

**City of Minneapolis**  
**Request for Committee Action**

**To:** Ways & Means  
**Date:** 11/16/2015  
**Referral:** N/A  
**From:** City Attorney's Office  
**Prepared by:** Peter Ginder, Deputy City Attorney  
**Presented by:** Susan Segal, City Attorney  
**File type:** Action  
**Subcategory:** Contracts & Agreements

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**Subject:**

Placement of attorneys and law firms on the Legal Services Panel

**Description:**

1. Approving the City Attorney's recommendation for placing law firms on the City's Legal Services Panel; and,
2. Authorizing the City Attorney to negotiate and enter into "Master Agreements" for the period of Jan. 1, 2016, through Dec. 31, 2018, with a not-to-exceed cost for each agreement of \$300,000 for the three-year period; and,
3. Authorizing waiving the request for proposals process for conflicts covered by the collective bargaining agreement with the Minneapolis Police Officers Federation.

**Previous Actions:**

This process has been used since 2000 and for each period, new legal services panels were created for the respective three-year period.

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**Ward/Address:**

All Wards

**Background/Analysis:**

In 1998, the City instituted a process for the City Attorney's Office to retain outside counsel. The need for outside counsel usually arises when there is a conflict of interest, the office lacks specialized expertise, or the office is involved in very complex litigation.

A new RFP was prepared, approved by the PRC, and published on September 1, 2015 with a response date of October 1, 2015. Ten firms submitted proposals in response to the RFP. An in-house review committee evaluated the proposals based on the criteria in the RFP. Based upon the evaluation of the proposals, the following law firms are recommended to be placed on the City's legal services panel for the period January 1, 2016 – December 31, 2018:

**Bankruptcy Law:** Gray Plant Mooty; J. Selmer Law, P.A.

**Civil Rights:** Lockridge Grindal Nauen PLLP; Pustorino, Tilton, Parrington, & Lindquist, PLLC; Kennedy & Graven Chartered; Greene Espel, Gray Plant Mooty; J. Selmer Law, P.A.; McGrann Shea Carnival Straughn & Lamb; Iverson Reuvers Condon

Construction Law: Kennedy & Graven Chartered; Jardine Logan & O'Brien PLLP; J. Selmer Law P. A.; McGrann Shea Carnival Straughn & Lamb

Environmental Law: Lockridge Grindal Nauen PLLP; Kennedy & Graven Chartered; Gray Plant Mooty; Jardine Logan & O'Brien PLLP; McGrann Shea Carnival Straughn & Lamb; Iverson Reuvers Condon

General Municipal: Bradley Hagen & Gullikson, LLC; Gray Plant Mooty; Jardine Logan & O'Brien PLLP; McGrann Shea Carnival Straughn & Lamb; Iverson Reuvers Condon; J. Selmer Law, P.A.; Kennedy & Graven Chartered; Lockridge Grindal Nauen PLLP

Intellectual Property: Gray Plant Mooty; Lockridge Grindal Nauen PLLP

Labor/Employment Law Issues: Lockridge Grindal Nauen PLLP; McGrann Shea Carnival Straughn & Lamb; Iverson Reuvers Condon; Jardine Logan & O'Brien PLLP; J. Selmer Law, P.A.; Pustorino, Tilton, Parrington, & Lindquist, PLLC; Greene Espel; Kennedy & Graven Chartered; Gray Plant Mooty

Planning and Land Use: Iverson Reuvers Condon; J. Selmer Law, P.A.; Kennedy & Graven Chartered; Lockridge Grindal Nauen PLLP

Police Related Litigation: Jardine Logan & O'Brien PLLP; Iverson Reuvers Condon; Pustorino, Tilton, Parrington, & Lindquist, PLLC; J. Selmer Law, P.A.; Greene Espel; Kennedy & Graven Chartered

Public Contract Matters Including Litigation: Lockridge Grindal Nauen PLLP; McGrann Shea Carnival Straughn & Lamb; Jardine Logan & O'Brien PLLP; Gray Plant Mooty; Iverson Reuvers Condon; Kennedy & Graven Chartered; J. Selmer Law, P.A.; Bradley Hagen & Gullikson, LLC

Telecommunications: Jardine Logan & O'Brien PLLP; Bradley Hagen & Gullikson, LLC; Lockridge Grindal Nauen PLLP; Kennedy & Graven Chartered; McGrann Shea Carnival Straughn & Lamb

Title Clearance & Eminent Domain: Kennedy & Graven Chartered; Gray Plant Mooty, McGrann Shea Carnival Straughn & Lamb; J. Selmer Law, P.A.; Iverson Reuvers Condon

Workers Compensation: Pustorino, Tilton, Parrington, & Lindquist, PLLC; Jardine Logan & O'Brien PLLP; James Selmer, P.A.

There are other law firms with particular legal specialties that may not have been requested in the RFP and are not represented on the proposed panel. The City Attorney retains the flexibility to employ law firms with other specialties or to hire new law firms to address the City's legal services needs. Further, the City/Minneapolis Police Officers Federation collective bargaining agreement provides that the City establish a conflicts panel for the defense of police officers in civil actions. That panel is negotiated separately with the Federation. The collective bargaining agreement provides the legal basis for the payment of fees in conflicts cases, with the result that normal City procurement policies are not applicable. Consequently, the City needs to waive its procurement process for that conflicts panel.

**Financial Review:**

**No additional appropriation required, amount included in current budget.**

Enter future budget impact

**Approved by the Permanent Review Committee.**