

January 23, 2023

## Reference Statement - Bald Cypress Builders LLC

Bald Cypress Builders LLC hired Ascent Consulting, Inc. at a point where our company growth and improvements to efficiency had stagnated, our operations were barely getting us by, and at a time where we needed some redirection and guidance forward. We began working with the Ascent Team, prioritizing future business planning, improved operational efficiency, and personnel documentation and organization, with hopes that at the conclusion, we would be more efficient, more grounded in our day-to-day workflows, have better confidence in our current and future personnel, and feel energized about a solid company growth game plan moving forward.

We were able to work with Ascent for about 5 months. During that time, our Ascent duo, Jeff and Michelle, visited with our Team at our office in Lexington, South Carolina four times for all-day, intensive workshops including our whole Team. The in-person workshops were immensely helpful, and at times gave light to critical changes we needed to make as a company and Team. During those workshops, Jeff and Michelle were impressively attentive and engaged with our Team every step of the way, regardless of how many "rabbit holes" we took them down. During and after our workshops, using the guidance and collaborative teamwork Jeff and Michelle provided, we were able to internally make updates to many things, from backend accounting software changes, to processes that were pain points and are now sources of operational strength, to helping us create more clarity around who does what on our Team and how all of those individual responsibilities allow our Team to function together as a whole. It was easy for us to feel like Jeff and Michelle were members of our own Team during these in-person workshops due to their "dive right in" mentality, combined with their willingness to explore whatever we needed to discuss at any point in time. Our entire Team felt like Jeff and Michelle genuinely cared about our company's long-term success as we all got into the weeds of things during those in-person workshops.

We are very grateful for the effort, attention, patience, and guidance Jeff and Michelle, and the whole Ascent Team, shared with us over the course of 5 months. It was clear to us that many folks on Ascent's Team are incredibly experienced and knowledgeable when it comes to the construction industry. Much of what we learned from working with Ascent has made us a better Team today, and will make us a better Team and company moving forward for years to come.

Thank you, Ascent Consulting! Bald Cypress Builders LLC

Matt Pocta

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