

A G E N D A



Recommendation for Council Action

Austin City Council	Item ID	33900	Agenda Number	25.
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Meeting Date:	6/26/2014	Department:	Legal
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Subject

Authorize negotiation and execution of an amendment to a legal services contract with Parker, Hudson, Ranier and Dobbs, LLP, for services related to Austin Fire Department 2012 and 2013 hiring issues, in the amount of \$285,000, for a total contract amount not to exceed \$435,000.

Amount and Source of Funding

Fiscal Note

Purchasing Language:	
Prior Council Action:	
For More Information:	Lee Crawford, Law Department at 512-974-2421
Boards and Commission Action:	
MBE / WBE:	
Related Items:	

Additional Backup Information

Lawrence Ashe, a partner in Parker Hudson Rainier and Dobbs, LLC, has been the City's outside legal counsel in connection with the investigations of hiring practices at the Austin Fire Department by the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ), and the U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission. Mr. Ashe and his law firm will be the City's legal counsel in the federal lawsuit filed by the DOJ resulting from that investigation. The increase in the cost of this outside counsel contract is to cover anticipated additional work by Mr. Ashe and other professionals under his direction, including claims administrators and consulting experts that will be necessary in light of the federal court legal proceedings arising from the DOJ's investigation. The funding for this amendment will be paid from the City's liability reserve account. There has been one previous increase in the amount of this contract, which was approved by Council on October 24, 2013.