



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:** August 20, 2024  
**Placement:** Administrative  
**Estimated Time:**  
**Continued Item:** No  
**If Yes, date from:**  
**Vote Required:** Majority

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**TO:** Board of Supervisors  
**FROM:** Department Rachel Van Mullem, County Counsel (568-2950)  
Director  
Contact Info: Adriana de Bruin, Business Manager (568-2950)  
**SUBJECT:** Amendment to Agreement with Outside Tax Counsel

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**County Counsel Concurrence**

As to form: Yes

**Auditor-Controller Concurrence**

As to form: Yes

**Other Concurrence:** Risk Management

As to form: Yes

**Recommended Actions:**

That the Board of Supervisors:

- a. Approve and authorize the Chair to execute Amendment No. 3 to the Agreement for Professional Legal Services with Ice Miller LLP, extending the term to August 31, 2026, updating the hourly rates, and increasing the not-to-exceed amount to \$75,000; and
- b. Determine that the above actions are not a project under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15378(b)(5) because they are administrative activities of government that will not result in direct or indirect physical changes in the environment.

**Summary Text:**

This Amendment No. 3 extends the term of the County’s agreement with Ice Miller LLP to August 31, 2026 and updates the hourly rates for services as well as increases the not-to-exceed amount from \$50,000 to \$75,000. Ice Miller provides federal tax law advice and legal services, including related to employee benefits, payroll, and the County Employees’ Retirement Plan and 401(h) Retiree Health Plan. Ice Miller has served as the County’s employee benefits outside tax counsel since 2006.

**Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:**

Budgeted: Yes

**Key Contract Risks:**

County Counsel views the contract risk as low because of the firm's specialized legal expertise and the County's experience with the firm.

**Staffing Impacts:**

None.

**Special Instructions:**

Please send a copy of the Minute Order and signed amendment to Adriana de Bruin in County Counsel.

**Attachments:**

- A. Amendment No. 3
- B. Agreement for Professional Legal Services
- C. Amendment No. 1
- D. Amendment No. 2

**Authored by:**

Adriana de Bruin, Business Manager