

16

RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
COUNTY OF ESSEX

RESOLUTION NO. _____
PROPOSED BY: COUNTY EXECUTIVE

AUTHORITY FOR RESOLUTION: N.J.S.A. 40:41A-38(n)
AUTHORITY FOR ACTION: N.J.S.A. 40:41A-36(i)

SUBJECT:

OFFICE OF COUNTY COUNSEL – PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT –
PROVIDE LEGAL SERVICES ON WORKERS COMPENSATION CASES – OUTSIDE
COUNSEL CONTRACT WITH JOHN H. WATSON, JR., ESQ. – JANUARY 1, 2023 –
DECEMBER 31, 2023 IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED - \$25,000.00

WHEREAS, the County of Essex has a need for special outside counsel to provide professional services in connection with workers compensation cases for the County of Essex (the “Legal Matters”); and

WHEREAS, the Office of the County Counsel through the Office of Purchasing has publicly advertised for a Request for Proposal/Qualification for 2023 Legal Services (the “Services”); and

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners has approved the 2023 list of qualified firms for the performance of such Services which includes the firm of John H. Watson, Jr., Esq., 63 Washington Street, Suite 200, East Orange, NJ 07017; and

WHEREAS, it is recommended by the Office of County Counsel that a Contract for Services for the Legal Matter be awarded to John H. Watson, Jr., Esq. for the period January 1, 2023 through December 31, 2023, in an amount not to exceed \$25,000.00; and

WHEREAS, the Chief Financial Officer has certified the availability of funds to pay such contract, which certification is attached hereto; and

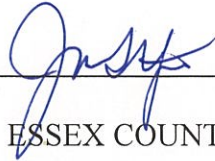
WHEREAS, said contract may be awarded without public bidding, as professional services in accordance with N.J.S.A. 40A:11-5(1) of the Local Public Contracts Law, on condition that a resolution authorizing the contract for professional services without competitive bidding, and the contract itself, be made available for public inspection; and

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners is empowered by N.J.S.A. 40:41A-38(n) to approve, by resolution, contracts presented by the County Executive;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of County Commissioners of the County of Essex as follows:

1. That the agreement with John H. Watson, Jr., Esq., a copy of which is attached hereto, is approved;
2. That the contract is awarded without competitive bid as "Professional Services" in accordance with N.J.S.A.40A:11-5(1)(a) of Local Public Contracts Law because the services to be rendered are performed by persons authorized by law to practice a recognized profession which is regulated by law and the performance of which requires knowledge of an advanced type in a field of learning acquired by prolonged formal, specialized instruction;
3. That notice of this contract award be published by the Clerk of the Board of County Commissioners in accordance with the provisions of N.J.S.A. 40A:11-5(1); and
4. That the Clerk of the Board forward two copies of said fully executed copies of said contract and this resolution to Jerome M. St. John, Essex County Counsel; one copy to Workers Compensation Unit, Essex County Hospital Center, Cedar Grove, NJ; and one copy to John H. Watson, Jr., Esq., 63 Washington Street, Suite 200, East Orange, NJ 07017.

Approved as to form and legality


ESSEX COUNTY COUNSEL

Date

2/21/23

RECORD OF VOTE (X=Vote N.V.=Abstention ABS=Absent)

Moved by Commissioner

Second by Commissioner

Commissioner	Yes	No	N.V.	ABS	Commissioner	Yes	No	N.V.	ABS
Cooper					Mercado				
Gill					Pomares, V.P.				
Graham					Richardson, Pres.				
Johnson					Sebold				
Luciano									

It is hereby certified that the foregoing Resolution was () adopted () defeated () tabled by roll call vote at a _____ meeting of the Board of County Commissioners of the County of Essex, New Jersey held on _____.

Is Publication Required () Yes () No

Date Published _____

Wayne L. Richardson, President

c:2023ContractDirectory:ks



COUNTY OF ESSEX

DECISION MEMORANDUM

COUNTY EXECUTIVE

BOARD AGENDA ITEM


COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

County Counsel

TO: Robert D. Jackson
County Administrator

DEPARTMENT: _____

DIVISION: _____

FROM: Jerome M. St. John 
County Counsel

DATE: February 21, 2023

RE: Professional Services Contract with John H. Watson, Jr., Esq.
Workers Compensation Legal Services

A. INTRODUCTION

The County is in need for the services of outside counsel to provide legal services in connection with Workers Compensation Cases for the County of Essex.

B. RECOMMENDATION

The law firm of John H. Watson, Jr., Esq. is on the County's approved RFQ outside counsel list and was chosen to represent the County of Essex.

It is recommended that the Board of County Commissioners approve a contract between the County of Essex and the law firm of John H. Watson, Jr., Esq. in the amount of \$25,000.00 for the period from January 1, 2023 through December 31, 2023.

C. REASON FOR RECOMMENDATION

The County is in need of outside counsel because of the conflict of interest that arises from the in-house handling of these matters. These services are processed through our Workers Compensation Unit and paid by PMA out of the County's PMA Insurance Account.

C:\CONTRACT\2023\WATSON:KS



OFFICE OF ACCOUNTS AND CONTROL
HALL OF RECORDS, ROOM 542
NEWARK, NEW JERSEY 07102

CERTIFICATION OF FUNDS

Vendor Name John H. Watson, Jr. Esq.
Account Name Professional Services
Account # 01-201-20-155-100-028
Contract Period (If Applicable) 01/01/2023 12/31/2023
Purpose of Contract To provide Professional Services in connection with Workers
Compensation Cases for the County of Essex

25,000.00 Contract Amount

Funding

Temporary Budget Amount
Current Fund Budget Amount
25,000.00 Contingent Current Year Amount
Grant Funding
Capital Funding
Trust Funding
Contingent Subsequent Years

I, do hereby certify that the funding is legally appropriated per the above information for the purpose specified in the attached contract. Furthermore, it has been represented to me that the contracts have been processed in accordance with the applicable provisions of the Optional County Charter Law, the Essex County Administrative Code and the Essex County Standard Operating Policies and Procedures.

CM Date: 3/6/2023
Cert: 740


Ehab Salama
Chief Financial Officer

CONTRACT FOR PROFESSIONAL LEGAL SERVICES

This Retainer Agreement made the 1st day of January, 2023, between the County of Essex, a body politic and corporate of the State of New Jersey (hereinafter referred to as "County") and John H. Watson, Jr., Esq., 63 Washington Street, Suite 200, East Orange, NJ 07017 (hereinafter referred to as "Counsel").

WHEREAS, the County is in need of the services of outside counsel to provide legal services and/or legal representation in combined matters venued in the Workers' Compensation Court by Claim Petition numbers (hereinafter referred to as the "Legal Matters"); and

NOW, THEREFORE, it is agreed as follows:

1. **Services.** Counsel shall provide the County of Essex with legal representation in the above-referenced Legal Matters and perform in accordance with the terms and conditions set forth herein. The services to be provided are "professional services" within the meaning of N.J.S.A. 40A:11-5(1)(a)(i).
2. **Term.** The term of this agreement shall be January 1, 2023 through December 31, 2023 in accordance with N.J.S.A. 40A:11-15.
3. **Compensation.** Counsel shall be paid a flat fee of \$500.00 to open each file, file a response to the respective petition, and attend to all matters pertaining to the representation of the County with regard to the matter. Counsel shall also be paid a flat fee of \$500.00 close each respective petition and attend to all matters pertaining to the representation of the County with regard to the settlement. If any particular matter goes to trial, Counsel shall contact the County to discuss an hourly arrangement for the trial not to exceed a maximum of \$5,000.00 without prior approval of the County. The total contract price for this Agreement shall not exceed a maximum of \$25,000.00 with standard County procedure.
4. **Titles.** The titles to the paragraphs of this agreement are solely for the convenience of the parties and shall not be used to explain, modify, simplify, or aid in the interpretation of the provisions of this agreement.
5. **Waiver of breach.** The waiver by the County of any breach of any term or condition of this agreement shall not be deemed to constitute the waiver of any other breach of the same or any other term or condition of this agreement.
6. **Choice of Law.** This agreement shall be construed, governed, and enforced in accordance with the laws of the State of New Jersey. Any action based upon the terms of this Agreement shall be venued within the County of Essex.
7. **Discrimination.** The provisions of N.J.S.A. 10:2-1 through 10:2-4, inclusive, relating to discrimination in employment on public contracts, and the rules and regulations promulgated thereunder, are incorporated into the terms and conditions of Counsel's retention and made a part hereof.

8. **Conflicts.** The Supreme Court has stated that “[a]ttorneys who serve as counsel for governmental bodies must avoid not only direct conflicts of interest, but any situation which might appear to involve a conflict of interest.” Opinion No. 415, 81 N.J. 318, 324 (1979). By entering this agreement, Counsel represents to the County that the performance of the requested services hereunder does not present an actual conflict or the appearance of a conflict of interest.

9. **Incorporation.** The following documents are attached hereto and made a part hereof:

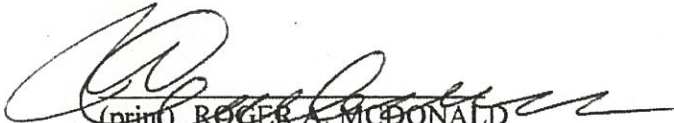
Appendix A - Standard Terms and Conditions;
Appendix B - Statement of Certain Political Contributions;
Appendix C - Applicant/Proposer’s Qualifications and Representations;
Appendix D - Affirmative Action Requirements; and
Appendix E - Proof of Business filed with the NJ Division of Taxation.

10. **Agreement.** Counsel’s signature on this agreement, or if work has already begun the Counsel’s failure to object to these terms promptly in writing, constitutes acceptance of the foregoing terms and conditions. This agreement constitutes the entire understanding concerning the County’s engagement of Counsel, and that understanding cannot subsequently be modified except in a writing signed by an authorized representative of the County.

11. **Authorization Required.** Counsel is required to get prior approval from the Office of County Counsel for all settlements of suit; motions to be filed; and depositions to be taken.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties have signed and sealed this agreement on the dates set forth below.

WITNESS:


(print) ROGER A. McDONALD

DATE:

JOHN H. WATSON, JR.

By: 
(print) JOHN H. WATSON

DATE:

ATTEST:

DEBORAH DAVIS FORD, CLERK
ESSEX COUNTY BOARD OF
COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

DATE:

APPROVED AS TO FORM

COUNTY OF ESSEX

By: 
JOSEPH N. DiVINCENZO, JR.
ESSEX COUNTY EXECUTIVE

DATE:

2/27/23



JEROME M. ST. JOHN
ESSEX COUNTY COUNSEL

STANDARD TERMS AND CONDITIONS

1. Insurance

Counsel shall maintain professional liability insurance of at least \$1,000,000.00 per occurrence.

2. Non-Discrimination

The parties to this agreement do hereby agree that the provisions of N.J.S.A. 10:2-1 through 10:2-4, dealing with discrimination in employment on public contracts, and the rules and regulations promulgated pursuant thereto, are hereby made a part of this agreement and are binding upon them.

3. Affirmative Action

During the performance of this contract, Counsel agrees as follows:

Counsel, where applicable, will not discriminate against any employee or applicant for employment because of age, race creed, color, national origin, ancestry, marital status, sex, affectional or sexual orientation. The consultant will take affirmative action to ensure that such applicants are recruited and employed, and that employees are treated during employment, without regard to their age, race, creed, color, national origin, ancestry, marital status, sex, affectional or sexual orientation. Such action shall include, but not be limited to the following: employment, upgrading, demotion, or transfer; recruitment or recruitment advertising; layoff or termination; rates of pay or other forms of compensation; and selection for training, including apprenticeship. Counsel agrees to post in conspicuous places, available to employees and applicants for employment, notices to be provided by the Public Agency Compliance Officer setting forth provisions of this nondiscrimination clause;

Counsel, where applicable, will in all solicitations, or advertisements for employees placed by or on behalf of the Counsel, state that all qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to age, race, creed, color, national origin, ancestry, marital status, sex, affectional or sexual orientation;

Counsel, where applicable, will send to each labor union or representative of workers with which it has a collective bargaining agreement or other contract or understanding, a notice, to be provided by the agency contracting officer advising the labor union or workers' representative of the Counsel's commitments under this act and shall post copies of the notice in conspicuous places available to employees and applicants for employment.

Counsel, where applicable, agrees to comply with the regulations promulgated by the Treasurer pursuant to N.J.S.A. 10:5-31, et seq. and P.L. 1975, c. 127, as amended and supplemented from time to time and the Americans with Disabilities Act.

Counsel agrees to attempt in good faith to employ minority and female workers consistent with the applicable county employment goals prescribed by N.J.A.C. 17:27-5.2 promulgated by the Treasurer pursuant to P.L. 1975, c. 127, as amended and supplemented from time to time or in accordance with a binding determination of the applicable county employment goals determined by the Division of Contract and Compliance & EEO pursuant to N.J.A.C. 17:27-5.2 promulgated by the Treasurer pursuant to P.L. 1975, c. 127, as amended and supplemented from time to time.

Counsel agrees to inform in writing appropriate recruitment agencies in the area, including employment agencies, placement bureaus, colleges, universities, labor unions, that it does not discriminate on the basis of age, creed, color, national origin, ancestry, marital status, sex, affectional or sexual orientation, and that it will discontinue the use of any recruitment agency which engages in direct or indirect discriminatory practices.

Counsel agrees to revise any of its testing procedures, if necessary, to assure that all personnel testing conforms with the principals of job-related testing, as established by the statutes and court decisions of the State of New Jersey and as established by applicable Federal law and applicable Federal Court decisions.

Counsel agrees to review all procedures relating to transfer, upgrading, downgrading and layoff to ensure that all such actions are taken without regard to age, creed, color, national origin, ancestry, marital status, sex, affectional or sexual orientation, and conform with the applicable employment goals, consistent with the statutes and court decisions of the State of New Jersey, and applicable Federal Law and applicable Federal court decisions.

Counsel shall furnish such reports or other documents to the Division of Contract Compliance & EEO as may be requested by the office from time to time in order to carry out the purposes of these regulations, and public agencies shall furnish such information as may be requested by the Division of Contract Compliance & EEO for conducting a compliance investigation pursuant to Subchapter 10 of the Administrative Code (N.J.A.C. 17:27).

4. Effective Date

This agreement shall not be effective and binding upon the parties unless and until it is executed by the Essex County Executive and approved by the Essex County Board of Chosen Freeholders by resolution. Upon such approval, this contract shall be retroactive to the date services are first provided by Counsel.

5. Governing Law

This agreement shall be construed, governed by, and interpreted in accordance with the laws of the State of New Jersey.

6. Representations

Counsel represent that all attorneys who will be providing services hereunder are duly licensed and that there are no disciplinary proceedings against anyone in the firm.

(This statement is part of the proposal packet)

Set forth name of County elected official, County political party and/or County official, political organization, or State political party to whom a political contribution of \$500.00 or more was made by proposer within five (5) years of the date hereof.

[illegible]

By:

APPENDIX B

APPLICANT/PROPOSER'S QUALIFICATIONS AND REPRESENTATIONS

The Applicant/Proposer makes the following statements and representations as part of the proposal:

1. Applicant/Proposer (firm name or individual): JOHN H. WATSON, JR.

2. Address: 63 WASHINGTON STREET, EAST ORANGE, NJ 07017

3. Federal Employer Identification Number: 22-2431808

4. How long have you been in business? 46 YEARS

5. How long at present address? 37 YEARS

6. If incorporated, state date of incorporation and in what state incorporated and designate whether a Not-For-Profit corporation or other classification. (If not a domestic corporation, attach a copy of the Certificate of Authority issued by the Secretary of State of New Jersey pursuant to the General Corporation Law).

N/A

7. List below names and addresses of all officers of the Corporation (attach additional sheet(s) if necessary):

Name

Address

Title

N/A

APPLICANT/PROPOSER'S QUALIFICATIONS AND REPRESENTATIONS

- 7a. List below the names and addresses of all members of the Board of Directors.

<u>Name</u>	<u>Address</u>	<u>Title</u>
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N/A

- 7b. Complete the following as to any stockholder holding 10% or more of the issued and outstanding stock. If any stockholder is another corporation, attach a rider giving the answers to questions 1 through 7b with respect to that corporation.

<u>Name</u>	<u>Address</u>	<u># Shares Held</u>	<u>% Shares Issued</u>
-------------	----------------	----------------------	------------------------

N/A

- 7c. Has any corporation, partnership, association or individual, other than the stockholder(s) herein set forth, any beneficial interest, directly or indirectly in the stock held by said stockholders? ☐ Yes ☐ No N/A

If answer is "yes" state the name and address of the corporation, partnership association or individual having such beneficial interest and specify the nature of such interest. If such beneficial interest is held by a corporation, attach rider giving answers as required in questions 1 through 7b with respect to that corporation.

APPLICANT/PROPOSER'S QUALIFICATIONS AND REPRESENTATIONS

8. Are you a partnership? NO

If so, list names and addresses of all partner (attach additional sheet(s) if necessary).

9. If you are doing business under a trade name, give state and country in which certificate is filed. N/A

10. Average number of employees: NONE

11. Have you ever bid or submitted a proposal on County of Essex business under another name? If the answer is yes, list below the name or names.

12. Have you any outstanding bids or proposals for contracts with the County of Essex? YES If the answer is yes, please list them.

Subject

WORKERS COMP.

Requesting Agency

COUNTY COUNSEL

APPLICANT/PROPOSER'S QUALIFICATIONS AND REPRESENTATIONS

13. Have you any current contract awards from the County? YES
If the answer is yes, please list them including the amount of the award.

<u>Subject</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Awarding Agency</u>
WORKERS COMP.	\$1,000.00 PER CASE	ESSEX COUNTY COUNSEL

14. Describe any other contracts for professional services which you have entered into with the County of Essex within the past three (3) years beginning with the most recent to least recent (include agency or department name, brief description of the department contact person's name and telephone number). Applicant need not provide more than five (5) such descriptions. Attach additional sheet(s) as required.

NONE

15. Bank references.

SANTANDER BANK

16. Statement of financial conditions (please attach most recent audit report or annual financial statement).

N/A

APPLICANT/PROPOSER'S QUALIFICATIONS AND REPRESENTATIONS

17. That the Applicant/Proposer and each person signing on behalf of any Applicant/Proposer certifies, and in the case of a joint proposal, each party thereto certifies as to its own organization, under penalty of perjury, that to the best of his/her knowledge and belief:
- (a) The prices in the proposal have been arrived at independently without collusion, consultation, communication, or agreement for the purpose of restricting competition as to any matter relating to such prices with any other proposer or with any competitor;
 - (b) Unless otherwise required by law, the prices which have been quoted in the proposal have not been knowingly disclosed by the Applicant/Proposer and will not knowingly be disclosed by the Applicant/Proposer prior to opening, directly or indirectly, to any other Applicant/Proposer or to any competitor;
 - (c) No attempt has made or will be made by the Applicant/Proposer to induce any other person, partnership or corporation to submit or not to submit a proposal for the purpose of restricting competition;
 - (d) That no freeholder or other officer or employee or person whose salary is payable in whole or in part from the County Treasury is directly or indirectly interested in the proposal, or in the supplies, materials, equipment, work, or labor to which it relates, or in any of the profits thereof; and
 - (e) That said Applicant/Proposer is not in arrears to the County of Essex upon any debt or contract, and is not a defaulter, as surety or otherwise, upon any obligation to the County of Essex, and has not been declared not responsible, or disqualified, by any agency of the County of Essex or State of New Jersey. Nor is there any proceeding pending relating to the responsibility or qualification of the Applicant/Proposer to receive public contracts except: (if none, Applicant/Proposer will insert "none").
18. That the Applicant/Proposer, if an individual, is of lawful age; that the Applicant/Proposer is the only one interested in this proposal; and that no person, firm or corporation other than that named has any interest in the proposal, or in the contract proposed to be taken.

APPLICANT/PROPOSER'S QUALIFICATIONS AND REPRESENTATIONS

19. That the Applicant/Proposer fully understands and submits its proposal with the specific knowledge that:
 - (a) All proposals must be approved by the County of Essex; and
 - (b) In the event Applicant/Proposer's proposal is accepted and receives all necessary approvals, the proposal will be incorporated into a contract containing provisions provided by the County of Essex, and that the resultant contract must be approved as to form by the County Counsel of the County of Essex, approved by the Board of Chosen Freeholders of the County of Essex.
20. That the Applicant/Proposer certifies that it is duly licensed to do business in the State of New Jersey and agrees to obtain all necessary permits and/or licenses required by law or regulation for the performance of any contract awarded and to obtain necessary insurance coverage as directed by the County of Essex.
21. That the Applicant/Proposer will not alter the personnel assignments shown in the proposal without the written consent of the County.

APPLICANT/PROPOSER'S QUALIFICATIONS AND REPRESENTATIONS

The following affidavit must be subscribed and sworn to before a Notary Public or Commissioner of Deeds. (If the applicant is an individual he must be the subscriber; if applicant is a partnership, one of the partners must be the subscriber; if applicant is a corporation, the affidavit must be subscribed by an officer of the corporation who must state what office he holds).

STATE OF NEW JERSEY :

ss:

AFFIDAVIT

COUNTY OF ESSEX :

The undersigned hereby certifies to the truth and accuracy of all statements, answers and data contained in this proposal and application, and hereby authorizes the County of Essex to make any necessary examination or inquiry in order to make a determination as to his qualifications and responsibility. The undersigned has examined all parts of the Request for Proposal and understands that it is completely discretionary with the County officials whether to accept, reject, or negotiate its proposal submitted pursuant thereto.

John H. Watson
Signature of Applicant

ATTORNEY AT LAW

Title

Sworn to before me this

16 day of February
2023

Jarteau Israel
(Seal) Notary Public or Commissioner of Deeds

Jarteau Israel
Notary Public
Essex County, New Jersey
My Commission Exp. June 27, 2025

DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

The attention of prospective vendors is drawn to the provisions of the Local Government Ethics Law (N.J.S.A. 40A:9-22.1, et seq.) which prohibits a County Officer or employee or member of his/her immediate family from having an interest in a business organization or engaging in any business transaction, or professional activity which is in substantial conflict with the proper discharge of his/her duties in the public interest.

In furtherance thereof, every vendor must disclose below, being an Essex County officer or employee or whether an immediate family member is an Essex County officer or employee. If the vendor is a business organization, then disclosure shall be made with respect to anyone having an interest in the business and their immediate family members.

Please answer the following:

Is the vendor or a member of the vendor's immediate family, or anyone having an interest in the vendor's business organization including their immediate family members, an officer or employee of Essex County?

NO XXXX YES

S. 
* President, Vice President or Signature of
Authorized Representative

JOHN H. WATSON, JR.
Print Name
ATTORNEY AT LAW
Title

If yes, provide the name of the individual and identify the position held, below, and notify in writing the Office of County Counsel, Hall of Records, 465 Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd., Room 535, Newark, NJ 07102. (Attach a copy of the correspondence to this form).

NOTE: All terms used herein are to be construed in accordance with their meaning under the Local Government Ethics Law, cited above.

AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT

EQUAL OPPORTUNITY FOR INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES

The contractor and the County of Essex, (hereafter "Owner") do hereby agree that the provisions of Title 11 of the Americans With Disabilities Act of 1990 (the "Act") (42 U.S.C. 5121.01 et seq.), which prohibits discrimination on the basis of disability by public entities in all services, programs and activities provided or made available by public entities, and the rules and regulations promulgated pursuant thereto, are made a part of this contract. In providing any aid, benefit, or service on behalf of the Owner pursuant to this contract, the contractor agrees that the performance shall be in strict compliance with the Act. In the event the contractor, its agents, servants, employees, or subcontractors violate or are alleged to have violated the Act during the performance of this contract, the contractor shall defend the Owner in any action or administrative proceeding commenced pursuant to this Act. The contractor shall indemnify, protect, and save harmless the Owner, its agents, servants, and employees from and against any and all suits, claims, losses, demands, or damages of whatever kind or nature arising out of or claimed to arise out of the alleged violation. The contractor shall, at its own expense, appear, defend, and pay any and all charges for legal services and any and all costs and other expenses arising from such action or administrative proceeding or incurred in connection therewith. In any and all complaints brought pursuant to the Owner's grievance procedure, the contractor agrees to abide by any decision of the Owner which is rendered pursuant to said grievance procedure. If any action or administrative proceeding results in an award of damages against the Owner, or if the Owner incurs any expense to cure a violation of the ADA which has been brought pursuant to its grievance procedure, the contractor shall satisfy and discharge the same at its own expense.

The Owner shall, as soon as practicable after a claim has been made against it, give written notice thereof to the contractor along with full and complete particulars of the claim. If any action or administrative proceeding is brought against the Owner or any of its agents, servants, and employees, the Owner shall expeditiously forward or have forwarded to the contractor every demand, complaint, notice, summons, pleading, or other process received by the Owner or its representatives.

It is expressly agreed and understood that any approval by the Owner of the services provided by the contractor pursuant to this contract will not relieve the contractor of the obligation to comply with the Act and to defend, indemnify, protect, and save harmless the Owner pursuant to this paragraph.

It is further agreed and understood that the Owner assumes no obligation to indemnify or save harmless the contractor, its agents, servants, employees and subcontractors for any claim which may arise out of their performance of this Agreement. Furthermore, the contractor expressly understands and agrees that the provisions of this indemnification clause shall in no way limit the contractor's obligations assumed in this Agreement, nor shall they be construed to relieve the contractor from any liability, nor preclude the Owner from taking any other actions available to it under any other provisions of this Agreement or otherwise at law.

SI

President, Vice President or Signature of Authorized Representative

JOHN H. WATSON, JR.

Print Name

ATTORNEY

Title

2/16/1023

Date

AFFIRMATIVE ACTION COMPLIANCE NOTICE

N.J.S.A. 10:5-31 et seq. and N.J.A.C.17:27

GOODS AND SERVICES CONTRACTS

(INCLUDING PROFESSIONAL SERVICES)

This form is a summary of the successful respondent's requirement to comply with the requirements of N.J.S.A. 10:5-31 et seq. and N.J.A.C.17:27.

The successful respondent shall submit to the public agency, after notification of award but prior to execution of this contract, one of the following three documents as forms of evidence:

- (a) A photocopy of a valid letter that the contractor is operating under an existing Federally approved or sanctioned affirmative action program (good for one year from the date of the letter);

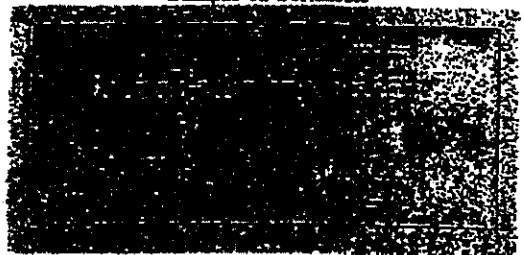
OR

- (b) A photocopy of a Certificate of Employee Information Report approval, issued in accordance with N.J.A.C. 17:27-4;

OR

- (c) A photocopy of an Employee Information Report (Form AA302) provided by the Division and distributed to the public agency to be completed by the contractor in accordance with N.J.A.C. 17:27-4.

Sample of Certificate



The successful vendor may obtain the Affirmative Action Employee Information Report (AA302) from the contracting unit during normal business hours.

The successful vendor(s) must submit the copies of the AA302 Report to the Division of Contract Compliance and Equal Employment Opportunity in Public Contracts (Division). The Public Agency copy is submitted to the public agency, and the vendor copy is retained by the vendor.

The undersigned vendor certifies that he/she is aware of the commitment to comply with the requirements of N.J.S.A. 10:5-31 et seq. and N.J.A.C.17:27 and agrees to furnish the required forms of evidence.

The undersigned vendor further understands that his/her response shall be rejected as non-responsive if said contractor fails to comply with the requirements of N.J.S.A. 10:5-31 et seq. and N.J.A.C.17:27.

COMPANY: JOHN H. WATSON, ESQ SIGNATURE: *John H. Watson*

PRINT NAME: JOHN H. WATSON TITLE: ATTORNEY

DATE: 2/16/2023

CERTIFICATE OF EMPLOYEE INFORMATION REPORT

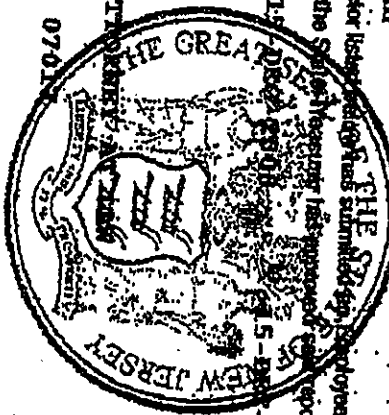
Certification 992

INITIAL:

This is to certify that the contractor listed below has submitted an Employee Information Report pursuant to N.J.A.C. 17:27-1.1 et. seq. and the State Treasurer has reviewed said report. This approval will remain in effect for the period of

12/28/2014 to 12/28/2015

JOHN H. WATSON, JR., ATTORNEY
63 WASHINGTON STREET
EAST ORANGE NJ 07011



State Treasurer

[Signature]



STATE OF NEW JERSEY BUSINESS REGISTRATION CERTIFICATE

Taxpayer Name: WATSON,JOHN H
Trade Name:
Address: 63 WASHINGTON STREET
EAST ORANGE, NJ 07017
Certificate Number: 0112133
Date of Issuance: September 20, 2005

For Office Use Only:

20050920131145443