



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:** September 13, 2022  
**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 Rachel Van Mullem 568-2950  
Contact Info: Anne Rierson 568-2950  
**SUBJECT:** **Outside Counsel Contract Extension – Spence, Desenberg & Lee, PLLC**

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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, ratify and authorize the Chair to execute Amendment No. 1 to the Agreement for Professional Legal Services with Spence, Desenberg & Lee, PLLC, extending the term to September 1, 2023; and
- b) 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:** From time to time, the County has a need to engage outside counsel to assist the County and its elected officials with bankruptcy matters (such as the Venoco, LLC, ERG Resources, and HVI Cat Canyon, Inc. bankruptcies). This Amendment No. 1 extends the term of an existing outside counsel agreement to September 1, 2023. There is no change to the not-to-exceed amount of the agreement. The attorney primarily responsible for performing the bankruptcy legal services is Ross Spence.

**Key Contract Risks:** None

**Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:** Budgeted – Funding will come from the use of the Litigation fund balance component of the General Fund.

**Special Instructions:** Please forward a signed copy to County Counsel.

**Attachments:**

- A) Amendment No. 1 to Agreement for Professional Legal Services

B) Agreement for Professional Legal Services

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