



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

Submitted on:
(COB Stamp)

Department Name: County Counsel
Department No.: 013
Agenda Date: March 10, 2026
Placement: Administrative Agenda
Estimated Time:
Continued Item: No
If Yes, date from:
Vote Required: 4/5

TO: Board of Supervisors
FROM: Department Director(s): Rachel Van Mullem, County Counsel
Contact: Adriana de Bruin
SUBJECT: Agreement for Professional Legal Services with Outside Counsel – Pansky Markle Attorneys at Law

County Counsel Concurrence

As to form: Yes

Other Concurrence: Risk Management

As to form: Yes

Auditor-Controller Concurrence

As to form: Yes

Recommended Actions:

That the Board of Supervisors:

- a) Approve, ratify, and authorize the Chair to execute an Agreement for Professional Legal Services with Pansky Markle Attorneys at Law from February 18, 2026, to February 17, 2028, in an amount not-to-exceed \$30,000.00; 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 and fiscal activities that will not result in direct or indirect physical changes in the environment.

Summary Text:

The Board of Supervisors, under the provisions of Section 31000 of the California Government Code, is empowered to contract for special legal services and expert witnesses. Due to the specialized nature in administrative proceedings before California state licensing boards, County Counsel recommends the assistance of attorney Ellen Pansky, who specializes in administrative proceedings. Ms. Pansky has extensive experience and expertise in this specialized area of practice, particularly in administrative proceedings before the California State Bar. The Agreement will

enable County Counsel to retain her to handle State Bar matters as needed. The amount set forth in the agreement is not to exceed \$30,000.00 over a two-year period.

Fiscal Analysis:

This contract will be used by multiple departments. Costs are initially paid by County Counsel and then the involved department provides reimbursement for services rendered.

Budgeted: Yes

Attachments:

Attachment A – Agreement for Professional Legal Services

Contact Information:

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