending action or proceeding brought by a public agency; or is subject to any currently effective order of any national securities association or national securities exchange, as defined in the Securities and Exchange Act of 1934, suspending or expelling such person from membership in such association or exchange; or is subject to a currently effective injunctive or restrictive

order relating to any other business activity as a result of an action brought by a public agency or department, including, without limitation, actions affecting a license as a real estate broker or sales agent.

3. The following is added to the end of the "Summary" sections of Item 17(c), titled "Requirements for franchisee to renew or extend," and Item 17(m), entitled "Conditions for franchisor approval of transfer":

However, to the extent required by applicable law, all rights you enjoy and any causes of action arising in your favor from the provisions of Article 33 of the General Business Law of the State of New York and the regulations issued thereunder shall remain in force; it being the intent of this proviso that the non-waiver provisions of General Business Law Sections 687.4 and 687.5 be satisfied.

- 4. The following language replaces the "Summary" section of Item 17(d), titled "Termination by franchisee": You may terminate the agreement on any grounds available by law.
- 5. The following is added to the end of the "Summary" sections of Item 17(v), titled "Choice of forum", and Item 17(w), titled "Choice of law": The foregoing choice of law should not be considered a waiver of any right conferred upon the franchisor or upon the franchisee by Article 33 of the General Business Law of the State of New York.
- 6. The Development Agreement is amended as follows:
  - A. Any provision in the Development Agreement that is inconsistent with the New York General Business Law, Article 33, Sections 680 695, may not be enforceable.
  - B. The following sentence is added to the end of Section 8:

We will not assign our rights under this Agreement, except to an assignee who in its good faith and judgment is willing and able to assume its obligations under this Agreement.

C. The following sentence is added to the end of Sections 9.3.4 and 10:

Any provision in this Agreement requiring you to sign a general release of claims against us does not release any claim you may have under New York General Business Law, Article 33, Sections 680-695.

D. The following sentence is added to the end of Section 19.1:

Notwithstanding the foregoing, the New York Franchises Law will govern any claim arising under that law.

E. The following sentence is added to the end of Section 20.5:

Our right to obtain injunctive relief exists only after proper proofs are made and the appropriate authority has granted such relief.

F. The provisions set forth above will be effective only to the extent that the jurisdictional requirements of New York General Business Law, Article 33, Section 680 through 695, and of the Codes, Rules, and Regulations of the State of New York, Title 13, Chapter VII, Section 200.1 through 201.16, are met.

- G. Except as expressly modified by the provisions set forth above, the Development Agreement remains unmodified and in full force and effect.
- 7. The Franchise Agreement is revised as follows:
  - A. Any provision in the Franchise Agreement that is inconsistent with the New York General Business Law, Article 33, Sections 680 695, may not be enforceable.
  - B. The following sentence is added to the end of Sections 2.2.6, 16.3.5 and 17:

Any provision in this Agreement requiring you to sign a general release of claims against us does not release any claim you may have under New York General Business Law, Article 33, Sections 680-695.

C. The following sentence is added to Section 15:

We will not assign our rights under this Agreement, except to an assignee who in its good faith and judgment is willing and able to assume its obligations under this Agreement.

D. The following sentence is added to the end of Section 28.1:

Notwithstanding the foregoing, the New York Franchises Law will govern any claim arising under that law.

E. The following sentence is added to the end of Section 29.5:

Our right to obtain injunctive relief exists only after proper proofs are made and the appropriate authority has granted such relief.

- F. The provisions set forth above will be effective only to the extent that the jurisdictional requirements of New York General Business Law, Article 33, Section 680 through 695, and of the Codes, Rules, and Regulations of the State of New York, Title 13, Chapter VII, Section 200.1 through 201.16, are met.
- G. Except as expressly modified by the provisions set forth above, the Development Agreement remains unmodified and in full force and effect

#### NORTH DAKOTA

The following applies to franchises and franchisees subject to North Dakota statutes and regulations. Item numbers correspond to those in the main body:

#### Item 17.

- 1. 17(i): Item 17(i) which requires you to consent to termination or liquidated damages may not be enforceable under Section 51-19-09 of the North Dakota Franchise Investment Law, and is amended accordingly to the extent required by law.
- 2. 17(r): Item 17(r), which restricts competition, is generally considered unenforceable under Section 51-19-09 of the North Dakota Franchise Investment Law, and is amended accordingly to the extent

required by law. Covenants not to compete such as those mentioned in Item 17 are generally considered unenforceable in the State of North Dakota.

- 3. 17(u): Notwithstanding anything contained in Section 28.2 of the Franchise Agreement, any arbitration proceeding will take place in the city nearest to your Business in which the American Arbitration Association maintains an office and facility for arbitration, or at such other location as may be mutually agreed upon by the parties.
- 4. 17(v): Any claims under the North Dakota Franchise Investment Law may be brought in the State of North Dakota. The North Dakota Securities Commissioner has held that requiring franchisees to consent to the jurisdiction of courts outside of North Dakota is unfair, unjust or inequitable within the intent of Section 51-19-09 of the North Dakota Franchise Investment Law.
- 5. You must sign a general release if you renew your franchise. This provision may be unenforceable under Section 51-19-09 of the North Dakota Franchise Investment Law.
  - 6. 17(w): The laws of the State of North Dakota will govern the agreements between the parties.

The Franchise Agreement is revised as follows:

- 1. Notwithstanding anything contained in Section 28 of the Franchise Agreement, any arbitration proceeding must take place in the city nearest to your Business in which the American Arbitration Association maintains an office and facility for arbitration, or at such other location as may be mutually agreed upon by the parties.
- 2. Covenants not to compete such as those mentioned in Section 18.3 of the Franchise Agreement are generally considered unenforceable in the State of North Dakota.
  - 3. Section 28.2 of the Franchise Agreement are revised to include the following information:

The North Dakota Securities Commissioner has held that requiring franchisees to consent to the jurisdiction of courts outside of North Dakota is unfair, unjust or inequitable within the intent of Section 51-19-09 of the North Dakota Franchise Investment Law.

4. Section 28.4 is hereby deleted from the Franchise Agreement, as a waiver of all rights to a trial by jury is considered unenforceable in the State of North Dakota.

The Development Agreement is revised as follows:

- 1. Section 12.2-5, which restricts competition, is generally considered unenforceable under Section 51-19-09 of the North Dakota Franchise Investment Law, and is amended accordingly to the extent required by law. Covenants not to compete such as those mentioned in Section 12.2-5 are generally considered unenforceable in the State of North Dakota.
- 2. Notwithstanding anything contained in Section 19 of the Development Agreement, any arbitration proceeding must take place in the city nearest to your Business in which the American Arbitration Association maintains an office and facility for arbitration, or at such other location as may be mutually agreed upon by the parties.

3. Section 19.2 of the Development Agreement is revised to include the following information:

The North Dakota Securities Commissioner has held that requiring franchisees to consent to the jurisdiction of courts outside of North Dakota is unfair, unjust or inequitable within the intent of Section 51-19-09 of the North Dakota Franchise Investment Law. Further, North Dakota law will govern the Agreement.

#### **OHIO**

The following language will be added to the	e front page of the Franchise Agreement:
<u> </u>	s transaction at any time prior to midnight of the fifth business day the attached notice of cancellation for an explanation of this right.
Initials Date	
NOT	ICE OF CANCELLATION
(enter date of transaction	n)
above date. If you cancel, any payments in executed by you will be returned within ten (notice, and any security interest arising out of available to the seller at your business addres you wish, comply with the instructions of the expense and risk. If you do make the goods 20 days of the date of your notice of cancellar If you fail to make the goods available to the then you remain liable for the performance of mail or deliver a signed and dated copy of the	ithout penalty or obligation, within five (5) business days from the nade by you under the agreement, and any negotiable instrument 10) business days following the seller's receipt of your cancellation of the transaction will be cancelled. If you cancel, you must make ess all goods delivered to you under this agreement; or you may, if the seller regarding the return shipment of the goods at the seller's available to the seller and the seller does not pick them up within ation, you may retain or dispose of them without further obligation. The seller, or if you agree to return them to the seller and fail to do so of all obligations under this agreement. To cancel this transaction, this cancellation notice or any other written notice to Taco Cabana Suite 600, San Antonio, Texas 78232, not later than midnight of the
I hereby cancel this transaction.	Franchisee:
Date:	By:
	Print Name: Its:

#### RHODE ISLAND

The following information applies to franchises and franchises subject to the Rhode Island Franchise Investment Act. Item numbers correspond to those in the main body:

The following statement is added to Item 17:

Section 19-28.1-14 of the Rhode Island Franchise Investment Act provides that: "A provision in a franchise agreement restricting jurisdiction or venue to a forum outside this state or requiring the application of the laws of another state is void with respect to a claim otherwise enforceable under this Act."

This Additional Disclosure will be effective only to the extent, with respect to such provision, that the jurisdictional requirements of the Rhode Island Franchise Investment Act are met independently without reference to this Additional Disclosure.

#### <u>Exhibit B</u> – The Development Agreement is amended as follows:

1. The following language is added to Sections 19.1 and 19.2:

Section 19-28.1-14 of the Rhode Island Franchise Investment Act provides that "A provision in a franchise agreement restricting jurisdiction or venue to a forum outside this state or requiring the application of the laws of another state is void with respect to a claim otherwise enforceable under this Act."

- 2. The provisions set forth above will be effective only to the extent that the jurisdictional requirements of the Rhode Island Franchise Investment Act are met.
- 3. Except as expressly modified by the provisions set forth above, the Development Agreement remains unmodified and in full force and effect.

#### Exhibit C – The Franchise Agreement is amended as follows:

1. The following language is added to Sections 28.1 and 28.2:

Section 19-28.1-14 of the Rhode Island Franchise Investment Act provides that "A provision in a franchise agreement restricting jurisdiction or venue to a forum outside this state or requiring the application of the laws of another state is void with respect to a claim otherwise enforceable under this Act."

- 2. The provisions set forth above will be effective only to the extent that the jurisdictional requirements of the Rhode Island Franchise Investment Act are met.
- 3. Except as expressly modified by the provisions set forth above, the Franchise Agreement remains unmodified and in full force and effect.

#### **VIRGINIA**

The following information applies to franchises and franchises subject to the Virginia retail Franchising Act. Item numbers correspond to those in the main body:

Item 17.

Pursuant to Section 13.1-564 of the Virginia Retail Franchising Act, it shall be unlawful for a franchisor to cancel a franchise without reasonable cause. If any grounds for default or termination stated in the Franchise Agreement does not constitute "reasonable cause," as that term may be defined in the Virginia Retail Franchising Act or the laws of Virginia, that provision may not be enforceable.

Further, any provision in any of the contracts that you sign with us which provides for termination of the franchise upon the bankruptcy of the franchisee may not be enforceable under federal bankruptcy law (11 U.S.C. 101 et. seq.).

#### **WASHINGTON**

### Washington Addendum to the Franchise Disclosure Document, Franchise Agreement, Development Agreement, and Related Agreements

In the event of a conflict of laws, the provisions of the Washington Franchise Investment Protection Act, Chapter 19.100 RCW will prevail.

RCW 19.100.180 may supersede the franchise agreement in your relationship with the franchisor including the areas of termination and renewal of your franchise. There may also be court decisions which may supersede the franchise agreement in your relationship with the franchisor including the areas of termination and renewal of your franchise.

In any arbitration or mediation involving a franchise purchased in Washington, the arbitration or mediation site will be either in the state of Washington, or in a place mutually agreed upon at the time of the arbitration or mediation, or as determined by the arbitrator or mediator at the time of arbitration or mediation. In addition, if litigation is not precluded by the franchise agreement, a franchisee may bring an action or proceeding arising out of or in connection with the sale of franchises, or a violation of the Washington Franchise Investment Protection Act, in Washington.

A release or waiver of rights executed by a franchisee may not include rights under the Washington Franchise Investment Protection Act or any rule or order thereunder except when executed pursuant to a negotiated settlement after the agreement is in effect and where the parties are represented by independent counsel. Provisions such as those which unreasonably restrict or limit the statute of limitations period for claims under the Act, or rights or remedies under the Act such as a right to a jury trial, may not be enforceable

Transfer fees are collectable to the extent that they reflect the franchisor's reasonable estimated or actual costs in effecting a transfer.

Pursuant to RCW 49.62.020, a noncompetition covenant is void and unenforceable against an employee, including an employee of a franchisee, unless the employee's earnings from the party seeking enforcement, when annualized, exceed \$100,000 per year (an amount that will be adjusted annually for inflation). In addition, a noncompetition covenant is void and unenforceable against an independent contractor of a franchisee under RCW 49.62.030 unless the independent contractor's earnings from the party seeking

enforcement, when annualized, exceed \$250,000 per year (an amount that will be adjusted annually for inflation). As a result, any provisions contained in the franchise agreement or elsewhere that conflict with these limitations are void and unenforceable in Washington.

RCW 49.62.060 prohibits a franchisor from restricting, restraining, or prohibiting a franchisee from (i) soliciting or hiring any employee of a franchisee of the same franchisor or (ii) soliciting or hiring any employee of the franchisor. As a result, any such provisions contained in the franchise agreement or elsewhere are void and unenforceable in Washington. The undersigned does hereby acknowledge receipt of this addendum.

#### Specifically:

2. Item 17 of the Franchise Disclosure Document is hereby amended by the addition of the following language:

Washington law RCW 19.100.180(2)(i) and (j) provides certain rights and remedies to franchisees in connection with termination or renewal of a franchise. More specifically, Washington law provides that it is unlawful for a franchisor to:

- (i) Refuse to renew a franchise without fairly compensating the franchisee for the fair market value, at the time of expiration of the franchise, of the franchisee's inventory, supplies, equipment, and furnishings purchased from the franchisor, and good will, exclusive of personalized materials which have no value to the franchisor, and inventory, supplies, equipment and furnishings not reasonably required in the conduct of the franchise business; provided, that compensation need not be made to the franchisee for good will if (i) the franchisee has been given one year's notice of nonrenewal and (ii) the franchisor agrees in writing not to enforce any covenant which restrains the franchisee from competing with the franchisor, provided further, that the franchisor may offset against amounts owed to the franchisee under this subsection any amounts owed by the franchisee to the franchisor.
- (i) Terminate the franchise prior to the expiration of its term except for good cause. Good cause shall include, without limitation, the failure of the franchisee to comply with lawful material provisions of the franchise or other agreement between the franchisor and the franchisee and to cure such default after being given written notice thereof and a reasonable opportunity, which in no event need be more than thirty days to cure such default, or if such default cannot reasonably be cured within thirty days the failure of the franchisee to initiate within thirty days substantial and continuing action to cure such default; provided, that after three willful and material breaches of the same term of the franchise occurring within a twelve-month period, for which the franchisee has been given notice and an opportunity to cure as provided in this subsection, the franchisor may terminate the agreement upon any subsequent willful and material breach of the same term within the twelve-month period without providing notice or opportunity to cure; provided further, that the franchisor may terminate the franchise without giving prior notice or opportunity to cure a default if the franchise: (i) it adjudicated a bankrupt or insolvent; (ii) makes an assignment for the benefit of creditors or similar disposition of the assets of the franchise business; (iii) voluntarily abandons the franchise business; or (iv) is convicted of or pleads guilty or no contest to a charge of violating any law relating to the franchise business. Upon termination for good cause, the franchisor shall purchase from the franchisee at a fair market

value at the time of termination, the franchisee's inventory and supplies, exclusive of (i) personalized materials which have no value to the franchisor; (ii) inventory and supplies not reasonably required in the conduct of the franchise business; and (iii) if the franchisee is to retain control of the premises of the franchise business, any inventory and supplies not purchased from the franchisor or on his express requirement; provided, that the franchisor may offset against amounts owed to the franchisee under this subsection any amounts owed by the franchisee to the franchisor.

2. Washington law RCW 19.100.180(2)(g) provides that it is unlawful to require the franchisee to assent to a release, assignment, violation or waiver which would relieve the franchisor from any liability imposed by the Washington Franchise Investment Protection Act.

No disclaimer, questionnaire, clause or statement signed by a franchisee in connection with the commencement of the franchise relationship shall be construed or interpreted as waiving any claim of fraud in the inducement, whether common law or statutory, or as disclaiming reliance on or the right to rely upon any statement made or information provided by any franchisor, broker or other person acting on behalf of the franchisor that was a material inducement to a franchisee's investment. This provision supersedes any other or inconsistent term of any document executed in connection with the franchise.

#### WISCONSIN

The following information applies to franchises and franchises subject to the Wisconsin Fair Dealership Law. Item numbers correspond to those in the main body:

#### <u>Item 17</u>.

- 1. For all franchisees residing in the State of Wisconsin, we will provide you at least 90 days' prior written notice of termination, cancellation, or substantial change in competitive circumstances. The notice will state all the reasons for termination, cancellation, or substantial change in competitive circumstances and will provide that you have 60 days in which to cure any claimed deficiency. If this deficiency is cured within 60 days, the notice will be void. If the reason for termination, cancellation, or substantial change in competitive circumstances is nonpayment of sums due under the franchise, you will have 10 days to cure the deficiency.
- 2. For Wisconsin franchisees, Ch. 135, Stats., the Wisconsin Fair Dealership Law, supersedes any provisions of the Franchise Agreement or a related contract which is inconsistent with the Law.

The Franchise Agreement is revised as follows:

2. Ch. 135, Stats., the Wisconsin Fair Dealership Law, supersedes any provisions of this Agreement or a related document between you and us inconsistent with the Law.

#### **APPLICABLE ADDENDA**

If any one of the preceding Addenda for specific states ("Addenda") is checked as an "Applicable Addenda" below, then that Addenda shall be incorporated into the Franchise Disclosure Document, Franchise Agreement and any other specified agreement(s) entered into by us and the undersigned Franchisee. To the extent any terms of an Applicable Addenda conflict with the terms of the Franchise Disclosure Document, Franchise Agreement and other specified agreement(s), the terms of the Applicable Addenda shall supersede the terms of the Franchise Disclosure Document.

	California Hawaii Illinois Indiana Maryland	Michigan Minnesota New York North Dakota Ohio	Rhode Island South Dakota Virginia Washington Wisconsin	
Dated:				
		FRANCHISOR:		
		TACO CABANA	FRANCHISING, INC.	
		By:		_
		Name:		
		Title:		
FRANCH	ISEE:			
Ву:				
Name:				
Title				

#### **EXHIBIT G**

## LIST OF CURRENT FRANCHISEES AS OF SEPTEMBER 30, 2023 $\label{eq:none} \mathbf{NONE}$

#### **EXHIBIT H**

#### LIST OF FORMER FRANCHISEES

Listed below is the name, city and state, and the current business telephone number (or, if unknown, the last known home telephone number) of each franchisee who had an outlet terminated, cancelled, not renewed, or otherwise voluntarily or involuntarily ceased to do business under the Franchise Agreement during our most recently completed fiscal year, or who has not communicated with us within 10 weeks of the issuance date of this disclosure document:

#### **NONE**

If you buy this franchise, your contact information may be disclosed to other buyers when you leave the franchise system.

#### **EXHIBIT I**

#### STATE EFFECTIVE DATES

#### STATE EFFECTIVE DATES

The following states have franchise laws that require that the Franchise Disclosure Document be registered or filed with the state, or be exempt from registration: California, Hawaii, Illinois, Indiana, Maryland, Michigan, Minnesota, New York, North Dakota, Rhode Island, South Dakota, Virginia, Washington, and Wisconsin.

This document is effective and may be used in the following states, where the document is filed, registered or exempt from registration, as of the Effective Date stated below:

State	Effective Date
California	January 19, 2024
Hawaii	Not Registered
Illinois	Not Registered
Indiana	Not Registered
Maryland	Not Registered
Michigan	Not Registered
Minnesota	Not Registered
New York	Not Registered
North Dakota	Not Registered
Rhode Island	Not Registered
South Dakota	Not Registered
Virginia	Not Registered
Washington	Not Registered
Wisconsin	

Other states may require registration, filing, or exemption of a franchise under other laws, such as those that regulate the offer and sale of business opportunities or seller-assisted marketing plans.

#### RECEIPT

This disclosure document summarizes certain provisions of the franchise agreement and other information in plain language. Read this disclosure document and all agreements carefully.

If Taco Cabana Franchising, Inc. offers you a franchise, Taco Cabana Franchising, Inc. must provide this disclosure document to you 14 calendar-days before you sign a binding agreement with, or make a payment to, the franchisor or an affiliate in connection with the proposed franchise sale.

New York requires that we give you this disclosure document at the earlier of the 1<sup>st</sup> personal meeting, or 10 business days before the execution of any binding franchise or other agreement or the payment of any consideration, whichever occurs first.

If Taco Cabana Franchising, Inc. does not deliver this disclosure document on time or if it contains a false or misleading statement, or a material omission, a violation of federal and state law may have occurred and should be reported to the Federal Trade Commission, Washington, DC 20580 and the appropriate state administrator listed in **Exhibit A**.

Franchise	Seller Information: Name:		;
E-mail	; and Telephone Number	: (	
Issuance D	Date: January 17, 2024		
the following exh Franchise Agreeme	eived a Franchise Disclosure Docu libits: A. Agencies/Agents for Se ent; D. Manual Table of Contents; in States; G. List of Open Franchise	ervice of Process; B. Develog E. Financial Statements; F.	opment Agreement; C. Additional Information
Date of Receipt:			
Signature		Print Name	
Company Name		Street Address	
Telephone Number	r	City, State	Zip Code

TO BE RETAINED BY YOU

#### RECEIPT

This disclosure document summarizes certain provisions of the franchise agreement and other information in plain language. Read this disclosure document and all agreements carefully.

If Taco Cabana Franchising, Inc. offers you a franchise, Taco Cabana Franchising, Inc. must provide this disclosure document to you 14 calendar-days before you sign a binding agreement with, or make a payment to, the franchisor or an affiliate in connection with the proposed franchise sale.

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Franchise Seller Information:	Name:	<b>;</b>
E-mail; and Telep	Name:  bhone Number: ()	
Issuance Date: January 17, 202	4	
the following exhibits: A. Agencies/A Franchise Agreement; D. Manual Tabl	sclosure Document issued on. This disc Agents for Service of Process; B. Dev e of Contents; E. Financial Statements; Open Franchises; H. List of Closed Franch	velopment Agreement; C. F. Additional Information
Date of Receipt:		
Signature	Print Name	
Company Name	Street Address	
Telephone Number	City, State	Zip Code

TO BE RETURNED TO TACO CABANA FRANCHISING, INC.