

**INTEROFFICE COMMUNICATION
COUNTY OF MILWAUKEE**

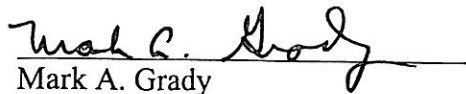
DATE: January 5, 2012
TO: Lee Holloway, Chairman, County Board of Supervisors
FROM: Mark A. Grady, Deputy Corporation Counsel
SUBJECT: Resolution to Amend Contract for Buelow Vetter for legal representation in labor relations matters

It is requested that this matter be referred to the Committee on Finance and Audit and the Committee on Personnel.

The County Board approved a contract with Buelow Vetter Buikema Olson & Vliet LLC on September 30, 2010 (File No. 10-294) for legal representation of Milwaukee County in labor relations matters. Since that time, Buelow Vetter has handled numerous proceedings before the Wisconsin Employment Relations Commission and numerous cases in court. Most recently, the firm represents Milwaukee County in a case in circuit court related to the furlough days and in a case involving the Personnel Committee's role in the bargaining process related to the negotiations for a 2009-10 agreement with DC48. The firm is also representing Milwaukee County in an injunction matter related to layoffs in the Deputy Sheriffs Association and in the interest arbitration proceeding with the Firefighters Association.

Authority is requested to amend the contract amount to a total of \$275,000.00 in order to pay for the continued legal services for these cases and any new matters that may arise in 2012. Over the past two years, the firm has been paid \$149,687.63 in fees and the County has incurred, but not yet paid, approximately \$50,000.00 – 70,000.00 in additional fees through the end of 2011. The legal services needed in 2012 are expected to decrease from the amount required in 2011.

Sufficient funds exist in the Litigation Reserve Account for 2011 and 2012 for this request.


Mark A. Grady

cc: County Executive Chris Abele
Carol Mueller
Jodi Mapp