



City of Arts & Innovation

City Council Memorandum

TO: HONORABLE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL DATE: AUGUST 9, 2016

FROM: CITY ATTORNEY WARDS: ALL

SUBJECT: ADDITION OF THINK LEGAL360, P.C. AND BAKERHOSTETLER TO THE CITY'S OUTSIDE COUNCIL PANEL

ISSUE:

Approve the addition of the law firms of Think Legal360, P.C. and BakerHostetler, to the City's Outside Council Panel.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the City Council:

1. Approve the addition of Think Legal360, P.C. and BakerHostetler to the City's Outside Council Panel; and
2. Authorize the City Attorney to execute Attorney Services Agreements with Think Legal360, P.C. and BakerHostetler.

BACKGROUND:

In June, 2015, the City Council approved the establishment of a panel of attorneys to assist in various advice and litigation matters. The panel's composition is modified as necessary to add or delete firms based upon the needs of the City. Selection of counsel is made on a case by case basis with the intent of providing a match of defense expertise with the particular issues involved in each case.

DISCUSSION:

The City Attorney's Office is requesting the offices of Think Legal 360, P.C., and BakerHostetler be added to the City's Outside Council Panel. Think Legal360, P.C. provides comprehensive litigation services to a variety of entities throughout the state, and the members of this firm have significant expertise in defending public entities in the defense of labor and employment litigation, civil rights litigation, and other complex matters. The hourly rate for Think Legal360's attorney services is \$195 and \$90 per hour for paralegals.

BakerHostetler has attorneys that specialize in cyber security, data breach, tax, and other such fields. Since these are such specialized areas of law, it is difficult to develop such expertise in

house. The addition of BakerHostetler would allow for these matters to be handled more timely and efficiently. The hourly rate for BakerHostetler's attorney services ranges from \$475 to \$525.

The addition of Think Legal360 and BakerHostetler to the City's Outside Council Panel would enhance the quality of the City's representation.

FISCAL IMPACT:

There is no fiscal impact associated with the City Council approving the addition of Think Legal360 to the City's Outside Council Panel. Any fiscal impact would be upon the retention of services as approved by City Council.

Prepared by:	Gary G. Geuss, City Attorney
Certified as to availability of funds:	Scott Miller, Interim Finance Director/Treasurer
Approved by:	John A. Russo, City Manager