



**CITY OF FORT LAUDERDALE**  
**City Commission Agenda Memo**  
**REGULAR MEETING**

**#24-0161**

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

**FROM:** Thomas J. Ansbro, City Attorney

**DATE:** January 23, 2024

**TITLE:** Resolution Appointing Special Counsel to Investigate a Complaint Involving  
a City Commissioner – **(Commission Districts 1, 2, 3 and 4)**

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**Recommendation**

The City Attorney recommends that the City Commission select and appoint by adoption of a resolution special counsel to investigate a complaint regarding an alleged incident at the January 9, 2024 City Commission meeting.

**Background**

A formal complaint was submitted to the City Attorney's Office on January 11, 2024, against Commissioner Steven Glassman regarding an incident alleged to have occurred during the January 9, 2024, City Commission meeting. In order to ensure the investigation of this matter is fair and free from potential bias or prejudice, the City Attorney's Office recommends that the City Commission appoint an independent special counsel to conduct the investigation. Special counsel will directly report to the City Commission, however, the City Attorney will serve as the City Commission's liaison with the special counsel and as the contract administrator.

The following law firms are presented for the City Commission's consideration due to the firms' extensive knowledge of labor and employment issues.

- Ria N. Chattergoon, Esq., RC Law Group
- Michael L. Elkins, Esq., MLE Law

**Resource Impact**

The fees and expenses for the special counsel will be included in and funded from the FY 2024 Budget in the account listed below:

<b>Funds available as of January 17, 2024</b>					
<b>ACCOUNT NUMBER</b>	<b>INDEX NAME (Program)</b>	<b>CHARACTER CODE/ SUB-OBJECT NAME</b>	<b>AMENDED BUDGET (Character)</b>	<b>AVAILABLE BALANCE (Character)</b>	<b>AMOUNT</b>
10-001-1202-514-30-3119	City Attorney	Services & Materials/ Legal Services	\$1,288,261	\$1,083,830	\$25,000.00
<b>TOTAL AMOUNT ►</b>					\$25,000.00

**Attachments:**

- Exhibit 1 – Curriculum Vitae for Ria N. Chattergoon, Esq., RC Law Group
- Exhibit 2 – Curriculum Vitae for Michael L. Elkins, MLE Law
- Exhibit 3 – Resolution

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Prepared by: D'Wayne M. Spence, Deputy City Attorney

Charter Officer: Thomas J. Ansbro, City Attorney