



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 Council
Department No.: 013
For Agenda Of: February 27, 2018
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 *MG 2/15/18*
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™, which will become Sloan Sakai Yeung & Wong LLP effective 3/1/18)

County Counsel Concurrence

As to form: Yes

Other Concurrence: Risk Management

As to form: Yes

Auditor-Controller Concurrence

As to form: Yes

Recommended Actions:

- 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™ (which will become Sloan Sakai Yeung & Wong LLP effective March 1, 2018) in an amount not to exceed \$75,000 without written amendment; and
- b) Determine that the above action is not a project under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Sections 15378(b)(4) and 15378(b)(5) because it consists of government administrative or fiscal activities that will not result in direct or indirect physical changes in the environment.

Summary Text:

The County routinely requires legal advice and representation in labor and employment matters, which County Counsel regularly provides. If the need arises on short notice or in a particularly obscure area of the law, County Counsel may not always have the necessary resources immediately available, in which case it is beneficial for the County to have a contract with capable outside counsel in place. On February 16, 2016, County Counsel recommended and the Board approved a two-year contract with Renne Sloan Holtzman Sakai LLP for that purpose. County Counsel now recommends that the Board approve a new two-year contract with that firm because the need for the services continues to arise, and the firm has been successful in providing those services during the past two years. The firm name will be changing effective March 1, 2018 but the principal attorneys providing service to the County will not be changing. The new contract will enable County Counsel to continue engaging the firm 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 that litigation be referred to outside counsel.

Performance Measure: N/A

Contract Renewals and Performance Outcomes: N/A

Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:

Budgeted: Yes

Key Contract Risks: N/A

Staffing Impacts: None

Special Instructions: Please forward a signed copy to Martin McKenzie in County Counsel.

Attachments: a) Contract
b) Contract Summary Form

Authored by: Martin McKenzie, County Counsel Chief of Litigation

cc: