



A Tradition of Stewardship
A Commitment to Service

Agenda Date: 8/11/2015

Agenda Placement: 6G

NAPA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS Board Agenda Letter

TO: Board of Supervisors
FROM: Shelli Brobst for HOWARD HIMES - Director
Health & Human Services Administration
REPORT BY: Shelli Brobst, Contracts Manager - 253-4720
SUBJECT: Amendment to Agreement with Jo A. McCormick

RECOMMENDATION

Director of Health and Human Services requests approval of and authorization for the Chair to sign Amendment No. 1 to an agreement (formerly AUD 6360) with Jo A. McCormick, Attorney at Law, rescinding the provision limiting the number of automatic renewals for the contractor to provide Grievance Hearing Officer services to specifically referred clients of the Child Welfare Services Programs.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Under her current agreement, Jo A. McCormick provides services to the County's Child Welfare Service Division in the capacity of a Grievance Hearing Officer for cases in which individuals have challenged their reference to the California Department of Justice Child Abuse Central Index. The amendment will revise the term of the agreement to allow for automatic annual renewals, at the County's option. All other terms will remain the same as originally approved.

Jo A. McCormick is not a local vendor.

FISCAL IMPACT

Is there a Fiscal Impact?	Yes
Is it currently budgeted?	Yes
Where is it budgeted?	Health & Human Services Child Welfare Services
Is it Mandatory or Discretionary?	Mandatory

Is the general fund affected? No

Future fiscal impact: Although the agreement terminates June 30, 2016, it contains an automatic renewal provision, which allows the County the option to continue these services in the following fiscal year. The corresponding appropriation is included in the Agency's requested budget for Fiscal Year 2015-2016.

Consequences if not approved: If this amendment is not approved, the contractor will be unable to provide additional needed services to Napa County.

Additional Information:

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

ENVIRONMENTAL DETERMINATION: The proposed action is not a project as defined by 14 California Code of Regulations 15378 (State CEQA Guidelines) and therefore CEQA is not applicable.

BACKGROUND AND DISCUSSION

The County must provide for grievance hearings in Child Welfare Services (CWS). The hearing officer must be a third party removed from the assessing social worker's chain of command. Since 2010 Ms. McCormick has been serving as a Grievance Hearing Officer for "Gomez v. Saenz" hearings in Napa County.

The Gomez settlement challenged the integrity of the Child Abuse Central Index (CACI) and provided due process rights for individuals whose names have been submitted for listing on the CACI as a result of a qualifying substantiated or inconclusive finding on a child abuse/neglect investigation. As of May 1, 2008, the Gomez settlement allows individuals the opportunity to challenge their name listing on the CACI. As required by law, this challenge must be reviewed by a Grievance Hearing Officer.

Approval of the recommended amendment will revise the term of the agreement to enable the agreement to renew annually each fiscal year, at the County's option. The annual amount of the agreement is \$5,000. All other terms will remain the same as originally approved.

Ms. McCormick is not a local vendor. This contractor is currently serving as the grievance hearing officer for "Gomez v. Saenz" administrative hearings, for individuals who are formally challenging their listing on the Child Abuse Central Index (CACI). Per the County's purchasing policy, service contracts exceeding \$50,000 and as adjusted by the annual CPI increase, or exceeding three years in length, must be approved by the Board of Supervisors.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

None

CEO Recommendation: Approve

Reviewed By: Leanne Link