

RESOLUTION NO. 18-

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF FORT LAUDERDALE, FLORIDA, APPOINTING THE LAW FIRM OF JOHNSON, ANSELMO, MURDOCH, BURKE, PIPER & HOCHMAN, P.A., AS SPECIAL COUNSEL, TO REPRESENT THE CITY OF FORT LAUDERDALE IN CONNECTION WITH GENERAL LIABILITY CLAIMS, PRESCRIBING HOURLY RATES OF PAY FOR SUCH LEGAL SERVICES, AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

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WHEREAS, Section 4.10 of the Charter of the City of Fort Lauderdale, Florida, provides, in part, that "[t]he city commission may, by resolution, authorize one (1) or more special counsel to be retained for the purpose of performing such legal duties as may be prescribed by said resolution. Each such resolution shall further prescribe the compensation to be paid the special counsel;" and

WHEREAS, after 35 years of dedicated and exceptional service as Special Counsel to the City of Fort Lauderdale, Robert H. Schwartz, Esquire, of McIntosh Schwartz, P.L., and previously of Adorno & Yoss, LLP, and Gunther & Whitaker, P.A., will be retiring from private practice effective May 6, 2018; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Resolution 14-217, the City Commission appointed Johnson, Anselmo, Murdoch, Burke, Piper & Hochman, P.A., as Special Counsel to represent the City of Fort Lauderdale in connection with litigation and legal challenges commenced and perpetuated by Arnold Abbott, Love Thy Neighbor Fund, Inc., Reverend Mark Sims, and Pastor Dwayne Black, and potentially others, pending in State and Federal Courts, arising from , and related to, City of Fort Lauderdale's Land Use and Zoning Ordinances, including but not limited to, City Ordinance C-14-42; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Resolution 17-102, the City Commission prescribed new hourly rates of pay for legal services provided by Special Counsel in connection with general liability claims, specifically, an hourly rate of \$225.00 for partner level attorneys, \$150.00 for associate attorneys, and \$95.00 for paralegals; and

WHEREAS, the City Commission of the City of Fort Lauderdale, Florida, desires to appoint the law firm of Johnson, Anselmo, Murdoch, Burke, Piper & Hochman, P.A., as special counsel to represent the City of Fort Lauderdale in connection with general liability claims;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF FORT LAUDERDALE, FLORIDA:

SECTION 1. That the law firm of Johnson, Anselmo, Murdoch, Burke, Piper & Hochman, P.A. (the "Firm") is hereby appointed as Special Counsel to the City of Fort Lauderdale in connection with general liability claims and related litigation and appeals.

SECTION 2. That such Special Counsel shall be compensated for such services at an hourly rate of \$225.00 for partner level attorneys, \$150.00 for associate attorneys, and \$95.00 for paralegals, plus actual reasonable expenses subject to the City Attorney's approval.

SECTION 3. That the City Attorney shall serve as the liaison with such Special Counsel.

SECTION 4. That such Special Counsel shall serve at the pleasure of the City Commission of the City of Fort Lauderdale, Florida.

SECTION 5. That this Resolution shall be in full force and effect upon final passage.

ADOPTED this the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2018.

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Mayor  
DEAN J. TRANTALIS

ATTEST:

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City Clerk  
JEFFREY A. MODARELLI