

BUDGET AND FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT relative to proposed legal services agreements with various law firms for outside counsel assistance with police defense litigation.

Recommendations for Council action, SUBJECT TO THE APPROVAL OF THE MAYOR:

1. APPROVE contracts with Burke Williams & Sorensen, LLP; Colantuono Highsmith & Whatley, PC; Orbach Huff & Henderson, LLP; and, Reily & Jeffery; for a period of three years, each in an initial amount of \$25,000, for outside counsel assistance with police defense litigation.
2. APPROVE a contract with Jones Mayer Law, in an amount of \$150,000, for outside counsel assistance with police defense litigation.
3. APPROVE an appropriation of \$150,000 for the existing Contract No. C-204152 with Nathan & Kamionski LLP, and expand the scope of that contract to include outside counsel assistance with police defense litigation.
4. ACKNOWLEDGE that the total of \$400,000 will be drawn from prior funds transferred to Fund No. 100/12, Account No. 009301, Outside Counsel, specifically by way of the Fiscal Year 2025-26 Second and Third (Mid-Year) Financial Status Reports.
5. AUTHORIZE the City Attorney, or designee, to prepare Controller instructions for any necessary technical adjustments, subject to the approval of the City Administrative Officer (CAO); and, AUTHORIZE the Controller to implement the instructions.

Fiscal Impact Statement: None submitted by the City Attorney. Neither the CAO nor the Chief Legislative Analyst has completed a financial analysis of this report.

Community Impact Statement: None submitted

[The City Council may recess to Closed Session, pursuant to Government Code Sections 54956.9(d)(1) and (d)(2), to confer with its legal counsel relative to discuss the need for additional outside counsel assistance and funding.]

SUMMARY

At its meeting held on March 3, 2026, your Budget and Finance Committee considered the City Attorney report, dated February 17, 2026, relative to the approval of proposed legal agreements with various law firms for outside counsel assistance with police defense litigation; and, an appropriation for Contract No. C-204152 with Nathan & Kamionski LLP to expand the scope of said Contract to include outside counsel assistance with police defense litigation. The total requested amount for the outside counsel contracts is \$400,000. Councilmember Yaroslavsky introduced a motion, seconded by Councilmember McOske, to amend Recommendation No. 4 of said City Attorney report to acknowledge that the total of \$400,000 will be drawn from prior funds transferred to Fund No. 100/12, Account No. 009301, Outside Counsel, specifically by way of the Fiscal Year 2025-26 Second and Third (Mid-Year) Financial Status Reports.

After an opportunity for public comment was held, the Committee moved approval of the recommendations contained in the City Attorney report as amended, as detailed above. This matter is now forwarded to the Council for its consideration.

Respectfully Submitted,

BUDGET AND FINANCE COMMITTEE

<u>MEMBER</u>	<u>VOTE</u>
YAROSLAVSKY:	YES
BLUMENFIELD:	YES
HUTT:	YES
McOSKER:	YES
HERNANDEZ:	NO

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-NOT OFFICIAL UNTIL COUNCIL ACTS-