



BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
AGENDA LETTER

Agenda Number:

Clerk of the Board of Supervisors  
105 E. Anapamu Street, Suite 407  
Santa Barbara, CA 93101  
(805) 568-2240

**Department Name:** County Counsel  
**Department No.:** 013  
**For Agenda Of:** October 20, 2020  
**Placement:** Administrative  
**Estimated Tme:**  
**Continued Item:** No  
**If Yes, date from:**  
**Vote Required:** 4/5

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**TO:** Board of Supervisors  
**FROM:** County Counsel Michael C. Ghizzoni 568-2950  
Contact Info: Anne Rierson 568-2950  
**SUBJECT:** **Outside Counsel Contract - Nielsen Merksamer Parrinello Gross & Leoni, LLP**

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**County Counsel Concurrence**

As to form: Yes

**Auditor-Controller Concurrence**

As to form: Yes

**Other Concurrence:**

Risk Management

**Recommended Actions:**

- a) Approve and authorize the Chair to execute an Agreement for Professional Legal Services with Nielsen Merksamer Parrinello Gross & Leoni, LLP, with a not-to-exceed amount of \$100,000 and a term ending April 19, 2022, for independent legal counsel to the County of Santa Barbara Citizens' Independent Redistricting Commission; and
- b) Approve Budget Revision Request No. 0007250 to increase appropriations in the amount of \$200,000 in General County Programs General fund for Services and Supplies funded by release of Committed Emerging Issues fund balance; and
- c) Determine that the above actions are not a project under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to Section 15378(b)(5) of the CEQA Guidelines, because they consist of administrative activities of government that will not result in direct or indirect physical changes in the environment.

**Summary Text:** The County has a need to engage independent outside legal counsel for the County of Santa Barbara Citizens' Independent Redistricting Commission. This Agreement is for a not-to-exceed amount of \$100,000 with a term ending April 19, 2022. The attorney responsible for performing the legal services is Marguerite Leoni, who has substantial experience with redistricting matters.

**Key Contract Risks:** None

**Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:** The agreement is not-to-exceed \$100,000 and the budget revision increases appropriations in the amount of \$200,000 for redistricting implementation.

**Special Instructions:** Please forward a signed original to County Counsel and a signed copy to Assistant County Executive Officer Nancy Anderson.

**Attachments:**

- A) Agreement for Professional Legal Services
- B) Budget Revision Request No. 0007250

**Authored by:** Anne Rierson, Senior Deputy County Counsel