



CITY OF NEW HAVEN

JUSTIN ELICKER, MAYOR

165 Church Street
New Haven, Connecticut 06510
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February 6th, 2025

Honorable Tyisha Walker-Myers
President, Board of Alders
City of New Haven
165 Church Street
New Haven, CT 06510

Re: ORDER APPROVING AN AMENDMENT TO A LEGAL SERVICE AGREEMENT WITH THE LAW FIRM OF BERCHEM, MOSES, AND DEVLIN INCREASING THE MAXIMUM COMPENSATION FROM \$99,000 TO \$198,000 FROM FY 2024-2025 LINE ITEM 11331010-56696.

Dear Honorable President Walker-Myers:

I am seeking your approval to amend an outside legal service agreement with the law firm of Berchem, Moses, and Devlin ("Berchem Moses") in connection with legal services in support of the City on matters of Labor law, in the amount of Ninety-Nine Thousand Dollars (\$99,000.00), pursuant to Section 2-162 and Section 2-376 of the Code of Ordinances of the City of New Haven. This will bring the total agreement amount from \$99,000 to \$198,000 FY 2024-2025.

This amendment is requested due to a shortfall in the budget for the law firm of Berchem Moses in assisting the City's Office of Labor Relations with a number of labor board complaints, grievance arbitrations and contractual negotiations.

This includes work on the following items:

- Berchem Moses served as Chief Negotiator on the City's behalf in connection with negotiations with the Police Union. The contract was finally signed by all parties on 7 February 25.
- Berchem Moses was asked to serve as Chief Negotiator on behalf of the City regarding a new Fire Union contract.
- Berchem Moses was asked to represent the City on particularly difficult terminations before the New Haven Board of Fire Commissioners.
- The Police Union filed three complaints against the City which Berchem has been asked to represent the City on those matters.
- Berchem Moses will be assigned various new matters to assist the Office of Labor Relations, in light of the workload of the department, including termination hearings, and Labor Board complaints.



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The additional funds in the amount of \$99,000 are available from 11331010-56696.

If you have any questions, I can be reached at smatteson@newhavenct.gov.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Sean Matteson".

Sean Matteson

Cc: Patricia King, Corporation Counsel
Shannon McCue, Budget Director
Dr. Kristy Sampieri, City Controller
Wendella Ault-Batthey, Director of Labor Relations