

EMPLOYMENT AGREEMENT

This Employment Agreement ("Agreement") is entered into as of 2024-09-03, between Vertex Capital Partners LLC ("Company") and Sarah Williams ("Employee").

Section 1. Position and Duties

The Company hereby employs Employee as Chief Executive Officer. Employee shall perform all duties customarily associated with such position and such other duties as reasonably assigned.

Section 2. Compensation

Section 2.1. Base Salary. The Company shall pay Employee a base salary of \$210,000 per year, payable in equal bi-weekly installments.

Section 2.2. Annual Bonus. Employee shall be eligible for an annual performance bonus targeted at 20% of base salary, based on the Company's and Employee's achievement of performance objectives established by the Board of Directors.

Section 2.3. Equity Grant. Subject to Board approval, Employee shall receive a grant of stock options representing 1.95% of the Company's fully diluted capitalization as of the grant date. Options shall vest 25% on the first anniversary of the grant date and monthly thereafter over 36 months.

Section 3. Benefits

Employee shall be entitled to participate in all employee benefit plans and programs maintained by the Company, including health insurance, dental, vision, and 401(k).

Section 4. Confidentiality

Employee acknowledges access to Confidential Information and agrees to maintain its confidentiality during and after employment, and to use it solely for Company purposes.

Section 5. Intellectual Property

Employee hereby assigns to the Company all inventions, discoveries, and work product conceived or developed during the Employment Term that relate to the Company's business.

Section 6. Term and Termination

This Agreement is at-will. Either party may terminate at any time with or without cause.

Section 7. Severance

If Employee is terminated without Cause, Employee shall receive 52 weeks of base salary as severance, conditioned on execution of a general release.

GOVERNING LAW: Georgia

Vertex Capital Partners LLC

By: _____

Sarah Williams

Signature: _____

Date: 2024-09-03