



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:** March 1, 2016  
**Placement:** Administrative  
**Estimated Time:** N/A  
**Continued Item:** No  
**If Yes, date from:**  
**Vote Required:** Majority

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**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  
(Boornazian, Jensen & Garthe, a Professional Corporation)**

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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:**

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 Boornazian, Jensen & Garthe, a Professional Corporation, 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 occasionally requires legal advice or representation in the highly-specialized area of insurance law. For more than ten years, the County has received those services from the law firm of Boornazian, Jensen & Garthe, a Professional Corporation. The County's most recent contract with the firm has expired. County Counsel recommends that the Board authorize this new contract because the need for the services continues to arise (sometimes on short notice), and because the County has a successful history with this firm,. The contract will enable County Counsel to continue retaining the Boornazian firm to handle insurance issues 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:**