Positions Added

A-30

Change Order

П

4/5 Vote

SUBMITTAL TO THE FLOOD CONTROL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT BOARD OF SUPERVISORS **COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE, STATE OF CALIFORNIA**



FROM: General Manager-Chief Engineer

SUBMITTAL DATE: September 1, 2015

SUBJECT: Approval of Professional Services Agreement for the Municipal Separate Stormwater System Permits and other related Regulatory Services, 4 years, [\$1,000,000 total]; District Funds100%

RECOMMENDED MOTION: That the Board of Supervisors:

- Approve the Professional Services Agreement between the District and Burhenn & Gest LLP (Burhenn & Gest);
- 2. Authorize the Chairman to execute the Agreement on behalf of the District; and
- 3. Authorize the General Manager-Chief Engineer or his designee to execute any other documents and administer all actions necessary to complete any and all transactions.

BACKGROUND:

Summary

On August 10, 2010 (Agenda Item No. 11.1), the Board of Supervisors approved the sole source legal services agreement with Burhenn & Gest LLP to legal services for the District's Municipal Separate Stormwater System (MS4) Permits and other related regulatory services.

Continued on Page 2

AMR:blm P8/171649 General Manager-Chief Engineer

FINANCIAL DATA	Curre	ent Fiscal Year:	Nex	tt Fiscal Year;	Tot	tal Cost:	Or	ngoing Cost:	POLICY/CONSENT (per Exec. Office)
COST	\$	150,000	\$	100,000	\$	1,000,000	\$	N/A	Concept Delieu D
NET DISTRICT COST	\$	150,000	\$	100,000	\$	1,000,000	\$	N/A	Consent □ Policy □
COURSE OF FUN	D0.	00110	$\overline{}$	OF FUNDO I	_				

SOURCE OF FUNDS: See SOURCE OF FUNDS, Page 2

Budget Adjustment: No

15/16 to 18/19 For Fiscal Year:

C.E.O. RECOMMENDATION:

APPROVE

teven C. Horn

County Executive Office Signature

MINUTES OF THE FLOOD CONTROL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

On motion of Supervisor Ashley, seconded by Supervisor Benoit and duly carried, IT WAS ORDERED that the above matter is approved as recommended.

Ayes:

Jeffries, Washington, Benoit and Ashley

Nays:

None

Absent:

Tavaglione

Date:

September 1, 2015

XC:

Flood

Kecia Harper-Ihem

Prev. Agn. Ref.: 11.1 of 8/10/10

District: All

Agenda Number:

SUBMITTAL TO THE FLOOD CONTROL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT BOARD OF SUPERVISORS, COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE, STATE OF CALIFORNIA

FORM 11: Approval of Professional Services Agreement for the Municipal Separate Stormwater System Permits and other related Regulatory Services, 4 years, [\$1,000,000 total];

District Funds100%

DATE: September 1, 2015

PAGE: Page 2 of 2

BACKGROUND:

Summary (continued)

The District requires specialized legal services in order to effectively support the development and implementation of these permits. Regulatory actions can carry significant legal and fiscal liabilities for both the District and the Permittees that the District represents as Principal Permittee in the administration of the Santa Ana, Santa Margarita and Whitewater Regions MS4 Permits. Due to the nature of the legal issues, the potential significance of the liabilities and the need to move quickly to engage legal support, County Counsel supports the solicitation of outside legal services.

Burhenn & Gest has provided accurate legal representation during the permit renewal processes with the Regional Boards and particular administrative civil liability issues, and provided legal review in preparation for Regional Board workshops, hearings, and other meetings related to the MS4 Permits. Burhenn & Gest has also provided critical input on the issues of unfunded mandates and provided legal representation during the MS4 permit negotiations for Riverside and Los Angeles Counties.

Pursuant to County Board Policy H-7, on February 5, 2015, the District released Request for Qualifications to provide professional legal services in support of the District's Watershed Protection Division from February 5, 2015 through March 5, 2015. Four vendors submitted Statement of Qualifications packages. A selection committee comprised of District, and County Counsel representatives were established to review each firm's qualifications relative to the following: (i) Firm Relevant Experience, (ii) Personnel Qualifications, (iii) Record of Past Performance and (iv) Competence. Burhenn & Gest LLP was selected as the most qualified firm.

As the District enters into negotiations with the San Diego Regional Water Quality Control Board on the Santa Margarita Region MS4 Permit and the Santa Ana Region MS4 Permit, it is essential to have legal representation that is familiar with the stormwater pollution prevention program in Riverside County.

County Counsel has approved the Agreement as to legal form and the Burhenn & Gest has executed the Agreement.

Impact on Residents and Businesses

Costs incurred under this Agreement will be funded by current NPDES Benefit Assessment revenue and entails no new fees, taxes or bonded indebtedness.

SUPPLEMENTAL:

Additional Fiscal Information

Sufficient funding is available in the District's budget for Fiscal Year 2015-2016 and will be included in the proposed budget(s) for Fiscal Years 2016-2017 through 2018-2019.

Source of Funds

25180-947540-525440 Whitewater NPDES Professional/Legal Services 25190-947560-525440 Santa Ana NPDES Professional/Legal Services 25200-947580-525440 Santa Margarita NPDES Professional/Legal Services

Contract History and Price Reasonableness

Burhenn & Gest prices are competitive with other firms. Previous contracts with Burhenn & Gest have shown that they charge reasonably and within the scope of work.

ATTACHMENT:

Professional Services Agreement
 AMR:blm

AGREEMENT FOR PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

Municipal Separate Stormwater System Permits and other related Regulatory Services Fiscal Years 2015-2016 through 2018-2019

The Riverside County Flood Control and Water Conservation District, hereinafter called "DISTRICT", and Burhenn & Gest LLP, hereinafter called "ATTORNEY", hereby agree as follows:

RECITALS

WHEREAS, DISTRICT desires to contract for professional legal services with regard to the Municipal Separate Stormwater System Permits and other related Regulatory Services; and

WHEREAS, ATTORNEY shall provide professional legal services and are particularly qualified to perform the required specialized services due to their legal competence and expertise; and

WHEREAS, DISTRICT desires to retain ATTORNEY'S services in connection with the District's various municipal separate storm sewer system ("MS4") permits (Permits) as further described on Attachment "A", attached hereto and made a part hereof. Including, but not limited to, the legal review of Permits and regulatory actions, the preparation for and participation in testimony at Regional Board workshops, hearings and other meetings related to the Permits, other related regulatory services as assigned, and related future issues.

NOW THEREFORE, DISTRICT and ATTORNEY agree as follows:

1. <u>TERM</u>. The term of this Agreement shall commence on the date it is executed by DISTRICT'S Board of Supervisors and shall terminate at midnight on June 30, 2019. ATTORNEY shall not commence performance of any work or services, for any reason whatsoever, until DISTRICT has provided ATTORNEY with a written Notice to Proceed authorizing ATTORNEY to initiate work pursuant to this Agreement. No payment will be made for any work or services performed prior to the issuance of said Notice to Proceed.

2. <u>TERMINATION</u>. Services performed under this Agreement may be terminated in whole or in part at any time DISTRICT deems to be in its best interest, as determined by DISTRICT. DISTRICT shall terminate services by delivering to ATTORNEY a written Termination Notice executed by DISTRICT and specifying the extent to which services are terminated and the effective termination date.

- 3. <u>EFFECT OF TERMINATION</u>. After receiving a Termination Notice and unless otherwise directed by DISTRICT, ATTORNEY shall: (1) take all steps necessary to stop services on the date and to the extent specified in the Termination Notice; (2) complete services not terminated by the Termination Notice; (3) submit final billing for terminated services within thirty (30) days from the effective termination date; and (4) promptly submit a brief closing report advising DISTRICT of the status of the matters being handled.
- 4. <u>CLOSING REPORT UPON TERMINATION</u>. ATTORNEY shall deliver a Closing Report to DISTRICT immediately after termination of services under Section 2 or Section 5 which shall include, but not be limited to:
 - (a) A brief description of the status of all matters or projects that had been assigned to ATTORNEY.
 - (b) A discussion of DISTRICT's exposure and applicable law.

ATTORNEY shall give DISTRICT copies or originals, as appropriate, of all files and attorney work product for all matters on which it has been working. This includes any computerized index, computer programs and document retrieval system created or used for these matters.

5. <u>PROFESSIONAL CONFLICT OF INTEREST</u>. ATTORNEY represents and warrants that no DISTRICT employee whose position in DISTRICT enables him/her to influence the award of this Agreement or any competing agreement, and no spouse or economic dependent of

such employee is or shall be employed in any capacity by ATTORNEY, or shall have any direct or indirect financial interest in this Agreement.

Anyone who is a former employee of DISTRICT at the time of execution of this Agreement or who subsequently becomes affiliated with ATTORNEY in any capacity (employee, associate or partner) shall not (i) participate in the services provided by ATTORNEY to DISTRICT; or (ii) become a partner, shareholder or otherwise share in the profits of ATTORNEY for a period of one year from the date the former DISTRICT employee left DISTRICT employment.

It is possible that some of ATTORNEY'S present or future clients will have disputes with DISTRICT during the time that ATTORNEY is representing DISTRICT. DISTRICT and ATTORNEY agrees that should the situation arise where a new or existing client engages ATTORNEY in any matter in a position adverse to DISTRICT or in which DISTRICT'S interest may be adversely affected, that ATTORNEY will so advise DISTRICT and upon receipt of such notice DISTRICT may determine that the conflict may be waived or may determine that it is in the DISTRICT'S best interest to terminate the services of ATTORNEY. Should DISTRICT determine that it is best to terminate the services of ATTORNEY; DISTRICT will notify ATTORNEY of such decision. ATTORNEY may then submit any outstanding invoices for payment up to the date of termination as determined by the notice from DISTRICT.

6. <u>ATTORNEY'S SERVICES AND RESPONSIBILITIES</u>. Upon appointment, ATTORNEY shall provide DISTRICT with the names of other professionals (partners, associates, law clerks, paralegal, etc.) who will assist in the provision of services under this Agreement and the functions to be performed by each professional shall also be provided. ATTORNEY'S Supervising Attorney will be fully responsible for the quality of the work product. DISTRICT also requests no more than two (2) attorneys in the firm handle its files. Within a law firm, research and minor work should be performed by the lowest level of personnel (e.g., junior attorneys, paralegal) capable of

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performing a given task. Responsibility for the quality of work product remains with ATTORNEY'S Supervising Attorney. DISTRICT retains the right to approve or disapprove any and all ATTORNEY assignments.

(a) Key ATTORNEY Personnel.

- (1) ATTORNEY agrees that David Burhenn will be the supervising attorney assigned to perform the work on Attachment "A" and the terms of this Agreement. Any changes or substitution of the assigned attorney must have the express written approval of the General Manager-Chief Engineer of DISTRICT or his designee.
- **(2)** Support attorneys and paralegals shall be designated by David Burhenn and shall be comprised of the following individual: Only Howard Gest is expected to assist on this matter at this time; however, other attorneys or support staff may work on this matter as agreed upon on an as-needed basis.

Any change in staffing shall be made only upon telephonic or written notice, and written consent by DISTRICT, which may be made by facsimile transmission, which consent, shall not be unreasonably withheld.

- 7. LEGAL REPRESENTATION. ATTORNEY shall provide DISTRICT with the necessary representation by staff qualified to perform the legal tasks at the least costly billing category. ATTORNEY'S legal representation shall include, but not be limited to:
 - (a) Review of all applicable files and correspondence and claims, if any, and provision of an assessment of potential liability.
 - (b) All legal research and review of all documents and other evidentiary materials.

(c) Secretarial and clerical support services necessary to perform the legal representation in a professional manner.

ATTORNEY shall meet with DISTRICT as DISTRICT requires and provide all information and reports, including an estimate of fees for each aspect of representation as identified in the outlines, deemed necessary by DISTRICT to keep it informed.

8. PRIOR APPROVALS. ATTORNEY shall obtain the prior written approval of DISTRICT before: (i) retaining any consultant; (ii) undertaking research of more than four (4) hours on any particular issue; (iii) commencing travel on behalf of DISTRICT outside the Counties of Los Angeles, Riverside, San Bernardino, or Orange.

In addition, ATTORNEY shall: (i) assist DISTRICT in evaluation and negotiations, and shall obtain authority from DISTRICT before making any settlement proposal on behalf of DISTRICT; (ii) immediately notify DISTRICT verbally and in writing when a proposal of settlement is received; and (iii) keep and preserve all backup documentation to support all entries included in its billings for a period of four (4) years after termination or completion of the matters for which ATTORNEY has been retained.

- 9. <u>SETTLEMENT EVALUATION</u>. If applicable, ATTORNEY shall provide DISTRICT with an initial evaluation on settlement potential involving DISTRICT or any subordinate program that will serve as the basis for developing the legal position and strategy of DISTRICT and for controlling costs. ATTORNEY shall provide status reports upon request of DISTRICT.
- 10. <u>AGREEMENT AMOUNT</u>. The total amount paid to ATTORNEY under the terms of this Agreement shall not exceed the sum of one million dollars (\$1,000,000) over the entire term of this Agreement unless a written Amendment to this Agreement is executed by both parties prior to performance of additional services. Since these services are generally required throughout the

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term of the contract, DISTRICT and ATTORNEY will monitor work requirements and efforts such that the limits of compensation are not reached before the last month of the term of the Agreement.

- 11. SUPERVISION OF AGREEMENT. This Agreement shall be supervised on behalf of the County of Riverside Office of County Counsel by Aaron Gettis, Deputy County Counsel. Once services have begun, Mr. Gettis may designate in writing a DISTRICT management representative who may jointly supervise this Agreement on behalf of DISTRICT. Stuart McKibbin, Chief of Watershed Protection Division, shall be such designee. Approval of proposed settlement recommendations is subject to approval by the Board of Supervisors, as legislative body of DISTRICT.
- 12. FEES. DISTRICT shall pay ATTORNEY for services actual satisfactorily performed, products provided and expenses incurred in accordance with the fee rate schedule set forth on Attachment "B" attached hereto and made a part hereof.
- 13. EXPENSES. DISTRICT shall reimburse ATTORNEYS for their actual out-ofpocket expenses but without any additional costs for having advanced the funds or for expenses generally considered as overhead already reflected in ATTORNEY'S hourly rate.

Reimbursable ordinary expenses shall include, but not be limited to: (i) Postage; (ii) Messenger service; (iii) Document reproduction by outside vendor; and (iv) In-house document reproduction, provided, however, no single expense shall exceed one thousand five hundred dollars (\$1,500) without the prior consent of the General Manager-Chief Engineer of DISTRICT or his designee.

Reimbursable extraordinary expenses shall include charges of which ATTORNEY has obtained prior approval of DISTRICT. Such expenses shall include, but not be limited to: (i) consultants; (ii) travel outside the Counties of Los Angeles, Riverside, San Bernardino and

Orange; (iii) investigative services and (iv) any expense item exceeding five hundred dollars (\$500.00).

Non-reimbursable expenses shall include, but not be limited to: (i) staff time or overtime for performing secretarial, clerical, or word processing functions; (ii) charges for time spent to provide necessary information for DISTRICT audits or billing inquiries; (iii) charges for work performed which had not been authorized by DISTRICT, which work shall be a gratuitous effort by ATTORNEY; and (iv) mileage or travel expenses from the regular office of ATTORNEY to DISTRICT and/or County Counsel offices.

DISTRICT (Attention: Business Office-Accounts Payable) and to the County of Riverside Office of County Counsel (Attention: Aaron Gettis, Deputy County Counsel) at least quarterly, but no more than monthly, in arrears, following satisfactory performance of services. Payments shall be made by DISTRICT within thirty (30) days after receipt of billing from ATTORNEY. All billings shall be itemized to include (i) staffing levels, hourly rates and specific activities for each attorney and/or paralegal; (ii) listing of each activity as a line item in a time reporting format acceptable to DISTRICT with a detailed description of specific activities for each attorney and/or paralegal; (iii) total current period fees and total cumulative fees billed for each staffing level; and (iv) current period expenses and total cumulative expenses billed in itemized categories. Payments shall be made on a progressive basis.

It is the expectation of DISTRICT that it will not be billed for ordinary overhead expenses, including (i) ordinary word processing; (ii) time to prepare and review billings; and (iii) local travel.

ATTORNEY shall have and maintain all backup documentation to support all entries included in the monthly billing statement. Such documentation shall be in a form subject to audit

and in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles. ATTORNEY shall make such documentation available to auditors upon request and at such reasonable times and locations as may be agreed to between DISTRICT and ATTORNEY.

- 15. <u>CONFIDENTIALITY</u>. ATTORNEY shall maintain the confidentiality of all information which it may acquire arising out of or connected with activities under this Agreement in accordance with all applicable Federal, State and County laws, regulations, ordinances and directives relating to confidentiality, including the Code of Professional Responsibility. ATTORNEY shall inform all of its principals, employees and agents providing services hereunder of the confidentiality provisions of this Agreement. These confidentiality obligations shall survive the termination or expiration of this Agreement.
- 16. <u>COMMUNICATIONS WITH DISTRICT</u>. ATTORNEY recognizes that their relationship with DISTRICT and its agents, employees, officers and/or representatives is subject to the attorney-client privilege and that any information acquired during the term of this Agreement from or through DISTRICT is confidential and privileged. ATTORNEY warrants that they shall not disclose or use in any manner whatsoever any of the information from DISTRICT and its officers, employees and agents in connection with said relationships or proceedings. ATTORNEY understands that the County Counsel is the empowered legal representative of County of Riverside and its officers and employees and ATTORNEY shall not without specific direction from the Office of County Counsel communicate with, advise or represent DISTRICT legislative body.
- 17. <u>REQUIRED INSURANCE.</u> ATTORNEY shall not commence operations until DISTRICT has been furnished with original certificate(s) of insurance and original certified copies of endorsements and if requested, certified original policies of insurance including all endorsements and any and all other attachments as required in this Section.

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Without limiting or diminishing the ATTORNEY'S obligation to indemnify or hold the COUNTY harmless, ATTORNEY shall procure and maintain or cause to be maintained, at its sole cost and expense, the following insurance coverage's during the term of this Agreement.

A. Workers' Compensation:

If ATTORNEY has employees as defined by the State of California, ATTORNEY shall maintain statutory Workers' Compensation Insurance (Coverage A) as prescribed by the laws of the State of California. Policy shall include Employers' Liability (Coverage B) including Occupational Disease with limits not less than \$1,000,000 per person per accident. Policy shall be endorsed to waive subrogation in favor of DISTRICT and, if applicable, to provide a Borrowed Servant/Alternate Employer Endorsement.

В. Commercial General Liability:

Commercial General Liability insurance coverage, including but not limited to, premises liability, unmodified contractual liability, products and completed operations liability, personal and advertising injury, and cross liability coverage, covering claims which may arise from or out of CONSULTANT'S performance of its obligations hereunder. Policy shall name the Riverside County Flood Control and Water Conservation District, the County of Riverside, its agencies, districts, special districts, and departments, their respective directors, officers, Board of Supervisors, employees, elected or appointed officials, agents or representatives as additional insureds. Policy's limit of liability shall not be less than \$1,000,000 per occurrence combined single limit. If such insurance contains a general aggregate limit, it shall apply separately to this Agreement or be no less than two (2) times the occurrence limit.

C. <u>Vehicle Liability</u>:

If ATTORNEY'S vehicles or mobile equipment are used in the performance of the obligations under this Agreement, then ATTORNEY shall maintain liability insurance for all owned, non-owned or hired vehicles so used in an amount not less than \$1,000,000 per occurrence combined single limit. If such insurance contains a general aggregate limit, it shall apply separately to this Agreement or be no less than two (2) times the occurrence limit. Policy shall name the Riverside County Flood Control and Water Conservation District, the County of Riverside, its agencies, districts, special districts and departments, their respective directors, officers, Board of Supervisors, employees, elected or appointed officials, agents or representatives as additional insureds.

D. <u>Professional Liability</u>:

ATTORNEY shall maintain Professional Liability Insurance providing coverage for ATTORNEY'S performance of work included within this Agreement, with a limit of liability of not less than \$1,000,000 per occurrence and \$2,000,000 annual aggregate. If ATTORNEY'S Professional Liability Insurance is written on a claims made basis rather than an occurrence basis, such insurance shall continue through the term of this Agreement and ATTORNEY shall purchase at his sole expense either 1) an Extended Reporting Endorsement (also known as Tail Coverage); or 2) Prior Dates Coverage from a new insurer with a retroactive date back to the date of or prior to, the inception of this Agreement; or 3) demonstrate through Certificates of Insurance that ATTORNEY has maintained continuous coverage with the same or original insurer. Coverage provided under items: 1), 2) or 3) will continue as long as the law allows.

E. <u>General Insurance Provisions – All Lines:</u>

- i. Any insurance carrier providing insurance coverage hereunder shall be admitted to the State of California and have an A.M. BEST rating of not less than an A: VIII (A: 8) unless such requirements are waived, in writing, by the County Risk Manager. If the County Risk Manager waives a requirement for a particular insurer such waiver is only valid for that specific insurer and only for one policy term.
- ii. ATTORNEY must declare its insurance self-insured retention for each coverage required herein. If any such self-insured retention exceeds \$500,000 per occurrence each such retention shall have the prior written consent of the County Risk Manager before the commencement of operations under this Agreement. Upon notification of self-insured retention deemed unacceptable to the DISTRICT, and at the election of the County Risk Manager, ATTORNEY'S carriers shall either: 1) reduce or eliminate such self-insured retention with respect to this Agreement with DISTRICT, or 2) procure a bond which guarantees payment of losses and related investigations, claims administration, and defense costs and expenses.
- iii. ATTORNEY shall cause their insurance carrier(s) to furnish DISTRICT with 1) a properly executed original Certificate(s) of Insurance and certified original copies of Endorsements effecting coverage as required herein; and 2) if requested to do so orally or in writing by the County Risk Manager, provide original certified copies of policies including all Endorsements and all attachments thereto, showing such insurance is in full force and effect. Further, said Certificate(s) and policies of insurance shall contain the

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covenant of the insurance carrier(s) that thirty (30) days written notice shall be given to DISTRICT prior to any material modification, cancellation, expiration or reduction in coverage of such insurance. If ATTORNEY insurance carrier(s) policies does not meet the minimum notice requirement found herein, ATTORNEY shall cause ATTORNEY'S insurance carrier(s) to furnish a 30 day Notice of Cancellation Endorsement. In the event of a material modification, cancellation, expiration or reduction in coverage, this Agreement shall terminate forthwith, unless DISTRICT receives, prior to such effective date, another properly executed original Certificate of Insurance and original copies of Endorsements or certified original policies. including all endorsements and attachments thereto, evidencing coverages set forth herein and the insurance required herein is in full force and effect. ATTORNEY shall not commence operations until DISTRICT has been furnished with original Certificate(s) of Insurance and certified original copies of Endorsements and if requested, certified original policies of insurance including all endorsements and any and all other attachments as required in this Section. An individual authorized by the insurance carrier to do so on its behalf shall sign the original endorsements for each policy and the Certificate of Insurance.

iv. It is understood and agreed by the parties hereto that ATTORNEY'S insurance shall be construed as primary insurance, and DISTRICT'S insurance and/or deductibles and/or self-insured retentions or self-insured programs shall not be construed as contributory.

v. If, during the term of this Agreement or any extension thereof, there is a material change in the scope of services or there is a material change in the equipment to be used in the performance of the scope of work which will add additional exposures (such as the use of aircraft, watercraft, cranes, etc.); or the term of this Agreement, including any extensions thereof, exceeds five (5) years, DISTRICT reserves the right to adjust the types of insurance required under this Agreement and the monetary limits of liability for the insurance coverages currently required herein, if, in the County Risk Manager's reasonable judgment, the amount or type of insurance carried by ATTORNEY has become inadequate.

- iv. ATTORNEY shall pass down the insurance obligations contained herein to all tiers of subcontractors working under this Agreement.
- vii. The insurance requirements contained in this Agreement may be met with a program(s) of self-insurance acceptable to DISTRICT.
- viii. ATTORNEY agrees to notify DISTRICT of any claim by a third party or any incident or event that may give rise to a claim arising from the performance of this Agreement.
- 18. <u>INDEMNIFICATION</u>. ATTORNEY shall indemnify and hold harmless DISTRICT and County of Riverside (including its officers, Board of Supervisors, elected and appointed officials, employees, agents and representatives) from any liability whatsoever, based or asserted upon any services of ATTORNEY, its officers, employees, subcontractors, agents or representatives arising out of or in any way relating to this Agreement, including but not limited to property damage, bodily injury, or death or any other element of any kind or nature whatsoever arising from

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Riverside, CA 95201 Attn: Water Quality Compliance Section

Riverside County Flood Control

and Water Conservation District

1995 Market Street

representatives from this Agreement.

ATTORNEY shall defend, at its sole expense, all costs and fees including, but not limited, to attorney fees, cost of investigation, defense and settlements or awards, DISTRICT and County of Riverside (including its officers, Board of Supervisors, elected and appointed officials, employees, agents and representatives) in any claim or action based upon such alleged acts or omissions.

the performance of ATTORNEY, its officers, agents, employees, subcontractors, agents or

With respect to any action or claim subject to indemnification herein by ATTORNEY, ATTORNEY shall, at their sole cost, have the right to use counsel of their own choice and shall have the right to adjust, settle, or compromise any such action or claim without the prior consent of DISTRICT; provided, however, that any such adjustment, settlement or compromise in no manner whatsoever limits or circumscribes ATTORNEY'S indemnification to DISTRICT as set forth herein.

ATTORNEY'S obligation hereunder shall be satisfied when ATTORNEY has provided to DISTRICT the appropriate form of dismissal relieving DISTRICT from any liability for the action or claim involved.

The specified insurance limits required in this Agreement shall in no way limit or circumscribe ATTORNEY'S obligations to indemnify and hold harmless the DISTRICT herein from third party claims.

19. <u>NOTICES</u>. Any and all notices sent, or required to be sent, to the parties of this agreement will be mailed by first class mail, postage prepaid, to the following addresses:

Burhenn & Gest, LLP 624 South Grand Avenue Suite 2200 Los Angeles, CA 90017

Attn: David W. Burhenn

With a copy to: County of Riverside Office of County Counsel Aaron Gettis, Deputy County Counsel 3960 Orange Street Fifth Floor Riverside, CA 92501

- 20. <u>ASSIGNMENT</u>. No part of this Agreement or any right or obligation arising from it is assignable without the written consent of DISTRICT. Any attempt by ATTORNEY to assign or subcontract services relating to this Agreement without the consent of DISTRICT shall constitute a material breach of this Agreement. However, ATTORNEY may retain consultants and experts as ATTORNEY deem appropriate after receiving the written approval of DISTRICT.
- 21. <u>LITIGATION MANAGEMENT GUIDELINES.</u> The Litigation Management Guidelines are attached hereto as Exhibit A and includes Exhibits B (Initial Case Evaluation and Plan), C (Case Status Report), and D (Pre-Trial Status Report), and together they become an integral part of this Agreement. The Litigation Management Guidelines may be updated from time to time. ATTORNEY agrees that each superseding update shall become an integral part of this Agreement and will not change nor alter any other portion of this Agreement in any way whatsoever.
- 22. <u>COST ESTIMATES AND BUDGET GUIDELINES.</u> The Cost Estimates and Budget Guidelines are attached hereto as Attachment C which becomes an integral part of this Agreement.
- 23. <u>COMPLETE AGREEMENT</u>. This Agreement shall constitute the complete and exclusive statement of understanding between DISTRICT and ATTORNEY which supersedes all previous written or oral agreements, and all prior communications between DISTRICT and ATTORNEY relating to the subject matter of this Agreement.

ATTACHMENTS: Attachment A – Scope of Service Attachment B – Fee Schedule Attachment C - Cost Estimates and Budget Guidelines **EXHIBITS:** Exhibit A - Litigation Guidelines Exhibit B - Initial Case Evaluation and Plan Guideline Exhibit C - Case Status Report Guideline Exhibit D - Attorney Pre-Trial Status Report Guideline

1 IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties hereto have executed this Agreement on 2 SEP 01 2015 3 (to be filled in by Clerk of the Board) 4 RIVERSIDE COUNTY FLOOD CONTROL RECOMMENDED FOR APPROV 5 AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT WARREN D. WILLIAMS MARION ASHLEY, Chairman General Manager-Chief Engineer Riverside County Flood Control and Water 8 Conservation District Board of Supervisors 9 APPROVED AS TO FORM: ATTEST: 10 GREGORY P. PRIAMOS KECIA HARPER-IHEM 11 County Counsel Clerk of the Board 12 By 13 **Deputy County Counsel** 14 (SEAL) 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 Legal Services Agreement FY 2015/16 to 2018/19 27 w/Burhenn & Gest LLP 07/22/15 28 AMR:blm

BURHENN & GEST LLP

W. BURHENN

Partner

(ATTACH NOTARY WITH CAPACITY STATEMENT)

Legal Services Agreement FY 2015/16 to 2018/19 w/Burhenn & Gest LLP 07/22/15 AMR:blm

A notary public or other officer completing this certificate verifies only the identity of the individual who signed the document to which this certificate is attached, and not the truthfulness, accuracy, or validity of that document. State of California County of personally appeared Name(s) of Signer(s) who proved to me on the basis of satisfactory evidence to be the person(s) whose name(s) is/are subscribed to the within instrument and acknowledged to me that he/she/they executed the same in his/her/their authorized capacity(ies), and that by his/her/their signature(s) on the instrument the person(s), or the entity upon behalf of which the person(s) acted, executed the instrument. I certify under PENALTY OF PERJURY under the laws of the State of California that the foregoing paragraph is true and correct. WITNESS my hand and official seal. LAURA P. FORREST Commission # 1992355 Notary Public - California Signature of Notary Public San Bernardino County My Comm. Expires Oct 25, 2016 Place Notary Seal Above OPTIONAL -Though this section is optional, completing this information can deter alteration of the document or fraudulent reattachment of this form to an unintended document. **Description of Attached Document** Title or Type of Document: Document Date: Number of Pages: _____ Signer(s) Other Than Named Above: _ Capacity(ies) Claimed by Signer(s) Signer's Name: Signer's Name: □ Corporate Officer — Title(s): _ □ Corporate Officer — Title(s): __ ☐ Partner — ☐ Limited ☐ General ☐ Partner — ☐ Limited ☐ General ☐ Individual ☐ Attorney in Fact ☐ Attorney in Fact ☐ Individual ☐ Trustee ☐ Guardian or Conservator ☐ Trustee ☐ Guardian or Conservator Other: Other:

Signer Is Representing: _

Signer Is Representing: _

TERROTT AREA

SCOPE OF SERVICES

Firm shall provide "on-call" legal counsel and services in connection with the District's various (MS4) permits and provide other regulatory services related to the District's watershed protection programs. Such legal counsel and services may include, but are not limited to, the following:

- 1. Review and develop strategies for MS4 permits, regulatory actions, policies, and laws related to the following statutes and regulations: the Federal Clean Water Act, Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act, and other state and federal statutes that may pertain to water quality, stormwater, and the environment.
- 2. Prepare for and participate in testimony at workshops, hearings, presentations, and other similar meetings or engagements related to the MS4 Permits or applicable regulations. Preparation may include creating applicable submittals, graphics, PowerPoint presentations, questionnaires, or other similar materials. Participation may include formal presentations and/or participation in question and answer formats as a legal expert in the field of stormwater and water quality.
- 3. Provide legal services and develop strategies related to Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs), unfunded mandates, water conservation, water rights, and other similar issues/topics on behalf of the District.
- 4. Provide legal services regarding administrative civil liability issues, including potential legislative and judicial representation related to stormwater regulations. Possess the ability to defend the District against potential state and federal authorities, and enforcement actions against the District.

Fee Schedule

Burhenn & Gest LLP

NAME	TITLE	HOURLY RATE
David W. Burhenn	Partner	\$365
Howard Gest	Partner	\$365
Susan L. Goodkin	Associate	\$275
Alfrado Osborne III	Legal Assistant	\$105

ATTACHMENT C

COST ESTIMATES AND BUDGET GUIDELINES

Case Name:	Date of thi	s Evaluation:	
Attorney(s):	Case No.:		
	0	 	
Type of Litigation Expense	Attorney Hours	Actual To Date	Anticipated Projected
Case Assessment, Development and		 	Expenses
Administration	•		
Facts Investigation/Development	- 		
Analysis/Strategy			ļ
Experts/Consultants			
Document/File Management	-	 	ļ
Budgeting	- 		
Settlement			
Other Case Activity			
Total Hours and Expenses	0	\$0.00	\$0.00
	 	\$0.00	\$0.00
Pre-Trial Pleadings and Motions	<u> </u>	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	
Pleadings		ļ	
Preliminary Injunctions/Provisional Remedies		 	
Court Mandated Conferences			
Dispositive Motions	-		
Other Written Motions and Submissions	- 		
Class Action Certification and Notice			
Total Hours and Expenses		00.00	0000
	0	\$0.00	\$0.00
Discovery			
Written Discovery			
Document Production			
Depositions —			
Expert Discovery			
Discovery Motions	_		
Other Discovery			
Total Hours and Expenses			
22outh and Expenses	0	\$0.00	\$0.00
Frial Preparation and Trial			
Fact Witnesses			
			-
Expert Witnesses	·		
Written Motions and Submissions			
Other Trial Preparation			

<u></u>			•
Trial and Hearing Attendance			
Post-Trial Motions and Submissions			
Enforcement			
Total Hours and Expenses			
	0	\$0.00	\$0.00
Appeal			
Appellate Motions and Submissions			
Appellate Briefs		<u> </u>	
Oral Argument			
Total Hours and Expenses	—— 		
	0	\$0.00	\$0.00
Expenses (Itemize)			<u> </u>
Copying, Printing, Pacsimile		<u>-</u>	
Messenger, Postage			
Travel, Meals, Telephone			
Subpoena Fees, Witness Fees			
Online Research	 		
Total Hours and Expenses			
Grand Total	0	\$0.00	\$0.00
	0	\$0:00	\$0.00

RIVERSIDE COUNTY FLOOD CONTROL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Litigation Management Guidelines

Claims Philosophy

The District's claims philosophy is to identify, on a timely basis, those claims for which there is liability and to make settlement offers promptly. The District will generally not settle claims on a nuisance value basis as a matter of policy. The District, hereinafter referred to as District, policy is to defend all claims where there is no liability or where liability is questionable. Thorough, early investigation and rigorous development of the legal issues will identify the strengths and weaknesses of a case and allow us to develop a negotiating or trial strategy properly which is reflective of the case's value. It is always appropriate for counsel to provide us with settlement or trial recommendations.

I. LITIGATION COUNSEL

- A. Selection. Litigation counsel for each case shall be selected by the District or Office of County Counsel, where appropriate. The selection shall be based on the nature and complexity of the case, the experience and ability of the attorney, as well as other relevant factors.
- B. Terms. Upon appointment in any litigation, counsel shall provide the following to the District:
 - 1. The names of other professionals (partners, associates, law clerks, paralegals, etc.) who will assist in the case. The functions to be performed by each professional shall also be provided. We request no junior attorney be assigned our files. A junior attorney may be utilized for research, minor discovery and court appearances with the senior attorney being fully responsible for the quality of the work product. The District retains the right to approve or disapprove of any and all attorney assignments.

II. CASE ANALYSIS, STRATEGY AND BUDGET

- A. Development of an effective and strategically sound legal approach is the responsibility of counsel and includes the following:
 - 1. Identifying and developing all liability issues.
 - 2. Bringing viable third-party actions and/or cross actions against co-defendants.
 - 3. Developing the defense of contributory or comparative negligence.
 - 4. Raising causation issues to ascertain whether there is a nexus between the District's alleged act(s) and the actual damages sustained.

- 5. Critically analyzing the basis for all claims alleged or damages claimed.
- B. Within ninety (90) days following receipt of a case, counsel shall prepare and send to District, a Case Evaluation Plan (see Exhibit B) and as follows:
 - 1. Analysis (a comprehensive written analysis of the case). This analysis shall provide an initial evaluation of the case, including a brief synopsis of the facts of the case, damages and exposures in the case, and identification of the strengths and weaknesses of the case. Counsel shall also provide an initial impression of liability and identify the pertinent statutes and/or case law that may affect the outcome of the litigation.
 - 2. Investigation. We require investigations be done timely. This includes but is not limited to:
 - a. Identification of and taking statements of witnesses.
 - b. Accident reconstruction (including photographs, diagrams, measurements, etc.).
 - c. Production of documents.
 - d. Purchase order/contracts/lease agreements.
 - e. Internal statements, memos, and correspondence.
 - f. Inspections, etc.
 - g. Blue prints, if applicable.

Counsel shall identify any additional information or documentation that is needed to disprove the plaintiff's claims or to establish defenses in the action. Where it is believed further investigation is necessary, please discuss this with County Counsel prior to it being initiated.

- 3. Strategy. Counsel shall define the strategy to be used in defending each lawsuit, including, but not limited to:
 - a. The anticipated course of action to be taken and prospect for success (i.e. motion to dismiss, motion for summary judgment, negotiated settlement, trial, etc.).
 - b. The facts or elements which must be proved or disproved and the discovery necessary to establish these defenses or proof.
 - c. The timing of the discovery, filing of motions, negotiations or other objectives.
 - d. A description of how the work will be distributed among those who will be working on the case.
 - e. The tactics to be used in defending the case and the advantages to be gained by use of these tactics.
 - f. When appropriate, bifurcation of liability from damages' issues should be considered.
- C. Budget. Litigation counsel will also provide an estimate of the anticipated cost of each significant aspect of the litigation, pursuant to the attached <u>Budget Guidelines</u>

Attachment C. These guidelines may change from time to time and you should always familiarize yourself with all changes.

III. COMMUNICATION

- A. Correspondence and pleadings. Copies of all pertinent correspondence, investigations, and summaries of depositions, interrogatories and pertinent pleadings shall be promptly provided by litigation counsel to County Counsel and the excess and/or reinsurance carrier when the case meets the excess reporting criteria. Litigation counsel will promptly respond to all letters or phone calls and will keep County Counsel fully advised of the progress in each case.
- B. Depositions and hearings. We require timely notification of all scheduled depositions, deposition preparations, mediations, MSC, VSC, arbitrations, trials, etc. We consider timely notification to be not less than 2 weeks in advance with 3-4 weeks advanced notice being preferable. Notice of all hearings shall be sent by Litigation counsel to County Counsel and to the excess carrier when the case meets excess reporting requirements to allow them to attend the hearing. It is required that within 10 days of any District employee's deposition being taken, litigation counsel will meet with the District employee for the purpose of preparing the employee for their depositions and for trials in which they will serve as witnesses and/or experts. There are to be no telephone preparations (See VII Trials and Reports).
- C. Evaluations. We request evaluations as to liability and settlement value issues as early in the case as possible. Upon request, and at such other times as deemed necessary, Litigation counsel shall provide written or oral evaluations of the litigation. These evaluations shall disclose any weaknesses or strengths that have been discovered, any changes in applicable statutes or case law, any increase or decrease in anticipated costs, and (if possible) the potential liability and settlement value of the case. These evaluations should be as straight-forward and as objective as possible to allow County Counsel to meaningfully analyze the case and to determine the course of action to be taken.

IV. UPDATES

It is the responsibility of counsel to update <u>any</u> item of information contained in the initial status report, including judgments and opinions of counsel, <u>promptly</u> when a change occurs. All updates shall also be concise. If six months elapse since the initial report or the last previous update and no changes have occurred, counsel shall advise County Counsel of that fact in a written update. <u>Consequently, no six-month period shall expire without written communication from litigation counsel to County Counsel.</u>

V. SETTLEMENT AUTHORITY

Litigation counsel shall not settle any lawsuit or make a settlement offer in any amount or make any representation as to settlement possibilities without prior authorization of the County Counsel and/or Board of Supervisors approval when necessary.

VI. LEGAL BILLINGS

A. All bills for legal services and costs shall be submitted at least quarterly. Fees and costs shall be billed at the rates previously agreed upon. All bills shall state with particularity the legal work performed, the hours expended to perform the work and the costs incurred. Attorneys submitting the bills for payment are responsible for the content of the bills and will work with the District to resolve problems or answer questions.

Legal fees will <u>not</u> be paid unless submitted in the following format:

- 1. Each legal activity will be dated and itemized (multiple daily descriptive explanations of activities with a single time entry is not acceptable).
- 2. We require all billings be itemized to indicate the following:
 - a. The attorney doing the work.
 - b. Hours spent for each specific task.
 - c. Hourly rate.
 - d. Work being done by paralegals or law clerks should be identified.

Please advise if research time and/or overtime is billed and how it is indicated on the billing.

- 3. The amount of time to complete the task must be broken down into tenths of hours. Block time billing is not acceptable; therefore, not reimbursable.
- 4. The rates charged by each attorney working on the case must be summarized with the amount of hours to depict a cost per attorney.
- 5. Where expenses have been incurred for others, such as copy service, court reporters, experts, etc, please submit bills directly to District after approving them for payment. If you inadvertently paid a bill, please submit the itemized invoice you have paid along with your billing requesting reimbursement.
- 6. We understand the need to pay for unusual expenses incurred by you on behalf of District, however, we should not be asked to pay for ordinary overhead expenses, which we believe includes:
 - a. Ordinary postage.
 - b. Local telephone calls and faxes.
 - c. Ordinary word processing.
 - d. Time to prepare and review billings.
 - e. Local travel (30 miles or less, round trip.)
 - f. Meals when involved in local (in-town) cases.
- 7. If overpayments are/have been made by the District, the attorney firm <u>must</u> remit a reimbursement payment to the District within 30 days. No credit balances will be acceptable.

- B. We will gladly pay for unusual charges which we believe include:
 - 1. Long distance telephone calls these should be itemized whenever possible.
 - 2. Express mail when deemed necessary.
 - 3. Long distance fax charges.
 - 4. Photocopy charges must include itemization, showing the number of pages and the cost per page which must not be excessive nor above industry standards. Where expense has been extensive, we would appreciate an explanation.
 - 5. Travel time if you are required to fly to another destination, reimbursable time begins at the airport you are departing from and ends at the arriving destination airport. Other out of town travel is reimbursable from your office location to your destination utilizing the most direct or quickest route.
 - 6. Out of town travel you must obtain prior authorization for any out of town travel. We ask that you do not fly first class or business class nor stay in a hotel whose rates are expensive or above the average daily rate of \$159.00, or \$239.00 in high cost cities such as San Francisco, New York, Washington D.C., etc (averages may vary by locale). We do not reimburse alcoholic beverage consumption. Food consumption should be reasonable and not excessive. Meals must be itemized as to food, beverages and tips. Itemization of all travel expenses by each person incurring those expenses must be made. This includes airfare, hotel, food, ground travel and any other major costs. Arrangements must be made to use a local court reporter or any other local service you believe is necessary as we will not authorize travel expenses for these services. Car rentals should be compact to mid-size vehicles and not in the luxury class.

C. <u>Use of Appropriate Personnel</u>

Within a law firm, research and minor discovery work should be performed by the lowest level of personnel (e.g. junior attorneys, paralegals) capable of performing a given task. Responsibility for the quality of the work product remains with the assigned trial attorney.

D. <u>Multiple Attorney Conferences/Attendance</u>

- 1. We will not pay for attendance by more than one representative of a law firm at meetings, court appearances, conferences, etc. without our prior approval.
- 2. Attorney office conference time must be itemized and is subject to review and may be disallowed.

E. Research

1. We will not pay for extensive research of relatively routine matters which should otherwise be within the knowledge of experienced practitioners.

2. We will only pay for review and revision of prior research; we will not pay each time as if previous research was conducted <u>de novo</u>.

F. Copy Service

We prefer to use one copy service wherever possible so that we can participate in volume discounts. We may establish and provide a panel of copy service vendors for your reference. Until you receive this panel, please continue using your current copy service making the effort to negotiate volume discounts. We want to utilize one court reporter whenever possible for the same reason - volume discount. Please provide us names and telephone numbers of court reporters you use by area (i.e., Riverside, Indio, Blythe, etc).

G. Audit

Attorneys shall have and maintain all backup documentation to support all entries included in the monthly billing statement. Such documentation shall be in a form subject to audit and in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles. Attorneys shall make such documentation available to auditors upon request and at such reasonable times and locations as may be agreed to between District and Attorneys.

The District retains the right to have legal billings audited.

VII. TRIALS AND REPORTING

- A. Within ten (10) to thirty (30) days prior to trial, Litigation counsel will meet with District employees who will be called as witnesses.
- B. Within thirty (30) days of the conclusion of all trials, a brief summary trial report should be directed to the County Counsel outlining the trial results.

VIII. FINAL REPORTS

- A. At the conclusion of the case, a short summary report should be directed to the County Counsel. Original closing papers and the final billing should be attached.
- B. Within ninety (90) days following the termination of each lawsuit, the County Counsel will review the file to determine compliance with the District's guidelines and the strategy and budget developed by litigation counsel for the case. If appropriate, a meeting will be arranged to discuss perceived problems and/or ways to improve litigation of the District's claims.

IX. Electronic Communication/Data Storage/Presentation

A. The District strongly suggests all attorneys handling District files have the ability to communicate individually via electronic mail (E-Mail).

B. The County of Riverside Superior Courts has equipment that is available for presenting evidence electronically (photo's, text, animation, etc.) via the use of an Elmo and a computer. The Courts also have a large screen which is used to project the electronic evidence and information onto so that all jurors can easily view the evidence presented. The District believes that jurors will retain 80%-90% of what they hear <u>if</u> they see it simultaneously. In addition, the management and storage of data on CD-ROM is beneficial to the success of the presentations of most of our cases. Therefore, the District strongly suggests all attorneys handling cases on behalf of the District become proficient in managing and presenting cases via electronic medium.

X. Miscellaneous

There may be additional reporting requirements required by County Counsel. You will be notified in writing of any additional requirements which we deem necessary.

The foregoing is not meant to be burdensome - it is meant to control and manage our costs as well as to be knowledgeable and involved with each of our cases.

INITIAL CASE EVALUATION AND PLAN GUIDELINE

To be completed by Firm's Supervising Attorney

1.

FIRM NAME:

CASE NAME:

COURT CASE #: DISTRICT FILE #:

	INCIDENT DATE: CLAIM DATE: COMPLAINT FILED DATE: TYPE OF CASE:						
	CASE/MATTER DESCRIPTION AND FACTS:						
	OPPOSING ATTORNEY'S NAME (if applicable):						
2.	INVESTIGATION NEEDED:						
3.	INJURIES OR DAMAGES CLAIMED (list punitive damages separately):						
4.	SPECIAL DAMAGES:	MEDICAL LOSS OF EARNINGS OTHER (specify)	\$ \$ \$				
5.	PLAINTIFF'S CONTENTION:						
6.	AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSES:						
7.	INITIAL DISCOVERY (designate expert/parties):						
	 a. Depositions to be taken (list names). b. Interrogatories to be sent (list names). c. Records/Documents to be produced (list names). 						
8.	RESEARCH REQUIRED (general deresearch requiring original effort as op by your FIRM.						

INITIAL CASE EVALUATION AND PLAN GUIDELINE

To be completed by Firm's Supervising Attorney

9.	MONETARY EVALUATION OF CASE:	Potential Liability/Exposure: Verdict Range: Settlement Value:	\$ \$ \$
10.	RECOMMENDED CASE STRATEGY:		
11.	STAFFING/HOURLY RATE (list names, tire each partner, associate and/or paralegal).	tles, hourly rate, and estimated nu	mber of hours for
12.	CONSULTANT AND/OR EXPERT WIT estimated number of hours for each consultar	TNESS (list names, specialty, nt and/or expert).	hourly rate, and
13.	INITIAL COST ESTIMATE (projected by handling each case to/through each of the (estimated) Budget Guidelines. Trial costs sl has been set. Please base your best estimate of	stages as provided in the Attac hould not be included until MSC	hment C for our and/or Trial date
14.	Estimated final disposition date.		
Appro	oved by:(Firm's Supervising Attorney)	Date:	

EXHIBIT C

CASE STATUS REPORT GUIDELINE

To be completed by Firm's Supervising Attorney

1.	FIRM NAME:
	CASE NAME:
	COURT CASE #: DISTRICT FILE #:
	INCIDENT DATE: CLAIM DATE: COMPLAINT FILED DATE:
2.	STATUS OF DISCOVERY (since last status report). List depositions taken.
3.	INTERROGATORIES SENT/RECEIVED (list names):
4.	REQUESTS FOR MEDICAL EXAMS:
5.	STATUS OF EXPERT WITNESS/CONSULTANT INVESTIGATIONS:
6.	RESULTS OF MOTIONS (describe all Motions and indicate outcome):
7.	SIGNIFICANT DEVELOPMENTS WHICH MAY INCREASE OR DECREASE DISTRICT'S EXPOSURE/LIABILITY:
8.	RECOMMENDED CASE STRATEGY (state clearly changes from previously agreed to strategy):
9.	SIGNIFICANT EVENTS: Trial Setting Conference Date: Arbitration Date: Voluntary Settlement Conference Date: Mandatory Settlement Conference Date: Department Jury Non-Jury (check one)
10.	Please update Attachment C - Cost Estimates and Budget Guidelines.
Appı	roved by: Date:
	(Firm's Supervising Attorney)

ATTORNEY PRE-TRIAL STATUS REPORT GUIDELINE

TO: CASE NAME: FROM:	
DISTRICT FILE NO.:	
DATE:	
EXPECTED TRIAL DATE	3:
VENUE:	

I. DEFENDANT

- A. Effectiveness of each anticipated witness; rate (from excellent to poor) his/her demeanor, general credibility, memory and particular tendencies as a witness.
- B. Other Insurance Coverage type of policy, policy number and/or claim number, carrier name, address and phone number, claims person, type of other insurance clause (excess, escape or proratal), limits, deductible, known coverage defenses and/or reservation of rights (attach copy if available).

II. PLAINTIFF

- A. Name, address, age, marital status and occupation. If plaintiff is a business, provide a description.
- B. Dependants, if any; their names, ages, and relationships..
- C. Effectiveness as a witness rate (from excellent to poor) his/her demeanor, general credibility, memory and particular tendencies as a witness.
- D. Name of plaintiff attorney and his/her ability. You may also want to include any comments as to his/her success on high profile or high value cases. High values cases would be those above \$750,000.00.

III. SUMMARY OF FACTS WHICH ENGENDERED THIS CLAIM

IV. CO-DEFENDANTS AND/OR THIRD PARTY DEFENDANTS

- A. Identity of parties.
- B. Respective attorneys Names, business address, telephone numbers.
- C. Factual and legal basis for plaintiff's/cross-complainant's claims against other parties.

- D. Brief summary of probable exposure.
- E. Other Insurance Coverage type of policy, policy number, claim number, carrier name, address and phone number, name of claims person, type of other insurance clause (excess, escape, etc), limits, deductible, known coverage defenses and/or reservation of rights (attach copy if available).

V. <u>WITNESSES</u>

- A. Name, address, age and occupation.
- B. Event they perceived.
- C. Effectiveness as a witness rate (from excellent to poor) his/her demeanor, general credibility, memory and particular tendencies as a witness.

VI. ANALYSIS OF CLAIM: LIABILITY AND DAMAGES

- A. Plaintiff's theories.
- B. Defense theories.
- C. Co-defendants and/or third-party defendant theories.
- D. Strengths and weaknesses of subsections A, B, and C above.
- E. Chance of defense verdict for District, co-defendant and/or third party defendant (discuss each separately).
- F. If the District, co-defendant and/or third-party defendant settle, the probability of success of the non-settling defendant(s) in obtaining indemnity against the settling defendant (discuss each separately).
- G. Causation issues, i.e., was the District's alleged negligence a cause in fact of the damages claimed.
- H. Probable damages (compensatory) if case is lost.
- I. Punitive damage exposure? Will Plaintiff's attorney's fees be recoverable?
- J. Probability of contributory negligence finding (i.e., defense verdict) or probable percentage of comparative negligence (i.e., plaintiff's percentage of fault).
- K. Probable apportionment of fault among defendants (assign percentages).
- L. Net exposure (state a dollar amount) to District after all apportionment and based on probable damages.
- M. Settlement value and basis for evaluation.

- N. Should case be tried? Explain risks.
- O. Brief summary of probable outcome as to both liability and damage issues, indicating whether you consider this a case of liability and why.

VII. <u>SETTLEMENT DISCUSSIONS</u>

- A. What is the demand?
 - (a) Original amount and date.
 - (b) Present amount and date.
- B. What, if anything, has the District offered? If a definite offer has not been made, but an indicator or range has been discussed, so state, listing each indicator or range figure discussed.
- C. What, in your opinion, can the case be settled for at this time?
- D. Do you recommend that we settle? Why?

VIII. FUTURE HANDLING

- A. In your opinion, is the investigation of this case complete?
- B. If not complete, what further investigation do you suggest and what would it cost?
- C. What further discovery is needed; what would it cost to conclude the discovery and when do you expect discovery to be completed?
- D. Experts explain need, their field, the number, probable testimony, cost of each, and whether plaintiff has experts (if so, who and how effective is he/she?).

IX. <u>LEGAL EXPENSES</u>

- A. What are the total legal expenses to date?
- B. If the is case is tried, what would be the approximate cost of defense through trial excluding IX.A. above (include the expense described in VIII.D.)?