



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 12, 2023  
**Placement:** Administrative  
**Estimated Time:**  
**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, County Counsel (805) 568-2950  
Contact Info: Michelle Montez, Division Chief (805) 568-2950

**SUBJECT:** Agreement for Professional Legal Services with Liebert Cassidy Whitmore

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**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 Liebert Cassidy Whitmore, A Professional Corporation, in an amount not to exceed \$30,000 for the period of August 15, 2023 to August 31, 2024; 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 of the advice required, County Counsel recommends the assistance of attorney J. Scott Tiedemann, an attorney with Liebert Cassidy Whitmore, A Professional Corporation, who specializes in employment law. Mr. Tiedemann has extensive experience and expertise in this specialized area of practice. The Agreement will enable County Counsel to retain him to advise regarding employment law matters, as needed. The amount set forth in the agreement is not to exceed \$30,000.00 for just over a one-year period.

**Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:**

Budgeted: Yes

**Special Instructions:**

Please execute two (2) original Agreements and retain one (1) original Agreement and one (1) Minute Order for pick up by the Office of County Counsel. Please email [mmontez@countyofsb.org](mailto:mmontez@countyofsb.org) when available for pick up.

**Attachments:**

1. Agreement for Professional Legal Services
2. Board Contract Summary

**Authored by:**

Michelle Montez, Division Chief