

**CITY OF SAN ANTONIO
CITY ATTORNEY'S OFFICE
CITY COUNCIL AGENDA MEMORANDUM**

TO: Mayor and City Council

FROM: Martha G. Sepeda, Acting City Attorney; Erik J. Walsh, Assistant to the City Manager

SUBJECT: Authorizing the execution of an agreement with Denton, Navarro, Rocha, & Bernal for legal services related to collective bargaining negotiations with the Fire Fighter's Association.

DATE: May 26, 2005

SUMMARY AND RECOMMENDATIONS

This ordinance authorizes the execution of an agreement with Denton, Navarro, Rocha & Bernal, P.C. to provide legal services in connection with the collective bargaining negotiations between the City of San Antonio ("City") and the Local 624 International Association of Fire Fighters ("Local 624"), for an amount not to exceed \$100,000.00 for the term of the negotiations.

Staff recommends approval of this ordinance.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

The City and Local 624 currently operate under a Collective Bargaining Agreement, which is due to expire September 30, 2005. In response thereto, the City, through its Acting City Attorney, wishes to engage the services of Denton, Navarro, Rocha & Bernal, P.C. to assist the City, as Chief Negotiator, in collective bargaining negotiations with the Local 624. This includes participation in the negotiation, development and drafting of a collective bargaining agreement, or revisions thereto, and such other related matters; any reopened negotiations on the health benefit provisions of the collective bargaining agreements of the Local 624 and the San Antonio Police Officer's Association; and when appropriate, rendering opinions regarding interpretations of contractual provisions or that the agreement is valid and binding and meets the legal obligations of the parties. Lowell Denton shall be the lead attorney performing the services pursuant to the engagement letter.

Lowell Denton has served as the City's Chief Negotiator for the City with both the San Antonio Police Officer's Association ("SAPOA") and the Local 624 from 1992 through 1995 and from 1998 through 2004. Mr. Denton will be the principal contact at the firm and will act as the City's Chief Negotiator in the collective bargaining negotiations with the Local 624. Other personnel in the firm may participate in negotiations if, in the judgment of the Acting City

Attorney, their participation is necessary. Mr. Denton has also served as the negotiator in Austin, Laredo, Corpus Christi, Waco, Houston, and Webb County.

POLICY ANALYSIS

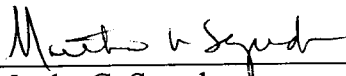
The proposed engagement of outside legal counsel is consistent with City policy and previous actions to employ outside legal counsel to assist with the City's collective bargaining negotiations.

FISCAL IMPACT


Funds are available in the FY05 General Budget of the City Attorney's Office.

COORDINATION

This item has been coordinated with the City Manager's Office, the Fire Department, and the Human Resources Department.



Martha G. Sepeda,
Acting City Attorney



J. Rolando Bono,
Interim City Manager

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