

HomeTrust Bank PO Box 10 Asheville, NC 28002-0010

Re: Municipal Lease and Option Agreement between HomeTrust Bank and Lanes Creek Volunteer Fire Department, Inc.

I am Chairman of the County Commissioners of Union County. This letter is to advise you that: Lanes Creek Volunteer Fire Department, Inc. is a qualified Volunteer Fire Department, assigned to protect a specific Fire District within this County.

In addition, a special ad valorem (fire tax) is assessed on the real property owners of this district. Said tax is to be used exclusively to provide equipment, facilities, and training as is necessary to provide fire protection for said district. Said funds may also be used to upgrade equipment as the need arises. This tax is collected by the County and disbursed by the Finance Office to the Fire Department on a regular basis by the County Finance Officer. The Fire Department is operated and managed by the Board of Directors of the Fire Department and the Officers of said Department. The Department is currently meeting the requirements of their fire service contract.

The Fire Department has made us aware of their intention to acquire new capital assets through a Lease Purchase transaction with your firm. Please be advised that the County has no objection to this transaction.

Sincerely,

Melissa Merrell Chair, Union County Board of Commissioners

Union County Board of Commissioners 500 North Main Street Monroe, NC 28112

unioncountync.gov