



County of El Dorado

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Legislation Text

File #: 11-0723, **Version:** 1

Human Resources Department recommending the Chair be authorized to sign Agreement 110-S1211 with Valentina Reiner, dba The Law Offices of Valentina Reiner covering a period of July 1, 2011 through June 30, 2012 with a not at exceed amount of \$100,000 to provide investigative services and other specialized personnel services on an "as requested basis" for the Human Resources Department.

BUDGET SUMMARY:		
Total Estimated Cost		\$100,000.00
Funding		
Budgeted	\$100,000.00	
New Funding	\$	
Savings	\$	
Other	\$	
Total Funding Available	\$	
Change To Net County Cost		\$0.00

Fiscal Impact/Change to Net County Cost: There is no change to Net County Cost as a result of approving this agreement. Invoices for this service are initially paid by the Human Resources Department. HR is reimbursed by the Department from which the complaint originated. The billing rate is \$185 per hour for attorney investigative services, \$50 per hour for paralegal services, and \$5 per hour for transcription services plus reimbursement for long distance phone calls, photocopies and mailing costs. Total expenses vary annually depending on the number of cases referred. Over the past two years, total expenses have been between \$75,000 and \$90,000.

Background: Human Resources continues to receive complaints of discrimination, harassment and retaliation by County employees. The department has contracted with outside vendors to provide unbiased investigations of the complaints filed.

Reason for Recommendation: The Human Resources Department has contracted with Valentina Reiner for the provision of investigative services and other specialized personnel services on an "as requested" basis. Ms. Reiner conducts thorough investigations and provides detailed, professional reports. The Human Resources Department and County Counsel have been very satisfied with her work.

Action to be taken following Board approval: Human Resources will forward the executed Agreement to Purchasing to encumber the funds. The Auditor-Controller's office will process all claims for services.

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Concurrences: County Counsel