



**MICHAEL N. FEUER**  
CITY ATTORNEY

REPORT NO. R 20 - 0245  
AUG 21 2020

REPORT RE:

**PROPOSED LEGAL SERVICES AGREEMENT  
FOR ASSISTANCE WITH COLLECTIONS**

The Honorable City Council  
of the City of Los Angeles  
200 North Spring Street  
City Hall, Room 395  
Los Angeles, California 90012

Honorable Members:

This Office recommends that Joshua P. Friedman & Associates ("Friedman") be approved as outside counsel to continue assisting the City Attorney's Office in providing legal services in the collections arena, on a purely contingency basis.

Background

The City Attorney determined, some time ago, that there could be a substantial amount of money to be recovered by the City from outstanding monetary court judgments or other decisions in the City's favor where money was owed. Though great in potential value, collections work is specialized and very time consuming. Rather than utilize the time of in house deputies, it seemed a better use of resources to engage outside counsel to perform these collection services, particularly as the work was to be performed on a fully contingency basis, with no draw from the General Fund.

By way of competitive proposal, the City Attorney's Office selected, and this Council previously approved, Joshua P. Friedman and Associates for this engagement in June of 2016. The contract has now expired. We recommend entering into a new three year

contract with Friedman with a term that covers his continuing work, if any, back to the time his previous contract expired in February of 2019. Friedman has collected close to \$1 Million in his work for the City.

Recommendation

This Office respectfully requests that the City Council authorize the City Attorney to enter into a new three year contract with Joshua P. Friedman & Associates for collections services, retroactive to February 29, 2019.

If you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact the undersigned at (213) 978-8100. She or another member of this Office will be present when you consider this matter to answer any questions you may have.

Sincerely,

MICHAEL N. FEUER, City Attorney

By *Anne Haley*  
ANNE HALEY  
Assistant City Attorney