



Office of the Los Angeles City Attorney
Hydee Feldstein Soto

REPORT NO. R26 - 0256
MAY 4, 2026

**REQUEST FOR CLOSED SESSION PURSUANT TO
GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION 54956.9(d)(1)**

REPORT RE:

**PROPOSED LEGAL SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH
COLANTUONO, HIGHSMITH & WHATLEY
TO PROVIDE LEGAL SERVICES ASSOCIATED WITH
FRAKES V. CITY OF LOS ANGELES
LASC CASE NO. 26STCV07755**

The Honorable City Council
of the City of Los Angeles
Room 395, City Hall
200 North Spring Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Honorable Members:

This Office recommends that discussion with, and advice from, legal counsel with respect to *Frakes v. City of Los Angeles*, Los Angeles Superior Court (LASC) Case No. 26STCV07755, be scheduled by City Counsel and held in closed session pursuant to California Government Code Section 54956.9(d)(1). Government Code Section 54956.9 requires the issuance of a public statement that includes the section subdivision that authorizes the closed session meeting, and determine whether the closed session will be held to confer or discuss with, or receive advice from legal counsel regarding significant exposure to litigation, prior to the closed session.

The Office also recommends that the City Council approve the retention of Colantuono, Highsmith & Whatley, PC (CHW) as outside counsel and that the City enter


into a three-year contract for a budget not to exceed \$600,000. LASAN will pay for this contract from LASAN special funds, and LASAN supports this recommendation.

We ask that the matter be placed on the closed session agenda of the Budget and Finance Committee and City Council as soon as practicable.

If you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact Assistant City Attorney Gabriel S. Dermer at (213) 978-7558. A member of this Office will be available when you consider this matter to answer questions you may have.

Sincerely,

HYDEE FELDSTEIN SOTO, City Attorney

By 
ANNE HALEY
Assistant City Attorney