

REPORT FROM

OFFICE OF THE CITY ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

Date: April 9, 2014

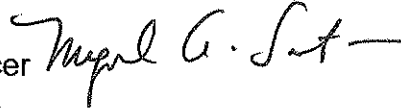
CAO File No. 0130-01756-1565

Council File No. ---

Council District: ---

To: The City Council

From: Miguel A. Santana, City Administrative Officer



Reference: Attorney Conflicts Panel

Subject: **CONFLICT COUNSEL REPRESENTATION REQUEST**

SUMMARY

The Office of the City Administrative Officer received a request from the law firm of Walsh & Associates, APC (Walsh) to represent Councilmember Jose Huizar, under the Attorney Conflicts Panel (ACP) in the case entitled, *Francine Godoy v. City of Los Angeles, et al.*, Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. BC524640. The basis for going outside the pre-established list would be because of the unique circumstances and specialized experience that the Walsh firm possesses.

Under the ACP, the proposed legal services agreement with Walsh shall be for legal services commencing on August 1, 2013 and initial funding shall be up to \$200,000. To date, Walsh has billed \$41,570.64. The legal services agreement shall also be subject to the current ACP billing rates compensation structure specified for an Employment Litigation case.

The funding for this contract would be drawn from the ACP Fund 46T. Walsh would also be subject to the City's compliance policies and procedures and the proposed contract would be subject to review by the City Attorney's Office as to form and legality.

Should the Council elect to allow Walsh to represent Mr. Huizar under the ACP, the following actions are recommended:

That the Council, subject to the approval of the Mayor:

1. Authorize the City Administrative Officer to retain and enter into a legal services contract with the law firm of Walsh & Associates, APC, in the initial amount up to \$200,000 for advice and legal representation relating to the matter of *Francine Godoy v. City of Los Angeles, et al.*, Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. BC524640, commencing from August 1, 2013, with the funds to be encumbered within the Attorney Conflicts Panel Fund No. 46T, Department 10;

2. Authorize the City Administrative Officer to prepare Controller instructions for any technical adjustments and instruct the Controller to implement the instructions.

FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

The recommendations in this report will have no additional impact on the General Fund. The proposed legal services agreement with the law firm of Walsh & Associates, APC, is in compliance with the City's Financial Policies in that ongoing revenue will be used to support this program and sufficient funds are available in the Attorney's Conflicts Panel under ACP Fund 46T to fund the necessary expenses this fiscal year.

MAS:DMR:14140130c