CHARTER AGREEMENT

WITH

CATHOLIC DIOCESES/PARISHES/SCHOOLS ENGAGED WITH SCOUTING

Together we seek to prepare young people to make ethical and moral choices over their lifetimes by instilling in Scouts the ambition and dedication to be trustworthy, loyal, helpful, friendly, courteous, kind, obedient, cheerful, thrifty, brave, clean, and reverent.

ANNUAL CHARTER AGREEMENT BETWEEN:

_____(the "Charter Organization"),
Boy Scouts of America, a congressionally chartered nonprofit corporation d/b/a Scouting America ("Scouting America"),
_____Council, Scouting America (the "Local Council"),
and _____ (the "Scouting Unit" or "Unit")

Pack No._____ Troop No._____ Crew No._____ Ship No._____

The mission of the Scouting America program is to prepare young people to make ethical and moral choices over their lifetimes by instilling in them the values of the Scout Oath and Scout Law. The Charter Organization, in keeping with its own mission to support the community's youth, desires to support the programs of Scouting America. To that end, the following terms will govern the relationship between the Charter Organization, Scouting America, the Local Council, and the Scouting Unit for the year running from __January__31__, 2026__ through __January__31__, 2027__.

I. Scouting America agrees to:

A. Indemnification

1. TO DEFEND, AND TO THE FULLEST EXTENT PERMITTED BY LAW, INDEMNIFY AND HOLD HARMLESS THE CHARTER ORGANIZATION AND ANY OTHER ENTITY, AGENCY, COMMITTEE, COMMISSION, BOARD, SOCIETY, OR CONFERENCE RELATED TO THE CATHOLIC CHURCH/PARISH/SCHOOL, ALONG WITH EACH OF THEIR CLERGY, OFFICERS, DIRECTORS, TRUSTEES, EMPLOYEES, AGENTS, MEMBERS, OR VOLUNTEERS (COLLECTIVELY, "**PROTECTED PARTIES**"), FROM AND AGAINST ANY AND ALL CLAIMS, DEMANDS, CAUSES OF ACTION, LIABILITY, INJURIES, LOSSES, DAMAGES, OR COSTS, INCLUDING (WITHOUT LIMITATION) LITIGATION COSTS, ATTORNEYS' FEES, INVESTIGATIVE COSTS, AND COURT COSTS (COLLECTIVELY, "**LOSSES**" OR "**CLAIMS**"), ASSERTED OR SUSTAINED BY ANY SCOUTING UNIT, MEMBER, VISITOR, VOLUNTEER, OR ANY OTHER PERSON, COMPANY, ORGANIZATION, OR OTHER ENTITY, ARISING OUT OF OR IN ANY WAY CONNECTED, DIRECTLY OR INDIRECTLY, WITH SCOUTING, WITH SCOUTING ACTIVITIES, WITH THE ACTIONS OR OMISSIONS OF ANY SCOUT LEADER OR OTHER SCOUTING VOLUNTEER OR SCOUTING PARTICIPANT OR SCOUTING EMPLOYEE OR AGENT, OR WITH THE USE OR OCCUPANCY OF THE CHARTER ORGANIZATION'S PROPERTY FOR SCOUTING ACTIVITIES, WHETHER OR NOT THE LOSSES, CLAIMS, OR THEIR CAUSES ARE FORESEEN OR UNFORESEEN, OR UNRELATED TO SCOUTING OBJECTIVES, EXCEPT TO THE EXTENT THOSE LOSSES ARE CAUSED BY THE WILLFUL ACTS OR NEGLIGENCE OF ANY PROTECTED PARTY WHILE ACTING IN A CAPACITY WHOLLY DISTINCT FROM THE CHARTER ORGANIZATION'S SCOUTING RESPONSIBILITIES OR DUTIES AS SET FORTH HEREIN.
2. Such defense includes providing a legal defense to all Protected Parties using legal counsel that owes a duty of loyalty and zealous advocacy undiminished by any duties that may be owed to Scouting America or other parties. In civil actions filed or threatened against the Charter Organization, Scouting America shall confer with the Charter Organization over the selection of legal counsel to defend the Protected Parties, and Scouting America and Charter Organization shall make a good faith effort to agree upon legal counsel to represent the Protected Parties, taking account of any relevant terms in Scouting America's insurance policies. This good faith discussion shall include the question of whether or not separate counsel should be retained to represent the interests of the Protected Parties.

B. Insurance

Scouting America agrees to provide Commercial General Liability (GL) insurance that includes excess auto liability to cover losses or claims asserted or sustained by any Scout, Scouting Unit, member, visitor, volunteer, or any other person, arising out of or in any way connected, directly or indirectly, with Scouting. This insurance covers the Charter Organization, along with its Officers, Directors, Trustees, Employees, or Charter Organization Representatives (collectively, "Protected Parties"). At a minimum, such insurance:

1. GL coverage shall be written on an occurrence basis, with policy limits of the Scouting America commercial general liability policy (CGL) of $7,500,000 each occurrence and $20,000,000 annual aggregate. Total coverage, including GL and EL coverage, shall provide for at least $50,000,000 each occurrence. The current policies expire March 1, 2027. Insurance coverage is subject to change upon renewal, but such renewal shall provide aggregate GL and EL policy limits of no less than $40,000,000 aggregate.
2. The GL policy shall provide auto liability (AL) coverage as excess of: (a) the vehicle driver's personal AL policy; (b) the Charter Organization's primary AL insurance, if any (if vehicles are owned, hired, or leased by the Charter Organization); and (c) any other excess insurance available from other sources. The GL policy provided by Scouting America is excess of $1 million.
3. As set forth in the GL and EL policies, shall provide coverage for:
   a. Bodily injury, sickness or disease including illness or death of any person.
   b. Bodily injury with no exclusion for intentional torts, including physical or sexual abuse, misconduct, or molestation.
   c. Personal or advertising injury.
   d. Damages caused by physical damage or destruction of tangible property.
   E. CONTRACTUAL LIABILITY COVERING SCOUTING AMERICA'S OBLIGATION TO DEFEND, INDEMNIFY, AND HOLD HARMLESS THE PROTECTED PARTIES UNDER THIS AGREEMENT, INCLUDING ANY AND ALL COSTS OF DEFENSE OF ANY CLAIMS FOR WHICH ANY PROTECTED PARTY IS ENTITLED TO COVERAGE BY VIRTUE OF BEING NAMED AS AN ADDITIONAL INSURED.
   f. Punitive or Exemplary Damages coverage equal to that which is provided to Scouting America entities.
4. Shall name the Protected Parties as Additional Insureds on all primary and excess policies needed to provide the limits of insurance specified in §§ I.B.1 and I.B.2, above.
   a. Insofar as such insurance provides GL coverages (excluding any AL coverage included within the GL policy) and EL coverages, such GL and EL insurance shall be written on a primary and non-contributory basis. Provided further, that any other GL insurance coverage and EL insurance coverage that may be available to the Protected Parties from other sources shall be excess of and non-contributory with the GL coverage provided by Scouting America in compliance with this Agreement.
   b. Notwithstanding the foregoing, insofar as the Protected Parties are named as Additional Insureds for purposes of the excess AL coverage provided under Scouting America's GL policy, such AL coverage shall be excess over and non-contributory not only to any primary AL coverage available to the Protected Parties but also to any other excess AL coverage that may be available to the Protected Parties from other sources.
5. Shall provide reasonable notice of non-renewal or cancellation to the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops Office of General Counsel, the Local Council, and all Catholic-affiliated units.
6. Shall Include a Waiver of Subrogation in favor of the Protected Parties.

Within ten (10) days after signing this Agreement, Scouting America shall provide a certificate of insurance confirming the existence of the coverages, limits, and endorsements meeting the requirements set forth in this Agreement.

C. Trademark License

Grant together to the Charter Organization and the Scouting Unit a non-exclusive, non-transferable, royalty-free license to use the trademarks, logos, seals, insignia, words, phrases, trade dress, and other designations, descriptive marks, and pictorial representations relating to Scouting America's Scouting programs, including, but not limited to, "SCOUTING AMERICA," "CUB SCOUTS," "SCOUTS BSA," VENTURING," and "SEA SCOUTS" (collectively the "Scouting America Marks") solely in connection with (i) marketing and operation of the Scouting Unit, (ii) promotion of Scouting America's Scouting programs in the geographic market that the Charter Organization serves, and (iii) other purposes consistent with this Agreement.

II. The Local Council agrees to:

A. Scouting Resources

1. Provide program training, program resources, recruitment strategies, resources, and materials to help the Unit grow its membership and provide Scouting to the Unit's local community. This shall include but not be limited to the provision of training opportunities to the Unit leaders and volunteers, through the my.scouting.org website or in person, to prepare them to conduct the Scouting program in a manner consistent with (a) Scouting America rules, regulations, and policies contained in the Guide to Safe Scouting and other materials described in the appendix hereto titled "Resources," and (b) Scouting America's membership standards, as described at www.scouting.org/about/membership-standards/.
2. Provide camping opportunities, administrative support, and professional staff to assist the Unit in developing a successful Scouting program.
3. Provide and facilitate unit-level money-earning (i.e., fundraising) opportunities to support the Unit's activities.

B. Adult Leadership

1. Submit criminal background checks in accordance with Scouting America policies and procedures, on all adult leaders and volunteers prior to approving any application to serve. The background check shall comply with all applicable federal and state laws and further comply with any standards that may be developed in accordance with any applicable court order. The Local Council's final Registration of the adult leader or volunteer (a) cannot be accomplished until the requisite background check is completed, and (b) will constitute the Local Council's confirmation that the requisite background check has been completed, by indication of the council designees' signature.
2. Require and track all unit leaders to complete Scouting America Youth Protection Training.

III. The Charter Organization agrees to:

A. Generally

1. Coordinate with the Local Council to provide annual recruitment opportunities to grow the Scouting America movement as well as publicize Scouting America through in-house publications.
2. Refrain from using the Scouting brand, including Scouting America Marks, to imply Scouting America's endorsement of the objectives of the Charter Organization, except with respect to youth religious ministry, consistent with the goals and objectives of the Scouting program. Refrain from using the Scouting brand, including Scouting America Marks, to solicit financial support except as authorized for the benefit of the Unit or the Local Council. Refrain from using Scouting America Marks for any commercial purpose without the express written authorization of Scouting America.
3. Comply with such rules, regulations, guidelines, and specifications that Scouting America may promulgate from time to time, including, but not limited to, those set forth in (A) the Rules and Regulations of Scouting America, (B) the Scouting America Brand Guidelines and Guide to Awards and Insignia, and (C) the Scouting America Brand Guidelines documents regarding the style, appearance, and usage of any Scouting America Marks.
4. Select a Charter Organization Representative (COR) to serve as a voting member of the council.
5. Support the Scouting program through its prayers, possible financial gifts, and volunteer service opportunities.
6. Advertise the Scouting program and volunteer needs in Church publications and communications.
7. Welcome and provide opportunities for Scouts to participate in the Church's youth programs and promote religious awards.

B. Management and Leadership

1. Reasonably support the Scouting Unit Committee, comprised of at least three members for each Unit.
2. Review and select all adult leaders, subject to the approval of the Local Council, and ensure they are willing to accept Scouting's values and meet all other requirements of membership.
3. Administer the assets of the Unit, including all funds, real property, and personal property (e.g., trailers) that are acquired by the Unit either for the benefit of Scouting or in the name of Scouting and administer the assets for the benefit of the Unit.
4. Authorize the unit to open a separate bank account for the Unit using the Charter Organization EIN and provide the Unit with policies and procedures for financial reporting and asset management, consistent with local laws and the Charter Organization's policies and procedures.
5. Follow ll Guide to Safe Scouting requirements to ensure adequate review and inspection of trailers, and other assets.

C. Use of Facilities

1. Work with the Unit to secure safe facilities for regular meetings.

D. Contribution and Indemnification.

THE CHARTER ORGANIZATION ACKNOWLEDGES AND AGREES THAT, IN THE EVENT THERE ARE LOSSES OR CLAIMS ASSERTED AGAINST OR SUSTAINED BY SCOUTING AMERICA OR THE LOCAL COUNCIL THAT ARE ATTRIBUTABLE TO THE WILLFUL ACTS OR NEGLIGENCE OF THE PROTECTED PARTIES AND FALL OUTSIDE OF THE INDEMNIFICATION REQUIREMENTS OF Scouting America IN § I.A.1 (ABOVE), NOTHING IN THIS AGREEMENT SHALL BE DEEMED TO LIMIT SCOUTING AMERICA'S RIGHT TO SEEK CONTRIBUTION OR INDEMNIFICATION FROM THE PROTECTED PARTIES FOR SUCH LOSSES OR CLAIMS, INCLUDING REASONABLE ATTORNEYS' FEES AND COSTS RELATED THERETO.

IV. The Scouting Unit agrees to:

A. Registration and Administration

1. Organize and maintain an active Unit Committee comprised of at least three members for each Unit. Ensure that the Unit has two deep leadership at all times.
2. Ensure all adult leaders have an approved criminal background check and have completed Scouting America Youth Protection Training prior to participation in any Scouting activity.
3. Encourage adult leaders to receive position-specific or other appropriate training made available by the local council or Scouting America. Follow all Charter Organization policies and procedures regarding adult leader training.
4. Ensure timely registration of all youth and adult members. Use Scouting America's online registration tools, such as membership leads, online applications, and online re-charter.
5. Coordinate with the Local Council to provide annual joining opportunities to grow the Scouting America Movement.

B. Program

1. Conduct the Scouting program consistent with Scouting America Bylaws, Rules & Regulations, handbooks, policies, brand guidelines, etc. See www.scouting.org/about/membership-standards/.
2. Abstain from using the Scouting program to pursue any objectives related to political or social advocacy, including partisan politics, support for or opposition to government action, or controversial legal, political, or social issues or causes, except to the extent a particular social issue or cause is consistent with the Charter Organization's religious mission.
3. Abstain from using the Scouting program to pursue any objectives inconsistent with the beliefs and values of the Charter Organization. Follow all Charter Organization policies and procedures regarding program management.
4. Refrain from using Scouting America Marks for any commercial purpose without the express written authorization of Scouting America.
5. Comply with such rules, regulations, guidelines, and specifications that Scouting America may promulgate from time to time, including, but not limited to, those set forth in (A) the Rules and Regulations of Scouting America, (B) the Scouting America Brand Guidelines and Guide to Awards and Insignia, and (C) the Scouting America Brand Guidelines documents regarding the style, appearance, and usage of any Scouting America Marks.

C. Use of Facilities

1. Return facilities to their original condition, subject to reasonable wear and tear, at the end of all Scouting Activities, which includes placing any garbage/waste in appropriate receptacles, returning any items stored on premises to the designated storage area, and removing all other personal belongings.
2. Ensure that all use of the Facilities is consistent with and does not detract from the Charter Organization's mission. Follow all Charter Organization policies and procedures regarding the use of facilities.

D. Assets and Equipment

1. Be a good steward of the Unit's resources and comply with Scouting America's Fiscal Policies and Procedures.
2. Apply for and undertake Unit Money Earning Projects in accordance with Scouting America's and the Local Council's guidelines.
3. Actively participate in the Local Council's annual giving campaign and product sales fundraisers (e.g., Friends of Scouting campaign, popcorn, and Camp Card sales).
4. Follow all Charter Organization policies and procedures regarding the management of funds. For Unit specific bank accounts, Units will submit reporting as prescribed by the Charter Organization.

CHARTER ORGANIZATION: _____

Signature: _____

Print Name: _____ Date: _____

Title: _____

SCOUTING UNIT: _____

Signature: _____

Print Name: _____ Date: _____

Title: Unit Committee Chair

LOCAL SCOUTING AMERICA COUNCIL: _____

Signature: _____

Print Name: _____ Date: _____

Title: Scout Executive or Designee

SCOUTING AMERICA **

Signature: 

Roger Krone Date: ***

President and Chief Executive Officer

** Scouting America's endorsement of this Agreement relates solely to the Indemnification and Insurance provisions and to the Trademark License provisions set forth in §§ I.A, I.B, and I.C of this Agreement.

*** This is a Scouting America-approved form as of the month and year reflected in the bottom margin of this Charter Agreement. Once signed by all other parties to this Agreement, and provided no more recent form agreement has been approved by Scouting America as of the date those signatures are applied, Mr. Krone's pre-printed electronic signature on this Agreement will be recognized as valid and binding on Scouting America as of the same date with respect to the provisions set forth in §§ I.A, I.B, and I.C of this Agreement

RESOURCES

- The Scouting program must be utilized in a manner consistent with the Bylaws, Rules and Regulations, guidelines, policies, and other publications available on the Scouting America national website located at https://www.scouting.org/about/membership- standards/
  - The Charter and Bylaws of Scouting America
  - The Mission of Scouting America
  - The Rules and Regulations of Scouting America
  - The Scout Oath and the Scout Law, including Duty to God
  - Scouting America youth protection policies and guidelines, including mandatory reporting
  - Scouting Safely section found at https://www.scouting.org/health-and-safety/
  - The Guide to Safe Scouting
  - The SAFE Scouting Checklist
  - Scouter Code of Conduct
  - Incident Reporting at https://www.scouting.org/health-and-safety/incident-report/
  - Scouting Units should use the Scouting America Brand Center for all branding guidelines, images, and logos. The Scouting America Brand Center can be located at https://www.scoutingwire.org

Scouting America Mission

The mission of Scouting America is to prepare young people
to make ethical and moral choices over their lifetimes
by instilling in them the values of the Scout Oath and Scout Law.

Scout Oath

On my honor
I will do my best to do my duty
to God and my country
and to obey the Scout Law;
to help other people at all times;
to keep myself physically strong,
mentally awake, and morally straight.

Scout Law

A Scout is trustworthy, loyal, helpful, friendly, courteous, kind,
obedient, cheerful, thrifty, brave, clean, and reverent.