



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.:
For Agenda Of: February 16, 2016
Placement: Administrative
Estimated Time: N/A
Continued Item: No
If Yes, date from:
Vote Required: Majority

TO: Board of Supervisors
FROM: County Counsel Michael C. Ghizzoni (805) 568-2950
Contact Info: Martin G. McKenzie, Chief of Litigation (805) 568-2950
SUBJECT: **Approve Agreement for Professional Legal Services with Outside Counsel (Renne Sloan Holtzman Sakai LLP / Public Law Group®) for legal advice and representation in labor relations and personnel matters**

County Counsel Concurrence

As to form: Yes

Auditor-Controller Concurrence

As to form: Yes

Other Concurrence: Risk Management

As to form: Yes

Recommended Actions:

County Counsel recommends that the Board of Supervisors:

- a) Approve and authorize the Chair to execute the attached Agreement for Professional Legal Services between the County of Santa Barbara and the firm of Renne Sloan Holtzman Sakai LLP / Public Law Group®, in an amount not to exceed \$75,000; and,
- b) Find that the proposed contract and the above action are government funding mechanisms or other government fiscal activities which do not involve any commitment to any specific project which may result in a potentially significant physical impact on the environment, and therefore do not constitute a “project” under CEQA Guideline 15378(b)(4).

Background:

The County routinely requires legal advice and representation in labor relations and personnel matters, which County Counsel regularly handles. From time to time, the need arises on short notice, and County Counsel does not always have the immediate resources necessary to handle the matter. Having a contract in place with outside counsel to handle such matters can avoid delays and concomitant costs. Renne Sloan Holtzman Sakai LLP has the necessary expertise and resources to handle such matters. The proposed contract will enable County Counsel to retain that firm to handle such matters as needed, within the contract’s two-year term and \$75,000 limit. County Counsel will return to the Board for specific authorization any time County Counsel recommends the referral of litigation.

Performance Measure: N/A

Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:

Budgeted: Yes (Outside Counsel Designation)

Fiscal Analysis: N/A

Key Contract Risks: N/A

Staffing Impacts: None

Special Instructions: Please forward a signed copy to County Counsel

Attachments: (1) Contract
(2) Contract Summary Form

Authored by: Martin McKenzie, County Counsel Chief of Litigation

cc: