



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: November 17, 2020
Placement: Administrative
Estimated Tme:
Continued Item: No
If Yes, date from:
Vote Required: 4/5

TO: Board of Supervisors
FROM: County Counsel Michael C. Ghizzoni 568-2950
Contact Info: Anne Rierson 568-2950
SUBJECT: **Outside Counsel Contract – Spence, Desenberg & Lee, PLLC**

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 an Agreement for Professional Legal Services with Spence, Desenberg & Lee, PLLC, with a not-to-exceed amount of \$120,000 and a term ending September 1, 2022; 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 Agreement is for a not-to-exceed amount of \$120,000 with a term ending September 1, 2022. 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) Agreement for Professional Legal Services

Authored by: Anne Rierson, Senior Deputy County Counsel