



**Request for City Council Committee Action
From the City Attorney's Office**

Date: November 15, 2005
To: Ways & Means/Budget Committee
Referral to:

Subject: Amendment of Master Legal Services Agreement with Greene Espel.

Recommendation: That the City Council authorize the proper City officials to amend the Master Legal Services Agreement between the City of Minneapolis and Greene Espel so that the cost for said agreement not exceed \$600,000.00 for the term of the three year agreement.

Previous Directives:

Prepared by: Peter W. Ginder, Deputy City Attorney Phone: 673-2478

Approved by: _____
Jay M. Heffern
City Attorney

Presenter in Committee: Jay M. Heffern, City Attorney

Financial Impact (Check those that apply)

- No financial impact - or - Action is within current department budget.
(If checked, go directly to Background/Supporting Information)
- Action requires an appropriation increase to the Capital Budget
- Action requires an appropriation increase to the Operating Budget
- Action provides increased revenue for appropriation increase
- Action requires use of contingency or reserves
- Other financial impact (Explain):
- Request provided to the Budget Office when provided to the Committee Coordinator

Community Impact:

City Goals:

Background/Supporting Information

The law firm of Greene Espel previously has been approved for inclusion on the City's legal services panel for the period of January 1, 2004 through December 31, 2006. Pursuant to Council authorization, the Office of the City Attorney entered into a standard master agreement between the City and Greene Espel for legal services. That agreement provides, in part, that the total amount payable to the firm under the master agreement shall not exceed \$300,000.00 for the three-year term of the master agreement, including compensation and reimbursement for all expenses. Greene, Espel is currently involved in representing the City of Minneapolis in several matters including Duy Ngo v. Charles Storlie, et. al. Because of the

significant costs involved in complex litigation, including but not limited to expert witness fees and costs, compensation and reimbursable expenses will exceed the \$300,000.00 limit in place under the current master agreement. This Office requests that it be permitted to amend the Master Legal Services Agreement so that the total compensation and reimbursable expenses may be increased by an additional \$300,000.00 for the three year period.

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