Scerling

STERLING CHECK CORP.

COMPENSATION COMMITTEE CHARTER

I. PURPOSE

The Compensation Committee (the "<u>Committee</u>") shall provide assistance to the Board of Directors (the "<u>Board of Directors</u>") of Sterling Check Corp. (the "<u>Company</u>") by fulfilling the Committee's responsibilities and duties outlined in this Charter.

II. STRUCTURE AND PROCESSES

Membership Requirements

The Committee shall be composed of two or more members of the Board of Directors and, subject to an election by the Company to rely on the exemption available to "controlled companies," any applicable transition periods, and as may otherwise be permitted by the Nasdaq Listing Rules, each member shall be determined by the Board of Directors to meet the criteria for independence set forth in the Nasdaq Listing Rules.

Appointment and Removal

The members of the Committee shall be appointed by the Board of Directors and each member shall serve until such member's successor is duly elected and qualified or until such member's earlier resignation, removal, retirement, disqualification or death. The members of the Committee may be removed, with or without cause, by action of the Board of Directors.

Chairperson

Unless a chairperson of the Committee (the "<u>Chairperson</u>") is selected by the Board of Directors, the members of the Committee shall designate a Chairperson by the majority vote of the full Committee membership. The Chairperson of the Committee will chair all regular sessions of the Committee and is responsible for setting the agendas for Committee meetings. In the absence of the Chairperson of the Committee, the Committee shall select another member to preside.

Delegation to Subcommittees

The Committee may form subcommittees composed of one or more of its members for any purpose that the Committee deems appropriate and may delegate to such subcommittees such power and authority as the Committee deems appropriate; provided, however, that when appropriate to satisfy the requirements of Section 16b-3 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the "Exchange Act"), any such subcommittee shall be

composed solely of two or more members that have been determined to be "Non-Employee Directors" within the meaning of Rule 16b-3 under the Exchange Act.

The Committee may delegate to one or more officers of the Company the authority to make grants and awards of cash or options or other equity securities to any non-executive officer (as defined below) of the Company under the Company's incentive compensation or other equity-based plans as the Committee deems appropriate and in accordance with the terms of such plan; provided that such delegation is in compliance with the plan and the laws of the state of the Company's incorporation.

III.MEETINGS

The Committee shall meet periodically as circumstances dictate. The Chairperson of the Board of Directors or any member of the Committee may call meetings of the Committee. Unless otherwise restricted by the Company's certificate of incorporation or bylaws or the laws of the State of Delaware, meetings of the Committee may be held telephonically or by any means of communications by which all persons participating in the meeting can hear each other. In addition, unless otherwise restricted by the Company's certificate of incorporation or bylaws or the laws of the state of Delaware, the Committee may act by written consent in lieu of a meeting.

As part of its review and establishment of the performance criteria and compensation of executive officers ("<u>executive officer</u>" has the same meaning specified for the term "officer" in Rule 16a-1(f) under the Exchange Act), the Committee should meet separately with the Chief Executive Officer ("<u>CEO</u>"), the Chief People Officer, and any other corporate officers, as it deems appropriate. However, the Committee should meet regularly without such officers present, and shall deliberate and vote with respect to such officers' compensation without such officers being present.

All non-management directors that are not members of the Committee may attend meetings of the Committee but may not vote. Additionally, the Committee may invite to its meetings any director, management of the Company and such other persons as it deems appropriate in order to carry out its responsibilities. The Committee may also exclude from its meetings (other than a member of the Committee) any persons it deems appropriate in order to carry out its responsibilities.

A majority of the members of the Committee shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business, unless the Committee shall consist of two members, in which case one member shall constitute a quorum, and the act of a majority of those present at any meeting at which there is a quorum shall be the act of the Committee.

IV. RESPONSIBILITIES AND DUTIES

The following functions are expected to be the common recurring activities of the Committee in carrying out its responsibilities. These functions should serve as a guide with the understanding that the Committee may carry out additional functions and adopt additional policies and procedures as may be required or appropriate in light of changing business, legislative, regulatory, legal or other conditions. The Committee may also carry out any other responsibilities and duties delegated to it by the Board of Directors from time to time.

The Committee, in discharging its oversight role, is empowered to study or investigate any matter of interest or concern that the Committee deems appropriate and may, in its sole discretion, retain, obtain the advice of and terminate any compensation consultant, legal counsel or other adviser to the Committee. The Committee shall be directly responsible for the appointment, compensation and oversight of any compensation consultant, legal counsel or other adviser retained by the Committee. The Company shall provide appropriate funding, as determined by the Committee, for payment of reasonable compensation to any compensation consultant, legal counsel or other adviser retained by the Committee, as well as funding for the payment of ordinary administrative expenses of the Committee that are necessary or appropriate in carrying out its duties.

Subject to an election by the Company to rely on the exemption available to controlled companies, the Committee shall undertake an independence assessment prior to selecting any compensation consultant, legal counsel or other advisers that will provide advice to the Committee taking into consideration all factors relevant to such adviser's independence from management, including the factors set forth in Nasdaq Rule 5605(d)(3)(D) or as may otherwise be required by Nasdaq from time to time.

It is expected that the Committee will evaluate, on at least an annual basis, whether any work provided by the Committee's compensation consultant raised any conflict of interest. Finally, it is expected that the Committee shall pre-approve any services to be provided to the Company or its subsidiaries by any of the Committee's compensation consultants.

It is expected that the Committee will:

Setting Compensation for Executive Officers and Directors

- 1. Establish and review the overall compensation philosophy of the Company.
- 2. Review and approve corporate goals and objectives relevant to the CEO and other executive officers' compensation, including annual and long-term performance objectives, if any.
- 3. Evaluate the performance of the CEO in light of such goals and objectives and, either as a committee or together with the other independent directors (as directed by the Board of Directors), determine and approve, or recommend to the Board of Directors, the annual salary, bonus, equity-based incentives and other benefits, direct and indirect, of the CEO.
- 4. Review and approve, or recommend to the Board of Directors, the annual salary, bonus, equity and equity-based incentives and other benefits, direct and indirect, of the executive officers other than the CEO.

- 5. In connection with executive compensation programs:
 - (i) review and approve, or recommend to the full Board of Directors, new or modified executive compensation programs;
 - (ii) review on a periodic basis the operations of the Company's executive compensation programs to determine whether they are effective in achieving their intended purpose(s);
 - (iii) establish and periodically review policies for the administration of executive compensation programs; and
 - (iv) take steps to modify any executive compensation program to enhance the alignment of payments and benefits with executive and corporate performance and the Company's business strategy.
- 6. Establish and periodically review policies in the area of senior management perquisites.
- 7. Consider policies and procedures pertaining to expense accounts of senior executives.
- 8. To the extent applicable, oversee the Company's compliance with rules and regulations of the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "<u>SEC</u>") regarding stockholder advisory votes on executive compensation and the frequency of such votes.
- 9. Review, oversee and approve the Company's succession planning for executive officers, including policies and principles for selecting a successor to the CEO, both in an emergency situation and in the ordinary course of business.
- 10. Review and approve the list of companies to be included in any compensation peer group used to benchmark pay levels based on criteria the Committee deems appropriate.
- 11. Review and recommend to the Board of Directors the form and amount of director compensation, in accordance with the Company's Non-Employee Director Compensation Policy, as the same may be amended from time to time, as well as make recommendations regarding director's and officer's indemnification and insurance matters.
- 12. Review and approve or recommend to the Board of Directors, any employment or service-related contracts or transaction involving current or former directors and executive officers of the Company, and any related compensation, including consulting arrangements, employment contracts, severance or termination arrangements, and change in control agreements or provisions.
- 13. To the extent applicable, consider, on at least an annual basis, whether risks arising from the Company's compensation policies and practices for all employees, including non-executive officers, are reasonably likely to have a material adverse effect on the Company.

Diversity, Equity & Inclusion

14. Review the Company's diversity, equity & inclusion practices, policies and strategies.

Monitoring Incentive and Equity-Based Compensation Plans

- 15. Review and approve, or recommend to the Board of Directors, the Company's equitybased plans and, to the extent subject to the approval of the Board of Directors, incentive compensation plans, and administer the plans in accordance with their terms or oversee the activities of the individuals responsible for administering those plans, as applicable.
- 16. Review and approve, or recommend to the Board of Directors, all equity-based awards, including pursuant to the Company's equity-based plans, subject to the ability of the Committee to delegate authority pursuant to Section II of this Charter.
- 17. Monitor the Company's regulatory compliance with respect to compensation matters.
- 18. Monitor compliance by executive officers with the rules and guidelines of the Company's equity-based plans.
- 19. Review and approve any stock ownership guidelines for directors and executive officers of the Company and any "clawback" policy of the Company and monitor compliance therewith.
- 20. Review and monitor any employee retirement, profit sharing and benefit plans.

Reports

- 21. To the extent applicable, review and discuss with management the "Compensation Discussion and Analysis" (the "<u>CD&A</u>") required to be included in the Company's annual proxy statement or annual report on Form 10-K, in accordance with the rules of the SEC and, based on that review and discussion, determine whether or not to recommend to the Board of Directors that the CD&A be included in the Company's annual proxy statement or annual report on Form 10-K, as applicable.
- 22. To the extent applicable, prepare the compensation committee report on executive officer compensation as required by the SEC to be included in the Company's annual proxy statement or annual report on Form 10-K filed with the SEC.
- 23. Report regularly to the Board of Directors including:
 - (i) following meetings and written consents of the Committee; and
 - (ii) with respect to such other matters as are relevant to the Committee's discharge of its responsibilities.

The Committee shall provide such recommendations to the Board of Directors as the Committee may deem appropriate. The report to the Board of Directors may take the form of an oral report by the Chairperson or any other member of the Committee designated by the Committee to make such report.

24. Maintain minutes or other records of meetings and activities of the Committee.

V. EVALUATION

It is expected that the Committee will periodically review and evaluate its performance, including by reviewing its compliance with this Charter. In addition, the Committee shall review and reassess, at least annually, the adequacy of this Charter and recommend to the Board of Directors any improvements to this Charter that the Committee considers necessary or desirable. The Committee may conduct such evaluations and reviews in such manner as it deems appropriate. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary herein, the Committee may choose to forgo an evaluation of its charter pursuant to the exemption provided to "controlled companies" under the Nasdaq Listing Rules for so long as the Company remains a controlled company.

Effective Date: July 25, 2022