

1. ACTION REQUESTED/PURPOSE: Authorize and approve utilization of the law firm of Nabors, Giblin & Nickerson, P.A. (Tallahassee) by and through Sarah M. Bleakley, Esquire for specialized legal services on designated Bills before the Legislature for this Legislative Session as outlined in the attached March 23, 2005 proposal letter. Ms. Bleakley will coordinate with and supplement Mr. Keith Arnold, our Lobbyist.

2. WHAT ACTION ACCOMPLISHES:

A. Provides legal consulting services to the County for this Legislative Session for specific matters and Bills currently being developed and heard by Legislative Committees. B. Enhances Lee County's presence in Tallahassee for this Legislative Session.

3. MANAGEMENT RECOMMENDATION: Approve engagement of Sarah Bleakley, Esquire for the 2005 Legislative Session.

4. Departmental Category:

5. Meeting Date: 03-29-2005

6. Agenda:

7. Requirement/Purpose: (specify)

8. Request Initiated:

<input type="checkbox"/> Consent	<input type="checkbox"/> Statute
<input type="checkbox"/> Administrative	<input type="checkbox"/> Ordinance
<input type="checkbox"/> Appeals	<input type="checkbox"/> Admin. Code
<input type="checkbox"/> Public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Walk-On	Letter of Engagement

Commissioner _____
 Department County Attorney
 Division _____
 By: [Signature]
 David M. Owen, County Attorney

9. Background:

In past Legislative Sessions, Ms. Bleakley has assisted the County from the legal consulting perspective on certain, identified matters that required a Tallahassee legal presence in order to make Lee County's legal positions known on Bills being presented during the Legislative Session.

This Session appears to be no exception, and Ms. Bleakley's services are desired by staff to enhance Lee County's presence in Tallahassee on certain matters.

The Nabors, Giblin proposal letter of March 23, 2005 quotes a fixed fee of \$20,00000 for their services for the duration of the Legislative Session. The Nabors, Giblin legal services will be paid for by the County Attorney's Office.

Ms. Bleakley has been instructed to coordinate with Keith Arnold so that our legal and lobbying services will be complimented and our Tallahassee presence enhanced.

As stated in her March 23, 2005 proposal letter, Ms. Bleakley will be monitoring the present Bills relating to impact fees, communication towers, solid waste matters and the water reservations Legislation. We may also ask her to assist with the several new Growth Management Bills and other technical/legal issues as they may arise during the balance of the Session.

10. Review for Scheduling:

Department Director	Purchasing or Contracts	Human Resources	Other	County Attorney	Budget Services				County Manager/P.W. Director
					Analyst	Risk	Grants	Mgr.	
				<u>[Signature]</u> 3/28/05	<u>[Signature]</u> 3/28/05	<u>[Signature]</u> 3/28/05	<u>[Signature]</u> 3/28/05	<u>[Signature]</u> 3/28/05	<u>[Signature]</u> 3/28/05

11. Commission Action:

- Approved
- Deferred
- Denied
- Other

CO. ATTY.
FORWARDED TO:
Budget
3/28/05 1:05 PM

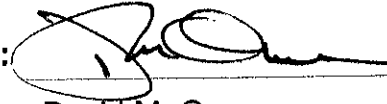
RECEIVED BY
COUNTY ADMIN: zk
3-28-05 mp.
1:45 pm
COUNTY ADMIN
FORWARDED TO: PL
3/28/05
3 PM

**MEMORANDUM
FROM THE
OFFICE OF COUNTY ATTORNEY**

DATE: March 28, 2005

To: Libby Walker, Public Resources
Coordinator AND

FROM:



Kathy Geren, Administrative
Specialist, Public Resources

David M. Owen
County Attorney

RE: Blue Sheet No. 20050434, "Walk-On" for Meeting of March 29, 2005

Ladies,

Please accept the above blue sheet as a "walk on" for tomorrow's meeting due to my receipt of the proposal letter from Nabors, Giblin & Nickerson (Sarah Bleakley, Esquire) on Wednesday, March 23, 2005, and the exigency for getting Ms. Bleakley formally engaged by the County for the balance of the Legislative Session.

Ms. Bleakley will be acting as consulting legal counsel to the County in Tallahassee, addressing specified Bills of interest to the County presently going through Committees and supplementing Mr. Keith Arnold's lobbying activities on these matters.

Thanks for your assistance.

DMO/smr

xc: Donald Stilwell, County Manager
Holly Schwartz, Assistant County Manager
Jim Lavender, Public Works Director
Wayne Daltry, Smart Growth Director

NABORS, GIBLIN & NICKERSON, P.A.
ATTORNEYS AT LAW

SUITE 200
1500 MAHAN DRIVE
TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA 32308

TELEPHONE (850) 224-4070
TELECOPY (850) 224-4073

THE POINTE, SUITE 1060
2502 ROCKY POINT DRIVE
TAMPA, FLORIDA 33607
(813) 281-2222
TELECOPY (813) 281-0129

SUITE 500
37 NORTH ORANGE AVENUE
ORLANDO, FLORIDA 32801
(407) 426-7595
TELECOPY (407) 236-0430

March 23, 2005

Via Facsimile and Overnight Delivery Service

David M. Owen
Lee County Attorney
2115 Second Street
6th Floor
Fort Myers, Florida 33901-3012

2005 MAR 24 PM 2:17
RECEIVED BY
LEE CO. ATTORNEY

Dear David:

As you have requested, this letter presents a proposal for our firm to provide special legal consulting services to Lee County Board of County Commissioners for the 2005 Regular Session, and any extended or special session as may be deemed necessary.

It is our understanding that the County desires advice and special legal assistance on several local issues that are under consideration in the Legislature. To assist the County, we propose to provide the special legal consultant services as directed by you on issues of interest to the County including, but not limited to, impact fee restrictions, communication tower legislation, solid waste amendments and the water reservation legislation.

As to compensation for our services during the Regular Session, which commenced March 8, 2005, we suggest a flat fee of \$20,000, inclusive of expenses. The suggested flat fee is intended to cover the anticipated time required in addressing the multiplicity and complexity of the issues contemplated in the County's legislative program.

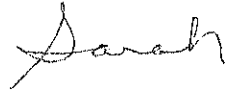
We propose to bill the County in four equal installments. The first will be mailed upon receiving Board approval of the terms for our services. The final three installments on the fifteenth of the succeeding months thereafter (April 15, May 15, and June 15).

It has been with great professional satisfaction that we have served Lee County through the provision of special legal consulting services in past Session. We anticipate that the challenge presented by the difficult and complex issues on the County's 2005 legislative program will prove equally rewarding.

David M. Owen
March 23, 2005
Page 2

If you have any questions about our proposal, please do not hesitate to call me at any time.

Sincerely,



Sarah M. Bleakley

SMB:sib