

COUNTY COUNCIL OF WICOMICO COUNTY, MARYLAND

2020 Legislative Session

Legislative Day No. 26

RESOLUTION NO. 162-2020

Introduced by: The President of the Council at the request of the Acting County Executive

A RESOLUTION TO APPROVE KEVIN KARPINSKI, ESQUIRE AND KARPINSKI, CORNBROOKS & KARP, P.A. AS SPECIAL LEGAL COUNSEL FOR WICOMICO COUNTY ON MATTERS RELATING TO THE FOP COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AND PERSONNEL MANUAL REVISIONS.

WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 507(F) of the County Charter, the Acting County Executive may, with the approval of the County Council, employ special legal counsel to work on problems of an extraordinary nature, when the work to be done is of such a character or magnitude as to require services in addition to those regularly provided by the Department of Law; and

WHEREAS, Kevin Karpinski, Esquire and Karpinski, Cornbrooks & Karp, P.A. have been retained by Wicomico County for special legal work for many years; and

WHEREAS, the Acting County Executive desires to enter into an attorney representation contract with Kevin Karpinski, Esquire and Karpinski, Cornbrooks & Karp, P.A. to represent Wicomico County in matters as relates to FOP Collective Bargaining and Personnel Manual revisions.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the County Council of Wicomico County, Maryland, that the County Executive be, and is hereby, authorized to employ Kevin Karpinski, Esquire and Karpinski, Cornbrooks & Karp, P.A. as special legal counsel to represent Wicomico County in FOP Collective Bargaining matters and Personnel Manual revisions.

DONE at Salisbury, Maryland this 1st day of December, 2020.

ATTEST:

Laura Hurley, Council Administrator

COUNTY COUNCIL OF WICOMICO COUNTY, MARYLAND Larry W. Dodd (SEAL) Larry W. Dodd, Council President

CERTIFICATION

THIS RESOLUTION was Adopted [checked], Adopted with Amendments _____, Failed _____, Withdrawn _____ by the County Council on December 1, 2020.

Certified by Laura Hurley, Council Administrator

KARPINSKI, CORNBROOKS & KARP, P.A.

ATTORNEYS AT LAW

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Baltimore, Maryland 21202-1617

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DANIEL KARP *
OF COUNSEL

RICHARD T. COLARESI
RETIRED

* Admitted in MD and DC

** Admitted in MD, NY and DC

November 9, 2020

Mr. John Psota
Director of Administration
Acting County Executive
Council County for Wicomico County
Government Office Building
125 North Division Street
Room 303
P.O. Box 870
Salisbury, Maryland 21803-0870

RE: Possible Engagement Letter

Dear Acting County Executive Psota:

Karpinski, Cornbrooks & Karp, P.A., ("Karpinski, Cornbrooks & Karp," "firm," "we" or "our") is pleased to submit an engagement to review, revise and update the County's Personnel Manual.

Over the years, the firm has served as counsel in matters for almost every County (with the exception of two (2)) in the State of Maryland and a number of municipalities. The firm has extensive experience in investigating claims of discrimination and conducting investigations. The firm routinely provides advice to various Human Resources Directors throughout the State on a variety of personnel issues, including updating County and municipal Personnel Manuals.

I will personally review the Manual. If retained, I charge \$250.00 per hour. I estimate that my time for review will take approximately forty (40) hours for a total of \$10,000.000. The review will include one meeting with the County Council to answer any questions or concerns regarding revisions to the Manual.

Mr. John Psota
Director of Administration
Acting County Executive
Council County for Wicomico County
November 9, 2020
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The County may terminate its relationship with the firm under this Engagement at any time and for any reason.

If the foregoing is acceptable, once this Engagement Letter has been approved, please have an authorized County official sign, insert name and title and date the scanned version of this Engagement Letter transmitted by email in the space provided for below and return the scanned copy of the fully executed Engagement Letter to the undersigned's attention via email. Such scanned signed counterparts of this Engagement Letter shared via email shall be treated as originals for all purposes. We very much look forward to the opportunity to serve the interests of Wicomico County.

Sincerely yours,

KARPINSKI, CORNBROOKS & KARP, P.A.



BY: Kevin Karpinski

KK:bjap

Accepted this _____ day of _____, 2020:

WICOMICO COUNTY, MARYLAND

By: _____
Name: John Psota
Title: Acting County Executive
(Authorized Signatory)

KARPINSKI, CORNBROOKS & KARP, P.A.
ATTORNEYS AT LAW

**120 East Baltimore Street, Suite 1850
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DANIEL KARP *
OF COUNSEL

RICHARD COLARESI
RETIRED

November 23, 2020

The Honorable County Executive Psota
and County Council of Wicomico County, Maryland
Council County for Wicomico County
Government Office Building
125 North Division Street
Room 303
P.O. Box 870
Salisbury, Maryland 21803-0870

RE: Negotiations with Fraternal Order of Police

Dear County Executive Psota and County Council:

Karpinski, Cornbrooks & Karp, P.A. ("Karpinski, Cornbrooks & Karp," "firm," "we" or "our") is pleased to have served as counsel for Wicomico County, Maryland ("the County") on a variety of issues since the early 1990s. As requested by the County, the firm is submitting an engagement letter to serve as counsel in connection with representing Wicomico County in connection with collective bargaining negotiations with the Fraternal Order of Police

Over the years, the firm has served as counsel in litigating cases for almost every County (with the exception of two) in the State of Maryland and a number of municipalities. The firm has extensive experience in defending matters on behalf of Counties and municipalities. The firm has extensive experience with a variety of personnel issues, to include collective bargaining.

If retained, the firm would represent the County in connection with ongoing collective bargaining negotiations with the Fraternal Order of Police. The firm would bill partners' time at \$250.00 per hour, associates at \$200.00 per our and paralegal time at \$90.00 per hour.

As a firm that has worked almost exclusively for insurance carriers and

The Honorable County Executive Psota
and County Council of Wicomico County, Maryland
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the Local Government Insurance Trust, the firm is accustomed to providing monthly detailed billing statements outlining all services rendered.

The County may terminate its relationship with the firm under this Engagement at any time and for any reason. Conversely, the firm reserves the right to withdraw as counsel to the County only upon providing reasonable notice and assurance that the County's interests will be adequately protected.

If the foregoing is acceptable, once this Engagement Letter has been approved, please have an authorized County official sign, insert name and title and date the scanned version of this Engagement Letter transmitted by email in the space provided for below and return the scanned copy of the fully executed Engagement Letter to the undersigned's attention via email. Such scanned signed counterparts of this Engagement Letter shared via email shall be treated as originals for all purposes. We very much look forward to the opportunity to serve the interests of Wicomico County.

Sincerely yours,

KARPINSKI, CORNBROOKS & KARP, P.A.



BY: Kevin Karpinski

KK:bjap

Accepted this _____ day of _____, 2020:

WICOMICO COUNTY, MARYLAND

By: _____
(Authorized Signatory)