

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



**ITEM: 3.4**  
(ID # 28156)

**MEETING DATE:**  
Tuesday, July 01, 2025

**FROM :** EXECUTIVE OFFICE

**SUBJECT:** EXECUTIVE OFFICE: Approval of Amendment No. 1 to the Contract to Provide Legal Services for Indigent Defendants for Whom the Riverside County Law Office of the Public Defender Declares a Conflict of Interest or is Otherwise Unavailable with Paul Grech Jr. dba Criminal Defense Lawyers. Districts 1, 3, and 5, [Total Cost \$4,924,985 – 100% - Indigent Defense] (4/5 Vote Required)

**RECOMMENDED MOTION:** That the Board of Supervisors:

1. Approve Amendment No. 1 to the Contract to Provide Legal Services for Indigent Defendants for Whom the Riverside County Law Office of the Public Defender Declares a Conflict of Interest or is Otherwise Unavailable with Paul Grech, Jr. dba Criminal Defense Lawyers, to increase the annual maximum contract amount by \$1,474,995, from \$2,979,005 to \$4,454,000, for FY 25/26 through FY 27/28 and to provide a one-time payment of \$500,000 due to the actual caseload being significantly greater than contemplated at the time of bid and contract award, and authorize the Chair of the Board to sign the amendment on behalf of the County;

Continued on Page 2

**ACTION:4/5 Vote Required, Policy**


  
Michelle Paradise, ACEO 6/18/2025

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**MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

On motion of Supervisor Gutierrez, seconded by Supervisor Medina and duly carried by unanimous vote, IT WAS ORDERED that the above matter is approved as recommended.

Ayes: Medina, Spiegel, Washington, Perez and Gutierrez  
Nays: None  
Absent: None  
Date: July 1, 2025  
xc: EO, Auditor

Kimberly A. Rector  
Clerk of the Board  
By:   
Deputy

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**RECOMMENDED MOTION:** That the Board of Supervisors:

2. Authorize the Purchasing Agent, in accordance with Ordinance No. 459, based on the availability of fiscal funding and as approved as to form by County Counsel to a) sign amendments that exercise the options of the agreement including modifications to the agreement that stay within the intent of the agreement, and b) sign amendments to the compensation provisions that do not exceed five percent (5%) of the revised annual maximum compensation amount annually in accordance with the terms and of the agreement for the three (3) additional one (1) year renewal periods between June 30, 2028 through June 30, 2031;
3. Authorize the Purchasing Agent to issue Purchase Orders to Paul Grech Jr. dba Criminal Defense Lawyers in an amount not to exceed the approved compensation amount for invoices received for goods/services rendered that are consistent with the agreement, as amended;
4. Direct the Clerk of the Board to retain one (1) copy and return two (2) copies of the amendment to the Executive Office for distribution; and
5. Approve and direct the Auditor-Controller to make the budget adjustments shown on Schedule A.

<b>FINANCIAL DATA</b>	<b>Current Fiscal Year:</b>	<b>Next Fiscal Year:</b>	<b>Total Cost:</b>	<b>Ongoing Cost</b>
<b>COST</b>	\$1,974,995	\$1,474,995	\$4,924,985	\$5,156,062
<b>NET COUNTY COST</b>	\$1,974,995	\$1,474,995	\$4,924,985	\$5,156,062
<b>SOURCE OF FUNDS:</b> Indigent Defense Budget – 100%			<b>Budget Adjustment:</b> Yes	
			<b>For Fiscal Year:</b> 25/26 – 30/31	

**C.E.O. RECOMMENDATION:** Approve.

**BACKGROUND:**

**Summary**

The County of Riverside is required to retain legal services to represent indigent defendants for whom the Riverside County Public Defender’s Office (PD) declares a conflict of interest.

On June 27, 2023, Minute Order 3.23, the BOS approved the contracts to provide legal services for indigent defendants for whom the Riverside County Law Office of the Public Defender declares a conflict of interest or is otherwise unavailable with Paul Grech, Jr. dba Criminal Defense Lawyers for the Southwest Region. Amendment No. 1 is to compensate the contractor for higher-than-expected caseloads than originally contemplated at the time of the bid and contract award. It will also allow for a one-time payment of \$500,000 in recognition of the actual caseload being significantly greater than contemplated during the initial two years of the contract.

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**Impact on Residents and Businesses**

There is no negative impact on citizens or business in the County. The Legal Indigent Defense Services Agreements will keep the County in compliance with legal requirements.

**Contract History and Price Reasonableness**

The County of Riverside Purchasing, on behalf of the Executive Office, issued a Request for Proposal (RFP) #EOARC-652 on December 20, 2022, soliciting proposals for Legal Indigent Defense Services. The Executive Office has deemed this amendment to be fair compensation for the unexpected and on-going increase in caseloads.

**Attachments**

**Attachment A:** Amendment No. 1 to the Contract to Provide Legal Services for Indigent Defendants for Whom the Riverside County Law Office of the Public Defender Declares a Conflict of Interest or is Otherwise Unavailable with Paul Grech, Jr. dba Criminal Defense Lawyers.

**Attachment B:**

**SCHEDULE A**

**BUDGET ADJUSTMENT FY 2025/2026**

Increase Appropriations:

10000-1109900000-525020	Legal Services	\$1,974,995
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Anticipated Use of Unassigned Fund Balance:

10000-1109900000-370100	Unassigned Fund Balance	\$1,974,995
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Decrease Appropriations:

10000-1109000000-581000	Approp. for Contingencies	\$1,974,995
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Anticipated Increase of Unassigned Fund Balance:

10000-1109000000-370100	Unassigned Fund Bal.	\$1,974,995
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Brett Austin, Supervising Accountant 6/17/2025

  
Stacy Orton, Assistant Director of Purchasing 6/16/2025

  
Aaron Gettis, Chief of Deputy County Counsel 6/16/2025

AMENDMENT NO. 1 TO THE CONTRACT TO PROVIDE LEGAL SERVICES FOR INDIGENT  
DEFENDANTS FOR WHOM THE RIVERSIDE COUNTY LAW OFFICE OF THE PUBLIC  
DEFENDER DECLARES A CONFLICT OF INTEREST OR IS OTHERWISE UNAVAILABLE  
BETWEEN COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE AND  
PAUL GRECH JR. dba CRIMINAL DEFENSE LAWYERS

Term of Performance:	July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2028
Effective Date of Amendment No. 1:	July 1, 2025
Original Annual Maximum Contract Amount:	\$2,979,005
Amended Annual Maximum Contract Amount:	\$4,454,000
Contract ID:	EOARC-96149-002-06/28

This AMENDMENT NO. 1 TO THE CONTRACT TO PROVIDE LEGAL SERVICES FOR INDIGENT DEFENDANTS FOR WHOM THE RIVERSIDE COUNTY LAW OFFICE OF THE PUBLIC DEFENDER DECLARES A CONFLICT OF INTEREST OR IS OTHERWISE UNAVAILABLE BETWEEN COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE AND PAUL GRECH JR. DBA CRIMINAL DEFENSE LAWYERS (hereinafter "Amendment No. 1") is made and entered into by and between the County of Riverside, a political subdivision of the State of California, (hereinafter "COUNTY") and Paul Grech Jr. dba Criminal Defense Lawyers (hereinafter "ATTORNEYS").

**RECITALS**

WHEREAS, COUNTY and ATTORNEYS entered into that certain Contract to Provide Legal Services for Indigent Defendants for Whom the Riverside County Law Office of the Public Defender Declares a Conflict of Interest or is Otherwise Unavailable, approved June 27, 2023, Agenda Item 3.23, and effective July 1, 2023, (hereinafter "Contract"); and

WHEREAS, Subsection 7.2 of Section 7. Compensation of the Contract provides if in ATTORNEYS estimation an extreme circumstance arises, ATTORNEYS may make a timely written request for additional compensation with complete justification from the COUNTY's Executive Office; and,

WHEREAS, ATTORNEYS has made said request to the COUNTY's Executive Office due to ATTORNEYS actual caseload being significantly greater throughout the term of performance than contemplated at the time of bid and contract award; and

WHEREAS, COUNTY's Executive Office agrees that is an extreme circumstance; and

WHEREAS, COUNTY and ATTORNEYS now desire to amend the Contract to provide ATTORNEYS with additional compensation for said extreme circumstance.

NOW, THEREFORE, the parties hereto agree as follows:

1. **Recitals.** The above recitals are true and correct and are incorporated herein by reference.
2. **Compensation.** Section 7. Compensation of the Contract is hereby amended to increase the annual maximum contract amount due to ATTORNEYS actual caseload being significantly greater than contemplated at the time of bid and contract award, effective July 1, 2025, by \$1,474,995, from \$2,979,005 to \$4,454,000, as follows:

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“The Contract cost for July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2025 shall be a maximum of two million nine hundred seventy-nine thousand five dollars (\$2,979,005) annually plus expenses as set forth in Section 8 herein. COUNTY shall pay ATTORNEYS up to the sum of two hundred forty-eight thousand two hundred fifty dollars and forty-two cents (\$248,250.42) per month paid in arrears upon the submission of an approved monthly report and an invoice for services. The Contract cost for July 1, 2025 through June 30, 2028 shall be a maximum of four million four hundred fifty-four thousand dollars (\$4,454,000) annually plus expenses as set forth in Section 8 herein. COUNTY shall pay ATTORNEYS up to the sum of three hundred seventy-one thousand one hundred sixty-six dollars and sixty-seven cents (\$371,166.67) per month paid in arrears upon the submission of an approved monthly report and an invoice for services. It remains the responsibility of the ATTORNEYS to oversee the budgeted funds to ensure they are properly disbursed to provide the legal services required under this Contract. Should the Contract Term of Performance be renewed for three (3) additional one year periods by a written amendment signed by the authorized representatives of both parties as provided in Section 2 of this Contract, the annual maximum compensation amount for the three (3) additional one year periods shall not exceed five percent (5%) per year of the annual maximum compensation amount set forth herein of four million four hundred fifty-four thousand dollars (\$4,454,000) annually plus expenses as set forth in Section 8 herein”.

3. **Compensation.** Subsection 7.3 is hereby added to Section 7. Compensation of the Contract to recognize the extreme circumstance of the actual caseload being significantly greater than contemplated at the time of bid and contract award during the initial two years of this Contract, as follows:

“7.3 In recognition of the actual caseload being significantly greater than contemplated at the time of bid and contract award during the initial two years of this Contract, the ATTORNEYS will receive a one-time payment of five hundred thousand dollars (\$500,000).”

4. **Miscellaneous.** All other terms and conditions of the Contract not modified herein shall remain unchanged and in full force and effect.
5. **Effective Date.** This Amendment No. 1 shall be effective July 1, 2025.
6. **Counterparts; Electronic Signatures.** This Amendment No. 1 may be executed in any number of counterparts, each of which will be an original, but all of which together will constitute one instrument. Each party to this Amendment No. 1 agrees to the use of electronic signatures, such as digital signatures that meet the requirements of the California Uniform Electronic Transactions Act (“CUETA”) Cal. Civ. Code §§ 1633.1 to 1633.17), for executing this Amendment No. 1. The parties further agree that the electronic signatures of the parties included in this Amendment No. 1 are intended to authenticate this writing and to have the same force and effect as manual signatures. Electronic signature means an electronic sound, symbol, or process attached to or logically associated with an electronic record and executed or adopted by a person with the intent to sign the electronic record pursuant to the CUETA as amended from time to time. The CUETA

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authorizes use of an electronic signature for transactions and contracts among parties in California, including a government agency. Digital signature means an electronic identifier, created by computer, intended by the party using it to have the same force and effect as the use of a manual signature, and shall be reasonably relied upon by the parties. For purposes of this section, a digital signature is a type of "electronic signature" as defined in subdivision (i) of Section 1633.2 of the Civil Code.


**[Signature Page Follows]**

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IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties hereto have caused their duly authorized representatives to execute this Amendment No. 1.

COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE, a political subdivision of the State of California

By:   
V. Manuel Perez  
Chair, Board of Supervisors

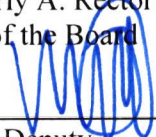
Dated: JUL 01 2025

PAUL GRECH, JR. dba CRIMINAL DEFENSE LAWYERS


By: Signature:   
Paul Grech Jr.  
Email: paulgesq@yahoo.com

Dated: 06/16/2025

ATTEST:  
Kimberly A. Rector  
Clerk of the Board

By:   
Deputy

APPROVED AS TO FORM:  
Minh C. Tran  
County Counsel

By:   
Danielle Maland  
Deputy County Counsel









# Amendment No. 1 CDL - Final

Final Audit Report

2025-06-16

Created:	2025-06-13
By:	Andrew Johnson (AndJohnson@RIVCO.ORG)
Status:	Signed
Transaction ID:	CBJCHBCAABAA0eV1jOjLSf6S4BinSiZHI-oLh9FtdkU

## "Amendment No. 1 CDL - Final" History

-  Document created by Andrew Johnson (AndJohnson@RIVCO.ORG)  
2025-06-13 - 3:12:41 PM GMT
-  Document emailed to Paul Grech Jr. (paulgesq@yahoo.com) for signature  
2025-06-13 - 3:12:45 PM GMT
-  Email viewed by Paul Grech Jr. (paulgesq@yahoo.com)  
2025-06-16 - 6:13:17 PM GMT
-  Document e-signed by Paul Grech Jr. (paulgesq@yahoo.com)  
Signature Date: 2025-06-16 - 6:14:56 PM GMT - Time Source: server
-  Document emailed to Danielle Maland (dmand@rivco.org) for signature  
2025-06-16 - 6:14:58 PM GMT
-  Email viewed by Danielle Maland (dmand@rivco.org)  
2025-06-16 - 6:15:19 PM GMT
-  Document e-signed by Danielle Maland (dmand@rivco.org)  
Signature Date: 2025-06-16 - 8:49:40 PM GMT - Time Source: server
-  Agreement completed.  
2025-06-16 - 8:49:40 PM GMT