



Legislation Text

File #: 22-1763, Version: 1

Dept/ Agency: Law

Action: Ratifying Authorizing Amending

Type of Service: Professional Services Contract

Purpose: To provide legal services concerning Worker's Compensation Matters.

Entity Name: Souder, Shabazz and Woolridge Law Group, LLP

Entity Address: 17 Academy Street, Suite 1200, Newark, New Jersey 07102

Contract Amount: Not to exceed \$150,000.00

Funding Source: 2023 Budget/Law Department

Contract Period: January 1, 2023 through December 31, 2023

Contract Basis: Bid State Vendor Prof. Ser. EUS

Fair & Open No Reportable Contributions RFP RFQ

Private Sale Grant Sub-recipient n/a

Additional Information:

Deferred 7R6-I 122122

Deferred 7R6-a 010523

Deferred 7R6-a 011823

Deferred 7R6-a 020123

WHEREAS, the City of Newark is involved in ongoing Legal Matters and therefore has a need to acquire Legal Services; and

WHEREAS, Legal Services are Professional Services, exempt from the requirement for public bidding, pursuant to the Local Public Contracts Law, N.J.S.A. 40A:11-5(1)(a)(i); and

WHEREAS, the Corporation Counsel of the City of Newark caused to be published on the City of Newark's website, a Notice of Request for Qualifications (RFQ) for Worker's Compensation Counsel Services on or about September 19, 2022; and

WHEREAS, the City of Newark received a total of five (5) proposals in response to the RFQ for Worker's Compensation; and

WHEREAS, Souder, Shabazz, & Woolridge Law Group LLP, 17 Academy Street, Suite 1200, Newark, New Jersey 07102 submitted a proposal and it was found based upon price and other factors to be in the best interest of the City of Newark to accept the proposal for the purpose of providing Legal Services concerning Worker's Compensation Counsel Services; and

WHEREAS, the City of Newark wishes to enter into a contract with Souder, Shabazz, & Woolridge Law Group LLP, to provide Legal Services concerning Worker's Compensation, in an amount not to exceed One Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars and Zero Cents (\$150,000.00), for a period of January 1, 2023 through December 31, 2023, which shall cover those existing matters currently being handled Souder, Shabazz, & Woolridge Law Group LLP, as well as new matters that

may arise during the contract term; and

WHEREAS, the Local Public Contracts Law (N.J.S.A. 40A:11-1 et seq.) requires that notice of the award of contracts for “Professional Services” without competitive bidding must be published in a local newspaper; and

WHEREAS, this contract is for an amount over \$17,500.00 and is being awarded as a fair and open contract pursuant to N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.5;

WHEREAS, this Contract is in compliance with the State Pay-to-Play and the City’s Pay-to-Play Ordinance.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MUNICIPAL COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NEWARK, NEW JERSEY, THAT:

1. The Mayor of the City of Newark and/or his designee, the Corporation Counsel, are hereby authorized and directed on behalf of the City of Newark to execute a contract with Souder, Shabazz, & Woolridge Law Group LLP, 17 Academy Street, Suite 1200, Newark, New Jersey 07102, to provide Legal Services concerning Worker’s Compensation Matters, in an amount not to exceed One Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars and Zero Cents (\$150,000.00), for the period of January 1, 2023 through December 31, 2023, which shall cover those existing matters currently being handled by Souder, Shabazz, & Woolridge Law Group LLP, as well as new matters that may arise during the contract term.
2. This contract is being awarded pursuant to the fair and open procedures of the State Pay-to-Play Law (N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.5) and pursuant to the provisions of the Local Public Contracts Law (N.J.S.A. 40A:11-5(1)(a)(i)) and is in compliance with the City’s Ordinance on Pay-to-Play.
3. This is a contract which shall be awarded in one (1) fiscal year although the date on which it properly takes effect falls in the next fiscal year. Accordingly, this contract is subject to the availability and appropriation of sufficient funds in the year in which it takes effect pursuant to N.J.A.C. 5:30-5.5(e). Funds for this contract in the amount not to exceed One Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars and Zero Cents (\$150,000.00), shall be provided from the City of Newark 2023 Budget, Law Department.
4. A copy of the executed Agreement herein authorized shall be filed in the Office of the City Clerk by the Corporation Counsel and same shall be made available for public inspection.
5. A notice of this action shall be published in the newspaper authorized by law to publish a legal advertisement and as required by law within ten (10) days of the adoption of this Resolution.

STATEMENT

This Resolution authorizes the Mayor of the City of Newark and/or his designee, the Corporation Counsel, to enter into a contract for Services for Worker’s Compensation Matters with Souder, Shabazz, & Woolridge Law Group LLP, 17 Academy Street, Suite 1200, Newark, New Jersey

07102, in an amount not to exceed One Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars and Zero Cents (\$150,000.00), for the period of January 1, 2023 through December 31, 2023.