

December 9, 2011

Submitted on EDGAR under "CORRESP"

Ms. Kathryn Jacobson, Staff Accountant Division of Corporation Finance Securities and Exchange Commission 100 F Street, NE Washington, DC 20549

Subject: Barrett Business Services, Inc.

Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2010

Filed April 1, 2011 File No. 0-21886

Dear Ms. Jacobson:

As discussed in our telephone call today, we are requesting until December 14, 2011, to provide our written response to the comments contained in the letter.

Very truly yours,

James D. Miller

Vice President-Finance