

**INTEROFFICE COMMUNICATION
COUNTY OF MILWAUKEE**

DATE: September 4, 2014

TO: Marina Dimitrijevic, Chairwoman, County Board of Supervisors

FROM: Paul Bargren, Corporation Counsel *PB*

SUBJECT: Contract Amendment for Legalpeople

It is requested that this contract amendment be referred to the Committees on Judiciary, Safety and General Services (information only) and Finance, Personnel and Audit. This contract was originally for \$85,000 and was amended to \$99,000 effective August 18, 2014 under departmental authority. Approximately \$66,000 has been incurred to date. Pursuant to §59.52(31)(b)(1), Stats., the County Executive has signed and forwarded an amendment to this contract on September 4, 2014, authorizing an additional sum of \$61,000, for a total contract sum of \$160,000. The contract amendment will take effect unless the Finance Committee takes action to reject or affirm the contract within 14 days of this memo.

On June 7th, 2014 Reserve Judge Neal Nettesheim finalized his order on what are known as the John Doe documents. He directed the District Attorney's Office to return to the County the documents and data it had seized from Milwaukee County employees and computers. The materials had been seized from employees in the office of, or reporting to, former County Executive Walker. Milwaukee County worked closely with the District Attorney's Office in the transfer of 500 GB of information. The judge's order further directed Milwaukee County to review the John Doe material to determine the extent to which it may be disclosed under the Wisconsin Public Records law.

County Executive Abele had been brought into Judge Nettesheim's proceedings as the successor custodian of the public records. At County Executive Abele's request, my Office has been handling the public records review. To assist in the review, I hired Legalpeople, an outside legal agency that specializes in large document reviews. With the help of County attorneys and IT staff, four Legalpeople attorneys have been working full time since June 30th formatting, sorting, processing and then going through the huge volume of material to delete non-public material like social security numbers, private employee information, personal medical information and attorney-client communication.

The initial 14 gigabytes of material was made available to public records requesters on August 8, 2014. The released information includes primarily "network documents" (word documents, pdfs, spreadsheets, etc.) and "work station data" (other documents saved on individual's computer desktops, like pictures, word documents, etc) from County computers that were originally seized as part of the investigation. The next release is expected to include material from Email accounts. Attorneys are still working on other documents and the email turned over under the court order. It is too early to provide a timeline for the further releases that will follow.

Because of the unusual nature of this project, it has been difficult to estimate the time and resources needed. However, it appears the initial staffing was inappropriate. The amendment to \$99,000 on August 18 will allow the addition of two more reviewers beginning September 2. The increase requested in this memo will allow the six reviewers to continue work through the end of October, which should complete the bulk of the review.

The funds will be allocated from the 2014 Litigation Reserve Account, Org. Unit 1961.

cc: Kelly Bablitch
Raisa Koltun
Janelle Jensen
Alexis Gassenhuber
Steve Cady