

**SUBMITTAL TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE, STATE OF CALIFORNIA**

248



FROM: County Counsel

SUBMITTAL DATE:
November 3, 2010

SUBJECT: County Counsel Billable Hourly Rate

RECOMMENDED MOTION: That the Board of Supervisors approve the current FY 2010-2011 billable rate of \$143.15 per hour for attorneys and \$74.98 per hour for paralegals to departments for FY 2011-2012.

BACKGROUND: The Office of the County Counsel renders legal advice and assistance to the County Board of Supervisors and county departments, commissions, and agencies on important issues of law that face the County of Riverside; including health, public safety, welfare reform, child welfare, jail operations, environmental protection, personnel and human resources, public finance, taxation, elections - these are among the wide range of subjects that engage the Office of the County Counsel as legal advisor and primary civil litigator for the county. All county officers and employees receive the services of the County Counsel.

The impact of maintaining our budget based on FY 2009-2010 actuals means that we can no longer perform our core legal services or provide the same level of services to County General Fund departments and agencies. Our current FY 2010-2011 rate was recently approved on March 16, 2010 at \$143.18 for attorneys and \$74.98 for paralegals. County Counsel had not increased rates since May 20, 2008.

Pamela J. Walls, County Counsel

FISCAL PROCEDURES APPROVED
PAUL ANGULO, CPA, AUDITOR-CONTROLLER
 BY **GEORGE C. TABORA**

FINANCIAL DATA	Current F.Y. Total Cost:	\$	In Current Year Budget:	No
	Current F.Y. Net County Cost:	\$	Budget Adjustment:	No
	Annual Net County Cost:	\$	For Fiscal Year:	2011/12

SOURCE OF FUNDS:	Positions To Be Deleted Per A-30	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Requires 4/5 Vote	<input type="checkbox"/>

C.E.O. RECOMMENDATION:

APPROVE

BY: **Denise C. Harden**

County Executive Office Signature

Dept' Recomm.: Policy Consent
 Per Exec. Ofc.: Policy Consent

Prev. Agn. Ref.: _____ **District:** _____ **Agenda Number:** **3.30 C**

Background (continued):

Current rate calculations will be reduced from \$143.18 to \$143.15 for attorneys and the rates for the paralegals will remain the same at \$74.98. County Counsel has no ability to absorb these increased costs, except through our billable rate.

Our rates are also used to bill against Deposit Based Fees and some external non-County agencies, such as Local Agency Formation Committee (LAFCO), Inland Empire Health Plan (IEHP), First Five, School Districts, Riverside County Habitat Conservation Agency (RCHCA) and Airport Land Use Commission (ALUC).

The recommended action requests that the Board approve County Counsel's proposed hourly billable rates for Fiscal year 2011-2012.

Rates Summary

Attorneys	\$143.18	\$143.15	.0001%
Paralegals	\$ 74.98	\$ 74.98	.0000%