

AMENDMENT TO CONTRACT

1

The County of San Benito ("COUNTY") and Cota Cole LLP. ("CONTRACTOR") enter into this agreement on the date stated next to the signatures below. In consideration of the mutual promises set forth herein, the parties agree as follows:

1. Existing Contract.

a. Initial Contract.

COUNTY and CONTRACTOR acknowledge that the parties entered into a contract, dated February 26, 2016.

b. Prior Amendments. (Check one.)

☒ [X] The initial contract previously has not been amended.

☐ [] The initial contract previously has been amended. The date(s) of prior amendments are as follows: _____

c. Incorporation of Original Contract.

The initial contract and any prior amendments to the initial contract (hereafter collectively referred to as the "original contract") are attached to this amendment as Exhibit 1 and made a part of this amended contract.

2. Purpose of this Amendment.

The purpose of this amendment is to change the agreement between the parties in the following particulars:

a. Term of the Contract. (Check one.)

☒ [X] The term of the original contract is not modified.

☐ [] The term of the original contract (Exhibit 1) is extended from the current expiration date of _____, to a new expiration date of _____.

b. Scope of Services. (Check one.)

☒ [X] The services specified in the original contract (Exhibit 1) are not modified.

☐ [] The services specified in the original contract (Exhibit 1) are modified as specified below: (Check one.)

☐ [] The services specified in the original contract are modified only as specified below:

Modified or New Scope of Services:

☐ [] The services specified in the original contract are deleted in their entirety and replaced with the following services:

New Scope of Services:

(Insert new services.)

c. **Payment Terms, (Check one.)**

- ☐ The payment terms in the original contract (Exhibit 1) are not modified.
☒ The payment terms in the original contract (Exhibit 1) are modified as specified below: (Check one.)
☐ The payment terms are modified only as specified below:

Modified or New Payment Terms:

B-3. COMPENSATION

COUNTY shall pay to CONTRACTOR: (Check one.)

- ☐ a total lump sum payment of \$ _____ or
☒ a total sum not to exceed \$ 64,600.

All other provisions of Attachment B to the original contract shall remain the same.

- ☐ The payment terms are deleted in their entirety and replaced with the following payment terms:

New Payment Terms:

B-1. BILLING

Charges for services rendered pursuant to the terms and conditions of this contract shall be invoiced on the following basis: (Check one.)

- ☐ One month in arrears.
☐ Upon the complete performance of the services specified in the original agreement (Exhibit 1) and this amendment.
☐ The basis specified in paragraph B-4.

B-2. PAYMENT

Payment shall be made by COUNTY to CONTRACTOR at the address specified in paragraph 8 of the original contract, net thirty (30) days from the invoice date.

B-3. COMPENSATION

COUNTY shall pay to CONTRACTOR: (Check one.)

- ☐ a total lump sum payment of \$ _____, or
☐ a total sum not to exceed \$ _____

for services rendered pursuant to the terms and conditions of the original contract (Exhibit 1) and this amendment, and pursuant to any special compensation terms specified in paragraph B-4.

B-4. SPECIAL COMPENSATION TERMS: (Check one.)

- ☒ There are no additional terms of compensation.
☐ The following specific terms of compensation shall apply:
(Specify)

d. Other Terms. (Check one.)

- ☒ There are no other terms of the original contract that are modified.
☐ Other terms of the original contract are modified only as specified below:

Other Modified or New Terms:
(Insert other modified or new terms.)

3. Other Terms.

All other terms and conditions of the original contract (Exhibit 1) which are not changed by this amendment shall remain the same.

CONTRACTOR


Name/Title: Derek Cole, Partner

3/18/16
Date

COUNTY

San Benito County Board of Supervisors


Robert Rivas, Chair

3/22/16
Date

APPROVED AS TO LEGAL FORM:

San Benito County Counsel's Office


~~Barbara Thompson~~, Assistant County Counsel

3-24-2016
Date

EXHIBIT 1
TO AMENDMENT # 1

**ORIGINAL
CONTRACT**

(Please attach the initial contract and any prior amendments, from the most recent to the initial contract, in reverse chronological order.)

CONTRACT

The COUNTY OF SAN BENITO ("COUNTY") and Cota Cole LLP ("CONTRACTOR") enter into this contract which shall be effective on the date stated in Paragraph 1.

1. **Duration of Contract.**

This contract shall commence on February 26, 2016, and end on August 31, 2016, unless sooner terminated as specified herein.

2. **Scope of Services.**

CONTRACTOR, for COUNTY's benefit shall perform the services specified on Attachment A to this contract. Attachment A is made a part of this contract.

3. **Compensation for Services.**

In consideration for CONTRACTOR's performance, COUNTY shall pay compensation to CONTRACTOR according to the terms specified in Attachment B. Attachment B is made a part of this contract.

4. **General Terms and Conditions.**

The rights and duties of the parties to this contract are governed by the general terms and conditions mutually agreed to and listed in Attachment C. Attachment C is made a part of this contract.

5. **Insurance Limits.**

CONTRACTOR shall maintain the following insurance policy limits of coverage consistent with the further insurance requirements specified in Attachment C.

- (a) Comprehensive general liability insurance: \$1,000,000
- (b) Professional liability insurance: 1,000,000
- (c) Comprehensive motor vehicle liability insurance: \$1,000,000

6. **Termination.**

The number of days of advance written notice required for termination of this contract is 0.
Termination of this contract shall be governed by the terms set forth in Attachment "D".

7. **Specific Terms and Conditions** (check one)

- ☐ There are no additional provisions to this contract.
- ☒ The rights and duties of the parties to this contract are additionally governed by the specific, additional terms mutually agreed to and listed in Attachment D. Attachment D is made a part of this contract. To the extent that Attachment "D" conflicts with any other provision in this contract, Attachment "D" shall prevail.
- ☐ The rights and duties of the parties to this contract are additionally governed by the specific, additional terms mutually agreed to and listed in Attachment E. Attachment E is made a part of this contract.

8. Information about Contract Administrators.

The following names, titles, addresses, and telephone numbers are the pertinent information for the respective contract administrators for the parties.

Contract Administrator for COUNTY:

Name: Barbara Thompson

Title: Assistant County Counsel

Address: 481 Fourth St., 2nd Floor

Hollister, California 95023

Telephone No.: 831-636-4040

Fax No.: 831-636-4044

Contract Administrator for CONTRACTOR:

Name: Derek Cole

Title: Partner

Address: 2261 Lava Ridge Court

Roseville, CA 95661

Telephone No.: 916-780-9009

Fax No.: 916-780-9060

SIGNATURES

APPROVED BY COUNTY:

Matthew Granger

Name: Matthew Granger

County Counsel

Date: 2-1-2016

APPROVED BY CONTRACTOR:

Derek Cole

Name: Derek Cole

Title: Partner

Tax I.D.

20-8080486

Date: 2/29/16

APPROVED AS TO LEGAL FORM:

Matthew W. Granger, San Benito County Counsel

Barbara Thompson

By: Barbara Thompson, Assistant County Counsel

Date: 2/26/16

ATTACHMENT A
Scope of Services

Perform legal transactional work as may be assigned from time to time by the County Counsel's office.

END OF ATTACHMENT A.

ATTACHMENT B
Payment Schedule

B-1. BILLING

Charges for services rendered pursuant to the terms and conditions of this contract shall be invoiced on the following basis: (check one)

- ☐ One month in arrears.
- ☐ Upon the complete performance of the services specified in Attachment A.
- ☒ The basis specified in paragraph B-4.

B-2. PAYMENT

Payment shall be made by COUNTY to CONTRACTOR at the address specified in paragraph 8 of this contract, net thirty (30) days from the invoice date.

B-3. COMPENSATION

COUNTY shall pay to CONTRACTOR: (check one)

☐ a total lump sum payment of \$ _____, or

☒ a total sum not to exceed \$ 10,000. (See B-4 below).

for services rendered pursuant to the terms and conditions of this contract and pursuant to any special compensation terms specified in this attachment, Attachment B.

B-4. SPECIAL COMPENSATION TERMS: (check one)

- ☐ There are no additional terms of compensation.
- ☒ The following specific terms of compensation shall apply: (Specify)

Payments shall be made based on hourly rates set forth in Attachment "D" until terminated.

END OF ATTACHMENT B.

ATTACHMENT C General Terms and Conditions

C-1. INDEMNIFICATION.

CONTRACTOR and COUNTY each agree to indemnify, defend and save harmless the other party and the other party's officers and employees, from and against any and all claims and losses whatsoever arising out of, or in any way related to, the indemnifying party's performance under this contract, including, but not limited to, claims for property damage, personal injury, death, and any legal expenses (such as attorneys' fees, court costs, investigation costs, and experts' fees) incurred by the indemnitee in connection with such claims or losses. A party's "performance" includes the party's action or inaction and the action or inaction of that party's officers and employees.

C-2. GENERAL INSURANCE REQUIREMENTS.

Without limiting CONTRACTOR's duty to indemnify COUNTY, CONTRACTOR shall comply with the insurance coverage requirements set forth in the contract and in this attachment. Those insurance policies mandated by Paragraph C-3 shall satisfy the following requirements:

- (a) Each policy shall be issued by a company authorized by law to transact business in the State of California.
- (b) Each policy shall provide that COUNTY shall be given notice in writing at least thirty (30) days in advance of any change, cancellation, or nonrenewal thereof.
- (c) The comprehensive motor vehicle and comprehensive general liability policies shall each provide an endorsement naming the County of San Benito and its officers, agents and employees as additional insureds.
- (d) The required coverage shall be maintained in effect throughout the term of this contract.

CONTRACTOR shall require all subcontractors performing work under this contract to obtain substantially the identical insurance coverage required of CONTRACTOR pursuant to this agreement.

C-3. INSURANCE COVERAGE REQUIREMENTS.

If required by paragraph 5 of the contract, CONTRACTOR shall maintain the following insurance policies in full force and effect during the term of this contract:

- (a) Comprehensive general liability insurance. CONTRACTOR shall maintain comprehensive general liability insurance, covering all of CONTRACTOR's operations with a combined single limit of not less than the amount set out in paragraph 5 of this contract.
- (b) Professional liability insurance. CONTRACTOR shall maintain professional liability insurance with liability limits of not less than the amount set out in paragraph 5 of this contract.

- (c) Comprehensive motor vehicle liability insurance. CONTRACTOR shall maintain comprehensive motor vehicle insurance covering all motor vehicles (including owned, non-owned and hired) used in providing services under this contract, with a combined single limit of not less than the amount set out in Paragraph 5 of this contract.
- (d) Workers' compensation insurance. CONTRACTOR shall maintain a workers' compensation plan covering all of its employees as required by California Labor Code Section 3700, either through workers' compensation insurance issued by an insurance company or through a plan of self-insurance certified by the State Director of Industrial Relations. If CONTRACTOR elects to be self-insured, the certificate of insurance otherwise required by this contract shall be replaced with a consent to self-insure issued by the State Director of Industrial Relations.

C-4. CERTIFICATE OF INSURANCE.

Prior to the commencement of performance of services by CONTRACTOR and prior to any obligations of COUNTY, CONTRACTOR shall file certificates of insurance with COUNTY, showing that CONTRACTOR has in effect the insurance required by this contract. CONTRACTOR shall file a new or amended certificate promptly after any change is made in any insurance policy which would alter the information on the certificate then on file. In lieu of providing proof of insurance, CONTRACTOR may provide proof of self-insurance meeting requirements equivalent to those imposed herein. CONTRACTOR warrants that CONTRACTOR's self-insurance provides substantially the same protection to COUNTY as the insurance required herein. CONTRACTOR further agrees to notify COUNTY in the event any change in self-insurance occurs that would alter the obligations undertaken in this contract within thirty (30) days of such change.

C-5. RECORDS TO BE MAINTAINED.

CONTRACTOR shall keep and maintain accurate records of all costs incurred and all time expended for work under this contract. CONTRACTOR shall contractually require that all of CONTRACTOR's subcontractors performing work called for under this contract also keep and maintain such records. All such records, whether kept by CONTRACTOR or any subcontractor, shall be made available to COUNTY or its authorized representative, or officials of the State of California for review or audit during normal business hours, upon reasonable advance notice given by COUNTY, its authorized representative, or officials of the State of California.

C-6. RETENTION OF RECORDS.

CONTRACTOR shall maintain and preserve all records related to this contract for a period of three years from the close of the fiscal year in which final payment under this contract is made. CONTRACTOR shall also contractually require the maintenance of such records in the possession of any third party performing work related to this contract for the same period of time. Such records shall be retained beyond the three-year period, if any audit involving such records is then pending, until the audit findings are resolved. The obligation to insure the maintenance of the records beyond the initial three year period shall arise only if the COUNTY notifies CONTRACTOR of the commencement of an audit prior to the expiration of the three year period.

C-7. TITLE TO DOCUMENTS; COPYRIGHT.

All reports and other materials collected or produced by the CONTRACTOR or any subcontractor of CONTRACTOR shall, after completion and acceptance of the contract, become the property of COUNTY, and shall not be subject to any copyright claimed by the CONTRACTOR, subcontractor, or their agents or employees. CONTRACTOR may retain copies of all such materials exclusively for administrative purposes. Any use of completed or uncompleted documents for other projects by CONTRACTOR, any subcontractor, or any of their agents or employees, without the prior written consent of COUNTY is prohibited.

C-8. INDEPENDENT CONTRACTOR.

CONTRACTOR and its officers and employees, in the performance of this contract, are independent contractors in relation to COUNTY and not officers or employees of COUNTY. Nothing in this contract shall create any of the rights, powers, privileges or immunities of any officer or employee of COUNTY. CONTRACTOR shall be solely liable for all applicable taxes or benefits, including, but not limited to, federal and state income taxes, Social Security taxes, or ERISA retirement benefits, which taxes or benefits arise out of the performance of this contract. CONTRACTOR further represents to COUNTY that CONTRACTOR has no expectation of receiving any benefits incidental to employment.

C-9. CONFLICT OF INTEREST.

CONTRACTOR covenants that it presently has no interest and shall not acquire any interest, direct or indirect, financial or otherwise, which would conflict in any manner or degree with the performance of the services hereunder. CONTRACTOR further covenants that, in the performance of this contract, no subcontractor or person having such an interest shall be used or employed.

C-10. COMPLIANCE WITH APPLICABLE LAWS.

CONTRACTOR shall comply with all applicable federal, state and local laws now, or hereafter, in force, and with any applicable regulations, in performing the work and providing the services specified in this contract. This obligation includes, without limitation, the acquisition, and maintenance of any permits, licenses, or other entitlements necessary to perform the duties imposed expressly or impliedly under this contract.

C-11. NONDISCRIMINATION.

CONTRACTOR shall not discriminate in the employment of persons necessary to perform this contract on any legally impermissible basis, including on the basis of the race, color, national origin, ancestry, religion, age, sex, or disability of such person.

C-12. BANKRUPTCY.

CONTRACTOR shall immediately notify COUNTY in the event that CONTRACTOR ceases conducting business in the normal manner, becomes insolvent, makes a general assignment for the benefit of creditors, suffers or permits the appointment of a receiver for its business or assets, or avails itself of, or becomes subject to, any proceeding under the Federal Bankruptcy Act or any other statute of any state relating to insolvency or protection of the rights of creditors.

C-13. PROHIBITION AGAINST ASSIGNMENT AND DELEGATION OF DUTIES.

Except as specifically authorized herein, no rights under this contract may be assigned and no duties under this contract may be delegated by CONTRACTOR without the prior written consent of COUNTY, and any attempted assignment or delegation without such consent shall be void.

C-14. NEGOTIATED CONTRACT.

This contract has been arrived at through negotiation between the parties. Neither party is to be deemed the party which prepared this contract within the meaning of California Civil Code Section 1664.

C-15. SEVERABILITY.

Should any provision herein be found or deemed to be invalid, this contract shall be construed as not containing such provision, and all other provisions which are otherwise lawful shall remain in full force and effect. To this end, the provisions of this contract are declared to be severable.

C-16. ENTIRE CONTRACT.

This contract is the entire agreement of the parties. There are no understandings or agreements pertaining to this contract except as are expressly stated in writing in this contract or in any document attached hereto or incorporated herein by reference.

C-17. TIME IS OF THE ESSENCE.

Time is of the essence in the performance of this contract.

C-18. TERMINATION.

Either party may terminate this contract, with or without cause, at any time. In order to terminate this contract, the terminating party shall give advance written notice to the other party. The termination shall be effective no earlier than the expiration of the number of days specified in paragraph 6 of this contract. The termination notice shall be made as specified in paragraph C-19, below. In the event of termination, COUNTY shall pay CONTRACTOR for all work satisfactorily performed prior to the effective date of the termination.

C-19. NOTICES.

Notices to the parties in connection with the administration of this contract shall be given to the parties' contract administrator personally, by regular mail, or by facsimile transmission as more particularly specified in this paragraph. Notices will be deemed given on:

- (a) The day the notice is personally delivered to the contract administrator or the office of the party's contract administrator; or
- (b) Five days after the date the notice is deposited in the United States mail, addressed to a party's contract administrator as indicated in this contract, with first-class postage fully prepaid; or

- (e) On the day that the notice is transmitted by facsimile to a party's facsimile number specified in paragraph 8 of this contract, provided that an original of such notice is deposited in the United States mail, addressed to a party's contract administrator as indicated in this contract, on the same day as the facsimile transmission is made.

C-20. RESPONSIBILITY OF CONTRACT ADMINISTRATORS.

All matters concerning this contract which are within the responsibility of the parties shall be under the direction of, or shall be submitted to, the respective contract administrators or to the party's employee specified, in writing, by the contract administrator. A party may, in its sole discretion, change its designation of its contract administrator and shall promptly give written notice to the other party of any such change.

C-21. MATERIALITY.

The parties consider each and every term, covenant and provision of this contract to be material and reasonable.

C-22. WAIVER.

Waiver by either party of a breach of any covenant of this contract will not be construed to be a continuing waiver of any subsequent breach. COUNTY's receipt of consideration with knowledge of CONTRACTOR's violation of a covenant does not waive its right to enforce any covenant of this contract. The parties shall not waive any provisions of this contract unless the waiver is in writing and signed by all parties.

C-23. AUTHORITY AND CAPACITY.

CONTRACTOR and CONTRACTOR's signatory each warrant and represent that each has full authority and capacity to enter into this contract.

C-24. BINDING ON SUCCESSORS.

All of the conditions, covenants and terms herein contained shall apply to, and bind, the heirs, successors, executors, administrators and assigns of CONTRACTOR. CONTRACTOR and all of CONTRACTOR's heirs, successors, executors, administrators, and assigns shall be jointly and severally liable under this contract.

C-25. CUMULATION OF REMEDIES.

All of the various rights, options, elections, powers and remedies of the parties shall be construed as cumulative, and no one of them exclusive of any other or of any other legal or equitable remedy which a party might otherwise have in the event of a breach or default of any condition, covenant or term by the other party. The exercise of any single right, option, election, power or remedy shall not, in any way, impair any other right, option, election, power or remedy until all duties and obligations imposed shall have been fully performed.

C-26. INDEPENDENT ADVICE.

Each party hereby represents and warrants that in executing this contract it does so with full knowledge of the rights and duties it may have with respect to the other. Each party also

represents and warrants that it has received independent legal advice from its attorney with respect to the matters set forth in this contract and the rights and duties arising out of this contract, or that such party willingly foregoes any such consultation.

C-27. NO RELIANCE ON REPRESENTATIONS.

Each party hereby represents and warrants that it is not relying, and has not relied, upon any representation or statement made by the other party with respect to the facts involved or its rights or duties. Each party understands and agrees that the facts relevant, or believed to be relevant to this contract may hereunder turn out to be other than, or different from the facts now known to such party as true, or believed by such party to be true. The parties expressly assume the risk of the facts turning out to be different and agree that this contract shall be effective in all respects and shall not be subject to rescission by reason of any such difference in facts.

C-28. REDUCTION OF CONSIDERATION.

CONTRACTOR agrees that COUNTY shall have the right to deduct from any payments specified in Attachment B any amount owed to COUNTY by CONTRACTOR as a result of any obligation arising prior to, or after, the execution of this contract. For purposes of this paragraph, obligations arising prior to, or after, the execution of this contract may include, without limitation, any property tax, secured or unsecured, which tax is in arrears. If COUNTY exercises the right to reduce the consideration specified in Attachment B, COUNTY, at the time of making a reduced payment, shall give CONTRACTOR notice of the amount of any off-set and the reason for the reduction.

C-29. COUNTERPARTS.

This contract may be executed in any number of counterparts, each of which so executed shall be deemed to be an original. The counterparts shall together constitute one contract.

END OF ATTACHMENT C.

ATTACHMENT "D"

Engagement Letter

Cota Cole LLP

ATTORNEYS

Dennis M. Cota
Derek P. Cole
Scott E. Huber
Daniel S. Roberts
Carolyn J. Frank
Daniel A. King
Karen A. Feld
Barbara A. Keough
Sean D. De Burgh

William R. Galstan
Kathryn L. Patterson
David G. Ritchie
Samantha L. Chen

Derek P. Cole
dcole@cotalawfirm.com

REPLY TO:
☒ ROSEVILLE ☐ MONTEREY
☐ ONTARIO

February 25, 2016

Matthew W. Granger
County Counsel
County of San Benito
481 4th Street, 2nd Floor
Hollister, CA 95023-3840

Barbara Thompson
Assistant County Counsel
County of San Benito
481 4th Street, 2nd Floor
Hollister, CA 95023-3840

Re: Engagement of Cota Cole LLP for Advisory Services

Dear Mr. Granger and Ms. Thompson:

ABOUT OUR REPRESENTATION

Cota Cole LLP is pleased to assist the Office of County Counsel in providing as-needed, and as-referred, advice-counsel services for San Benito County legal matters. This letter constitutes our agreement setting forth the terms of our representation.

CONFIDENTIALITY AND ABSENCE OF CONFLICTS

An attorney-client relationship requires mutual trust between the client and the attorney. It is understood that communications exclusively between counsel and the client are confidential and protected by the attorney-client privilege.

To also assure mutuality of trust, we have maintained a conflict of interest index. The California Rules of Professional Conduct defines whether a past or present relationship with any party prevents us from representing you. Similarly, the County will be included in our list of clients to ensure we comply with the Rules of Professional Conduct.

{DPC/00042091.}

2261 LAVA RIDGE COURT
ROSEVILLE, CA 95661
TEL 916-780-9009
FAX 916-780-9050

3401 COUNTRYLAKE DRIVE, SUITE 670
ONTARIO, CA 91761
TEL 909-230-4209
FAX 909-937-2034

19 UPPER RAGSDALE DRIVE, SUITE 200
MONTEREY, CA 93940
TEL 831-275-1870
FAX 916-780-9050

Matthew W. Granger
Barbara Thompson
February 25, 2016
Page 2

We have performed a standard conflict check and, based on that check, we can represent the County's interests in the above-described matter. As this matter would involve general counsel services, we are not able at this time to identify and specific parties that may be involved in or affected by any advisory matters referred to our office. We request that you advise us of any such parties to the extent you know of their identities as of this time or in the future.

YOUR OBLIGATIONS ABOUT FEES AND BILLINGS

For the general counsel services provided per this Agreement, the billing rate is \$190 per hour for Partners; \$175 for all other attorneys, and \$120 per hour for paralegals. We will bill the County monthly for all services provided.

The memorandum attached to this letter describes the other aspects of our firm's billing policies. You should consider this memorandum part of this agreement as it binds both of us. For that reason, you should read it carefully.

FIRM STATUS

Cota Cole LLP is a partnership. Dennis M. Cota is the Managing Partner, and Derek P. Cole, Scott E. Huber, Daniel S. Roberts, Carolyn J. Frank, Daniel A. King, Karen A. Feld, and Elizabeth L. Martyn are Partners. William R. Galstan, Sean D. De Burgh, David G. Ritchie, Barbara Keogh, Samantha Chen, and Elizabeth Perez are employees of the firm.

INSURANCE

We understand that you are not now insured or have any insurance that may cover potential liability or attorneys' fees in this case. If you think you may have such insurance, please notify me immediately.

We are also pleased to let you know that Cota Cole LLP carries errors and omissions insurance with Lloyds of London. After a standard deductible, this insurance provides coverage beyond what is required by the State of California.

NEW MATTERS

When we are engaged by a new client on a particular matter, we are often later asked to work on additional matters. You should know that such new matters will be the subject of a new signed supplement to this agreement. Similarly, this agreement does not cover and is not a commitment by either of us that we will undertake any appeals or collection procedures. Any such future work would also have to be agreed upon in a signed supplement.

CIVILITY IN LITIGATION

In litigation, courtesy is customarily honored with opposing counsel, such as extensions to file pleadings or responses to other deadlines. In our experience, the reciprocal extension of

Cota Cole LLP

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{DPC/00042091.}

Matthew W. Granger
Barbara Thompson
February 25, 2016
Page 2

We have performed a standard conflict check and, based on that check, we can represent the County's interests in the above-described matter. As this matter would involve general counsel services, we are not able at this time to identify and specific parties that may be involved in or affected by any advisory matters referred to our office. We request that you advise us of any such parties to the extent you know of their identities as of this time or in the future.

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For the general counsel services provided per this Agreement, the billing rate is \$190 per hour for Partners; \$175 for all other attorneys, and \$120 per hour for paralegals. We will bill the County monthly for all services provided.

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INSURANCE

We understand that you are not now insured or have any insurance that may cover potential liability or attorneys' fees in this case. If you think you may have such insurance, please notify me immediately.

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CIVILITY IN LITIGATION

In litigation, courtesy is customarily honored with opposing counsel, such as extensions to file pleadings or responses to other deadlines. In our experience, the reciprocal extension of

Matthew W. Granger
Barbara Thompson
February 25, 2016
Page 3

such courtesies saves our clients time and money. By signing this letter, you will be confirming your approval of this practice in your case.

HOW THIS AGREEMENT MAY BE TERMINATED

The County, of course, has the right to end our services at any time. If it does so, the County will be responsible for the payment of fees and costs accrued but not yet paid, plus reasonable fees and costs in transferring the case to you or your new counsel. By the same token, we reserve the right to terminate our services to the County upon written notice, order of the court, or in accordance with our attached memorandum. This could happen if the County fails to pay our fees and costs as agreed, fails to cooperate with us in this matter, or if we determine we cannot continue to represent the County for ethical or practical concerns.

CLIENT FILE

If you do not request the return of your file, we will retain your file for five years. After five years, we may have your file destroyed. If you would like your file maintained for more than five years or returned, you must make separate arrangements with us.

THANK YOU

We are pleased that the County has selected Cota Cole LLP to represent it and appreciate the opportunity to assist in resolving this matter. If you have any questions at any time about our services or billings, please do not hesitate to call me.

If this letter meets with your approval, please sign and date it, and return the original to us. Unless you sign, date, and return the original, we will not represent the County in this capacity, and we will assume that the County has made other arrangements for legal representation.

Sincerely,


Derek P. Cole
COTA COLE LLP

DPC/
Enclosures

AGREED AND ACCEPTED:

By: Barbara Thompson

Dated: 3/1/16

COTA COLE LLP – BILLING POLICIES

Our two decades of experience has shown that the attorney-client relationship works best when there is mutual understanding about fees, expenses, billing, and payment terms. Therefore, this statement is intended to explain our billing policies and procedures. Clients are encouraged to discuss with us any questions they have about these policies and procedures. Clients may direct specific questions about a bill to the attorney with whom the client works. Any specific billing arrangements different from those set forth below will be confirmed in a separate written agreement between the client and the firm.

Limited Liability Partnership

Cota Cole LLP is a Limited Liability Partnership. Dennis M. Cota is the Managing Partner, Derek P. Cole, Scott E. Huber, Daniel S. Roberts, Carolyn J. Frank, Daniel A. King, Karen A. Feld, Barbara A. Keough, and Sean D. De Burgh are Partners. William R. Galstan, Kathryn L. Patterson, David G. Ritchie, and Samantha L. Chen are attorneys employed by the firm.

Fees for Professional Services

Unless a flat fee is set forth in our engagement letter with a client, our fees for the legal work we will undertake will be based, in substantial part, on time spent by personnel in our office on that client's behalf. In special circumstances which will be discussed with the client and agreed upon in writing, fees will be based upon the novelty or difficulty of the matter or the time or other special limitations imposed by the client.

Hourly rates are set to reflect the skill and experience of the attorney or other legal personnel rendering services on the client's behalf. Time is accrued on an incremental basis for such matters as telephone calls (minimum .3 hour) and letters (minimum .5 hour), and on an actual basis for all other work. Our rates for services are set forth in the retainer letter that accompanies these policies, but are customarily billed at rates from \$250 to \$400 per hour, and our administrative assistants, research assistants, paralegals and law clerks are billed at the rate of \$150 per hour. These hourly rates are reviewed annually to accommodate rising firm costs and to reflect changes in attorney status as lawyers attain new levels of legal experience. Any increases resulting from such reviews will be instituted automatically and will apply to each affected client, after advance notice.

Fees for Other Services, Costs and Expenses

We attempt to serve all our clients with the most effective support systems available. Therefore, in addition to fees for professional legal services, we also charge separately for some other services and expenses to the extent of their use by individual clients. These charges include, but are not limited to, mileage at the current IRS approved rate per mile, extraordinary telephone and document delivery charges, copying

charges, computerized research, court filing fees and other court-related expenditures including court reporter and transcription fees. No separate charge is made for secretarial or word processing services; those costs are included within the above hourly rates.

We may need to advance costs and incur expenses on your behalf on an ongoing basis. These items are separate and apart from attorneys' fees and, as they are out-of-pocket charges, we need to have sufficient funds on hand from you to pay them when due. We will advise the client from time to time when we expect items of significant cost to be incurred, and it is required that the client send us advances to cover those costs before they are due.

Advance Deposit Toward Fees and Costs

Because new client matters involve both a substantial undertaking by our firm and the establishment of client credit with our accounting office, we require an advance payment from clients. The amount of this advance deposit is determined on a case-by-case basis discussed first with the client and is specified in our engagement letter.

Upon receipt, the advance deposit will be deposited into the firm's client trust account. Our monthly billings will reflect such applications of the advance deposit to costs and not to attorneys' fees. At the end of engagement, we will apply any remaining balance first to costs and then to fees. We also reserve the right to require increases or renewals of these advanced deposits.

By signing the initial engagement letter, each client is agreeing that the trust account balances may be withdrawn and applied to costs as they are incurred and to our billings, after presentation to the client. If we succeed in resolving your matter before the amounts deposited are used, any balance will be promptly refunded.

Monthly Invoices and Payment

Cota Cole LLP provides our clients with monthly invoices for legal services performed and expenses incurred. Invoices are due and payable upon receipt.

Each monthly invoice reflects both professional and other fees for services rendered through the end of the prior month, as well as expenses incurred on the client's behalf that have been processed by the end of the prior month. Processing of some expenses is delayed until the next month and billed thereafter.

Our fees are not contingent upon any aspect of the matter and are due upon receipt. All billings are due and payable within ten days of presentation unless the full amount is covered by the balance of an advance held in our trust account. If a bill is not paid within 30 days, a late charge of one and a half percent per month on the unpaid invoice shall be added to the balance owed, commencing with the next statement and continuing until paid.

It is our policy to treat every question about a bill promptly and fairly. It is also our policy that if a client does not pay an invoice within 60 days of mailing, we assume the client is, for whatever reason, refusing to pay. We will then advise the client by letter that the client may pay the invoice within 14 days or the firm will take appropriate steps to withdraw as attorney of record. If the delay is caused by a problem in the invoice, we must rely upon the client to raise that with us during the 14-day period. This same policy applies to fee arrangements which require the client to replenish fee deposits or make deposits for anticipated costs.

From time to time clients have questions about the format of the bill or description of work performed. If you have any such questions, please ask them when you receive the bill so we may address them on a current basis.

Changes in Fee Arrangements and Budgets

It may be necessary under certain circumstances for a client to increase the size of required advances for fees after the commencement of our engagement and depending upon the scope of the work. For example, prior to a protracted trial or hearing, the firm may require a further advance payment to the firm's trust account sufficient to cover expected fees. Any such changes in fee arrangements will be discussed with the client and mutually agreed upon in writing.

Because of the uncertainties involved, any estimates of anticipated fees that we provide at the request of a client for budgeting purposes, or otherwise, can only be an approximation of potential fees.