

K20-723

AMENDMENT NO. 3 TO PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT

BETWEEN

THE CITY OF NEW ORLEANS

AND

THE LAW OFFICES OF JOHN S. WILLIAMS, LLC

THIS THIRD AMENDMENT (the “**Amendment**”) is entered into by and between the City of New Orleans, represented by LaToya Cantrell, Mayor (the “**City**”), and the Law Offices of John S. Williams, LLC, represented by John S. Williams, Manager (the “**Contractor**”). The City will administer this Amendment through the City’s Office of the Independent Police Monitor (the “**OIPM**”). The City and the Contractor are sometimes collectively referred to as the “**Parties**.” The Amendment is effective as of July 20, 2020 (the “**Effective Date**”).

RECITALS

WHEREAS, on December 13, 2016 the City issued a Request for Proposals No. 7103-02128 seeking qualified persons to provide professional services including serving as outside legal counsel to the OIPM (the “**RFP**”);

WHEREAS, the Contractor submitted a proposal dated January 3, 2017, and the City has selected the Contractor to perform the professional services described in the RFP;

WHEREAS, on and effective July 20, 2017, the City and the Contractor entered into a Professional Services Agreement (the “**Agreement**”) to provide outside legal counsel to the OIPM (“**Services**”);

WHEREAS, on February 8, 2019, effective July 20, 2018, the City and the Contractor entered into a first amendment to extend the Agreement for 1-year, to provide continuity of Services to the OIPM, and to amend the maximum aggregate amount of compensation payable to the Contractor (“**Amendment No. 1**”);

WHEREAS, on May 21, 2020, effective July 20, 2019, the City and the Contractor entered into a second amendment to extend the Agreement for 1-year, to provide continuity of Services to the OIPM, and to amend the maximum aggregate amount of compensation payable to the Contractor (“**Amendment No. 2**”); and

WHEREAS, the City and the Contractor, each having the authority to do so, desire to enter this second Amendment to extend the Agreement for 1-year, to provide continuity of Services to the OIPM, and to amend the maximum aggregate amount of compensation payable to the Contractor.

NOW THEREFORE, for good and valuable consideration, the City and the Contractor amend the Agreement as follows:

1. **Extension**. In accordance with Article V Section B of the Agreement, the term is extended for an additional 1 year from the Effective Date through July 19, 2021.

2. **Maximum Amount.** Article IV Section B of the Agreement is reaffirmed, as the maximum aggregate amount payable by the City to the Contractor shall remain at \$50,000 per year.

3. **Rate of Compensation.** The hourly rate(s) set forth Article IV Section A and Section B of the Agreement are reaffirmed. The rate(s) payable by the City under this Agreement, as amended, are reaffirmed at \$225.00 for Attorney Services, \$110.00 for Paralegal Services; and \$45.00 for Legal Secretary Services, which are to be paid in quarterly installments as set forth hereinunder.

4. **Additional Miscellaneous Provisions.** The following terms and conditions are reaffirmed and/or added to the Agreement:

LIVING WAGES

A. **Definitions.** Unless otherwise expressly provided in this Contract, Capitalized terms used but not defined herein, shall have the definition attributed to them in Article VIII, Section 70-802 of the City Code.

B. **Compliance.** To the fullest extent permitted by law, the Contractor agrees to abide by City Code Sections 70-801, *et seq.*, which requires, in pertinent part, the following:

1. Payment of an hourly wage to Covered Employees equal to the amounts defined in the City Code ("**Living Wage**");
2. Receipt of at least seven (7) days per year of compensated leave for Covered Employees, as required by Section 70-807 of the City Code; and
3. Post notice in a prominent place regarding the applicability of the Living Wage Ordinance in every workplace in which Covered Employees are working that is within the Covered Employer's custody and control, as required by Section 70-810 of the City Code.

C. **Current Living Wage.** In accordance with the Living Wage Ordinance, the current Living Wage per the Consumer Price Index data is equal to \$11.19. The Contractor shall be responsible for confirming the Current Living Wage by visiting <https://www.nola.gov/economic-development/workforce-development/>.

D. **Adjusted Living Wage.** In accordance with Section 70-806(2) of the City Code, the Contractor acknowledges and agrees that the Living Wage may be increased during the term of the Contract. Any City contract or City financial assistance agreement (a) extending from one calendar year into the next or (b) with a term of longer than one year, inclusive of any renewal terms or extensions, shall require the Covered Employer to pay the Covered Employee an Adjusted Living Wage, accounting for the annual Consumer Price Index adjustment. The indexing adjustment shall occur each year on July 1st using the Consumer Price Index figures provided for the calendar year ended December 31st of the preceding year, and thereafter on an annual basis.

E. **Subcontract Requirements.** As required by Section 70-804 of the City Code, the Contractor, beneficiary, or other Covered Employer, prior to entering into a subcontract, shall notify subcontractors in writing of the requirements and applicability of Article VIII – The

Living Wage Ordinance (“Article”). City contractors and beneficiaries shall be deemed responsible for violations of this Article by their subcontractors.

F. **Reporting.** On or before January 31st and upon request by the City, the Contractor shall identify (a) the hourly wage earned by the lowest paid Covered Employee and (b) the number of days of compensated leave received by Covered Employees earning less than 130% of the then-prevailing wage during the current term of the Contract, and provide the identified information to the following:

Office of Workforce Development
Living Wage - Compliance
1340 Poydras Street – Suite 1800
New Orleans, Louisiana 70112

G. **Compliance Monitoring.** Covered Employers under this Contract are subject to compliance monitoring and enforcement of the Living Wage requirements by the Office of Workforce Development (the “OWD”) and/or the Chief Administrative Office (“CAO”). Covered Employers will cooperate fully with the OWD and/or the CAO and other City employees and agents authorized to assist in the administration and enforcement of the Living Wage requirements. Steps and actions include, but are not limited to, requirements that: (i) the Contractor will cooperate fully with the OWD and the CAO and other City employees and agents authorized to assist in the administration and enforcement of the Living Wage requirements; (ii) the Contractor agrees that the OWD and the CAO and their designees, in the performance of their duties, shall have the right to engage in random inspections of job sites and to have access to the employees of the Contractor, payroll records and employee paychecks; and (iii) that the City may audit such records of the Contractor as he or she reasonably deems necessary to determine compliance with the Living Wage standards.

H. **Remedies.** If the Contractor fails to comply with the Living Wage requirements during the term of the Contract, said failure may result in termination of the Contract or the pursuit of other remedies by the City, including, but not limited to, the penalties and enforcement mechanisms set forth in Section 70-811 of the City Code.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

The Contractor expressly acknowledges that this Agreement is for the performance of professional legal services on behalf of the Client, the City. Therefore, Contractor further acknowledges that it is bound by the Louisiana Rules of Professional Conduct. Contractor represents that it has performed a conflicts check and affirms that no actual, perceived or potential conflicts exist. Contractor acknowledges that it has an ongoing obligation to identify potential conflicts and to decline representation which presents a conflict. Any request for a conflict waiver must be presented to the City Attorney in writing in accordance with the Louisiana Rules of Professional Conduct. Nevertheless, the City Attorney is under no obligation to approve conflict waiver requests.

PERFORMANCE MEASURES

A. **Factors.** The City will measure the performance of the Contractor according to the following non-exhaustive factors: work performed in compliance with the terms of the Agreement; staff availability; staff training; staff professionalism; staff experience; customer service; communication and accessibility; prompt and effective correction of situations and

conditions; timeliness and completeness of submission of requested documentation (such as records, receipts, invoices, insurance certificates, and computer-generated reports).

B. Failure to Perform. If the Contractor fails to perform according to the Agreement, the City will notify the Contractor. If there is a continued lack of performance after notification, the City may declare the Contractor in default and may pursue any appropriate remedies available under the Agreement and/or any applicable law. In the event of a notification of default, the City will invoice the defaulting contractor for any increase in costs and other damages sustained by the City. Further, the City will seek full recovery from the defaulting contractor.

NON-DISCRIMINATION

A. Equal Employment Opportunity. In all hiring or employment made possible by, or resulting from this Agreement, the Contractor (1) will not be discriminate against any employee or applicant for employment because of race, sex, color, religion, gender, age, physical or mental disability, national origin, sexual orientation, gender identity, creed, culture, or ancestry, and (2) where applicable, will take affirmative action to ensure that the Contractor's employees are treated during employment without regard to their race, sex, color, religion, gender, age, physical or mental disability, national origin, sexual orientation, gender identity, creed, culture, or ancestry. This requirement shall apply to, but not be limited to the following: employment, upgrading, demotion or transfer, recruitment or recruitment advertising, layoff or termination, rates of pay or other forms of compensation, and selection for training, including apprenticeship. All solicitations or advertisements for employees shall state that all qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to race, sex, color, religion, gender, age, physical or mental disability, national origin, sexual orientation, gender identity, creed, culture, or ancestry.

B. Non-Discrimination. In the performance of this Agreement, the Contractor will not discriminate on the basis, whether in fact or perception, of a person's race, color, creed, religion, national origin, ancestry, age, sex, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity, domestic partner status, marital status, physical or mental disability, or AIDS- or HIV-status against (1) any employee of the City working with the Contractor in any of Contractor's operations within Orleans Parish or (2) any person seeking accommodations, advantages, facilities, privileges, services, or membership in all business, social, or other establishments or organizations operated by the Contractor. The Contractor agrees to comply with and abide by all applicable federal, state and local laws relating to non-discrimination, including, without limitation, Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Section V of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990.

C. Incorporation into Subcontracts. The Contractor will incorporate the terms and conditions of this Article into all subcontracts, by reference or otherwise, and will require all subcontractors to comply with those provisions.

D. The City may terminate this Agreement for cause if the Contractor fails to comply with any obligation in this Article, which failure is a material breach of this Agreement.

5. Cost Recovery. In accordance with Section 2-8.1 of the Municipal Code entitled "Cost recovery in contracts, cooperative endeavor agreements, and grants," to the maximum extent permitted by law, the Contractor shall reimburse the City or disgorge anything of value or economic benefit received from the City if the Contractor fails to meet its contractual obligations.

6. **Convicted Felon Statement.** The Contractor swears that it complies with City Code § 2-8(c). No Contractor principal, member, or officer has, within the preceding five years, been convicted of, or pled guilty to, a felony under state or federal statutes for embezzlement, theft of public funds, bribery, or falsification or destruction of public records.

7. **Compliance with the City's Hiring Requirements – Ban the Box.** (i) The Contractor agrees to adhere to the City's hiring requirements contained in City Code Sections 2-8(d) and 2-13(a)-(f). Prior to executing this Agreement, Contractor must provide a sworn statement attesting to its compliance with the City's hiring requirements or stating why deviation from the hiring requirements is necessary. (ii) Failure to maintain compliance with the City's hiring requirements throughout the term of the Agreement, or to provide sufficient written reasons for deviation, is a material breach of this Agreement. Upon learning of any such breach, the City will provide the Contractor notice of noncompliance and allow Contractor thirty (30) days to come into compliance. If, after providing notice and thirty (30) days to cure, the Contractor remains noncompliant, the City may move to suspend payments to Contractor, void the Agreement, or take any such legal action permitted by law or this Agreement. (iii) This section will not apply to any agreements excluded from the City's hiring requirements by City Code Sections 2-8(d) or (g). Should a court of competent jurisdiction find any part of this section to be unenforceable, the section should be reformed, if possible, so that it is enforceable to the maximum extent permitted by law, or if reformation is not possible, the section should be fully severable and the remaining provisions of the Agreement will remain in full force and effect. (iv) The Contractor will incorporate the terms and conditions of this Article into all subcontracts, by reference or otherwise, and will require all subcontractors to comply with those provisions.

8. **Living Wages.** To the fullest extent permitted by law, the Contractor agrees to abide by City Code sections 70-801, et seq., which requires payment of a wage to covered employees equal to the amounts defined in the Code ("Living Wage"). If the Contractor fails to comply with the requirements of the Living Wage during the term of the Agreement, said failure may result in termination of the Agreement or the pursuit of other remedies by the City.

9. **Non-Solicitation Statement.** The Contractor swears that it has not employed or retained any company or person, other than a bona fide employee working solely for it, to solicit or secure this Amendment. The Contractor has not paid or agreed to pay any person, other than a bona fide employee working for it, any fee, commission, percentage, gift, or any other consideration contingent upon or resulting from this Amendment.

10. **Prior Terms Binding.** Except as otherwise provided by this Amendment, the terms and conditions of the Agreement remain in full force and effect.

11. **Electronic Signature and Delivery.** The Parties agree that a manually signed copy of this Amendment and any other document(s) attached to this Amendment delivered by facsimile, email or other means of electronic transmission shall be deemed to have the same legal effect as delivery of an original signed copy of this Amendment. No legally binding obligation shall be created with respect to a party until such party has delivered or caused to be delivered a manually signed copy of this Amendment.

[SIGNATURES CONTAINED ON NEXT PAGE]

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IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the City and the Contractor, through their duly authorized representatives, execute this Amendment.

CITY OF NEW ORLEANS

BY: 
LATOYA CANTRELL, MAYOR

Executed on this 1ST of September, 2020.

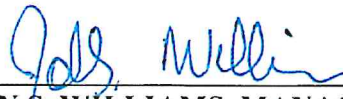
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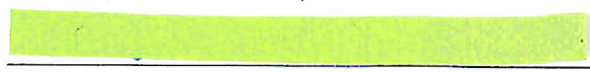
Law Department

By: 

Printed Name: Andrew Gregorian

THE LAW OFFICES OF JOHN S. WILLIAMS, LLC

BY: 
JOHN S. WILLIAMS, MANAGER


TAX I.D.

[END OF AMENDMENT]