

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the Township Council of the Township of West Orange has determined that there exists a need to provide the following professional services for the Township: Public Defender; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the New Jersey Local Unit “Pay to Play Law, N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.4 et seq., the Township has sought said qualified professional services through the use of a “fair and open process,” as defined in N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.7; and

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

WHEREAS, as required by this law, the Township provided sufficient notice of its Request for Proposals/Qualifications; publicly solicited RFPs through the utilization of the Township’s official Web site; established an award and disclosure process documented in writing prior to soliciting any RFPQs; publicly opened all proposals; and publicly will award the Contract via this Resolution of the Township Council; and

WHEREAS, the Township has determined that retaining The Law Office of Fernando Marin, Esq of 111 Northfield Avenue, Suite 300 West Orange, New Jersey 07052 _ will be the most advantageous to the Township, all relevant factors considered; and,

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Township of West Orange in the County of Essex, State of New Jersey that The Law Office of Fernando Marin, Esq of 111 Northfield Avenue, Suite 300 West Orange, New Jersey 07052 _ be and is hereby approved for this professional service for a term expiring on December 31, 2026; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Mayor and Township Clerk are hereby authorized to sign the agreement on behalf of the Township, which shall be available for public inspection in the office of the Township Clerk; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Business Disclosure Entity Certification and the Determination of Value Certification be placed on file with this resolution; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that compensation for services rendered shall be claimed, approved and paid in the manner set forth in N.J.S.A. 40A:5-16 and pursuant to a professional service agreement to be entered between the parties; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the maximum dollar amount of this contract is reasonably estimated to be **\$35,000.00** over the contract term; however, the Township is not obligated to spend this amount and if exceeded, can be funded by additional encumbrances; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Township Clerk shall cause a notice of the adoption of this resolution to be printed in a qualified newspaper within ten (10) days after passage hereof.

I, Karen J. Carnevale, Township Clerk for the Township of West Orange, County of Essex, State of New Jersey, do hereby certify this is a true and correct copy of the resolution adopted by the Township Council at its Regular Meeting held on February 24, 2026.

Karen J. Carnevale, R.M.C., Municipal Clerk

Susan Scarpa, Council President

Adopted: February 24, 2026

I certify funds are available from Account No(s): *Acct # 01-2010-00-1952-200
***Amount Not to Exceed - \$35,000.00**

John C. Ditinyak, Chief Financial Officer

Subject to the approval of the 2026 Budget.