



CITY OF FORT LAUDERDALE
City Commission Agenda Memo
REGULAR MEETING

#15-0474

TO: Honorable Mayor & Members of the
Fort Lauderdale City Commission

FROM: Cynthia A. Everett, City Attorney

DATE: April 7, 2015

TITLE: Resolution appointing The McLawrence Law Firm, P.A., as special counsel to indigent defendants in City of Fort Lauderdale municipal ordinance violation cases, approving an agreement with The McLawrence Law Firm, P.A., and rescinding Resolution No. 15-61

Recommendation

It is recommended that the City Commission adopt a resolution appointing The McLawrence Law Firm, P.A., as special counsel to indigent defendants when appointed by the County Court in and for Broward County, Florida, in City of Fort Lauderdale municipal ordinance violation cases at the rate of \$148.50 per case, approving an agreement with The McLawrence Law Firm, P.A., and rescinding Resolution No. 15-61.

Background

The City Attorney's Office prosecutes municipal ordinance violations in the County Court in and for Broward County, Florida, pursuant to Section 4.12, Charter of the City of Fort Lauderdale, Florida. Broward County Court judges appoint attorneys to represent indigent defendants in these municipal ordinance violation proceedings.

The City issued Invitation to Bid ("ITB") No. 453-11544. The City Commission rejected all bids (CAM No. 15-0345) because the ITB incorrectly allowed alternate bids. ITB No. 453-11588 was then issued, and The McLawrence Law Firm, P.A., submitted the lowest responsive responsible bid. It is recommended that The McLawrence Law Firm, P.A., be appointed as special counsel to represent indigent defendants charged with City of Fort Lauderdale municipal ordinance violations when appointed by the court. It is also recommended that the City Commission approve an agreement with The McLawrence Law Firm, P.A., and rescind Resolution No. 15-61, which approved an interim Agreement for Criminal Defense Attorney Services with Law Offices of Steven A. Schaet LLC.

Resource Impact

There is a fiscal impact to the City in the estimated annual amount of \$51,975 in FY15. Future expenditures are contingent upon approval and appropriation of the annual budget. Future year expenditure is estimated at \$51,975 in FY16.

<i>Funds available as of March 30, 2015</i>					
ACCOUNT NUMBER	INDEX NAME (PROGRAM)	OBJECT CODE/ SUB-OBJECT NAME	AMENDED BUDGET (Object Code)	AVAILABLE BALANCE (Object Code)	AMOUNT
001-ATT010101-3119	City Attorney	Services & Materials/ Legal Services	\$237,338	\$98,469	\$51,975
				TOTAL ►	\$51,975

Attachment:
Ex 1 – Resolution

Prepared by: Paul G. Bangel, Senior Assistant City Attorney

Charter Officer: Cynthia A. Everett, City Attorney