

1/3/25

**CONTRACT FOR PROFESSIONAL SERVICES
BETWEEN
COUNTY OF GLOUCESTER
AND
LAW OFFICES OF JOHN A. ALICE**

THIS CONTRACT is made this 3rd day of **January, 2025**, by and between the **COUNTY OF GLOUCESTER**, a body politic and corporate of the State of New Jersey, with administrative offices at 2 South Broad Street, Woodbury, NJ 08096, hereinafter referred to as "**County**", and **LAW OFFICES OF JOHN A. ALICE**, located at 28 Cooper Street, Woodbury, NJ 08096, hereinafter referred to as "**Contractor**".

RECITALS

WHEREAS, there exists a need by the County to contract for professional legal services for the County Adjuster's Office, as per **RFP-25-002**; and

WHEREAS, Contractor represents that it is qualified to perform the said required services, and desires to so perform pursuant to the terms and provisions of this Contract.

WHEREAS, this Contract is awarded pursuant to, and consistent with, the County's Fair and Open Procurement Process and the terms and provisions of N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.4; and

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the mutual promises, agreements, and other considerations made by and between the parties, the County and the Contractor do hereby agree as follows:

TERMS OF AGREEMENT

1. **TERM**. This contract shall be effective for a period of one (1) year from January 1, 2025 to December 31, 2025.

2. **COMPENSATION**. Contractor shall be compensated in a total amount not to exceed \$35,000.00, at an hourly rate of \$150.00 as set forth in Contractor's proposal dated November 14, 2024, which was submitted in response to the County's Request for Proposal, RFP-25-002.

Contractor shall be paid in accordance with this Contract document upon receipt of an invoice and a properly executed voucher. After approval by the County, the payment voucher shall be placed in line for prompt payment.

Each invoice shall contain an itemized, detailed description of all work performed during the billing period. Failure to provide sufficient specificity shall be cause for rejection of the invoice until the necessary details are provided.

It is also agreed and understood that the acceptance of the final payment by Contractor shall be considered a release in full of all claims against the County arising out of, or by reason of, the work done and materials furnished under this Contract.

3. DUTIES OF CONTRACTOR. The specific duties of the Contractor shall be for the provision of legal services for the County Adjuster's Office, as set forth in **RFP-25-002**, and Contractor's Proposal, which are incorporated herein by reference in their entirety and made a part of this Contract. Contractor agrees that it has or will comply with, and where applicable shall continue throughout the period of the Contract to comply with all of the requirements set out in **RFP-25-002**.

4. FURTHER OBLIGATIONS OF THE PARTIES. During the performance of this Contract, the Contractor agrees as follows:

a. The Contractor will not discriminate against any employee or applicant for employment, and will ensure that equal employment opportunity is afforded to all applicants in recruitment and employment, and that employees are treated during employment, without regard to their age, race, creed, color, national origin, ancestry, marital status, affectional or sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, disability, nationality, sex, veteran status or military service. Such equal employment opportunity shall include, but not be limited to the following: employment, upgrading, demotion, or transfer; recruitment or recruitment advertising; layoff or termination; rates of pay or other forms of compensation; and selection for training, including apprenticeship. The Contractor agrees to post in conspicuous places, available to employees and applicants for employment, notices to be provided by the Public Agency Compliance Officer setting forth provisions of this nondiscrimination clause.

b. The Contractor will, in all solicitations or advertisements for employees placed by or on behalf of the Contractor, state that all qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to age, race, creed, color, national origin, ancestry, marital status, affectional or sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, disability, nationality or sex.

c. The Contractor will send to each labor union with which it has a collective bargaining agreement, a notice, to be provided by the agency contracting officer, advising the labor union of the vendor's commitments under this chapter and shall post copies of the notice in conspicuous places available to employees and applicants for employment.

d. The Contractor, agrees to comply with any regulations promulgated by the Treasurer pursuant to N.J.S.A. 10:5-31 et seq., as amended and supplemented from time to time and the Americans with Disabilities Act.

e. The Contractor agrees to make good faith efforts to meet targeted County employment goals established in accordance with N.J.A.C. 17:27-5.2.

5. LICENSING. If the Contractor is required to maintain a license in order to perform the services which are the subject of this Contract, then prior to the effective date of this Contract, and as a condition precedent to its taking effect, Contractor shall provide to the County

a copy of all current licenses to operate in the State of New Jersey, which license shall be in good standing and shall not be subject to any current action to revoke or suspend, and shall remain so throughout the term of this Contract.

Contractor shall notify the County immediately in the event of suspension, revocation or any change in status (or in the event of the initiation of any action to accomplish such suspension, revocation and/or change in status) of license or certification held by Contractor, or its agents and/or subcontractors.

6. TERMINATION. This Contract may be terminated as follows:

a. Pursuant to the termination provisions set forth in the Bid Specifications or in the Request for Proposals, if any, as the case may be, which are specifically referred to and incorporated herein by reference.

b. If Contractor is required to be licensed in order to perform the services which are the subject of this Contract, then this Contract may be terminated by County in the event that the appropriate governmental entity with jurisdiction has instituted an action to have the Contractor's license suspended, or in the event that such entity has revoked or suspended said license. Notice of termination pursuant to this subparagraph shall be effective immediately upon the giving of said notice.

c. If, through any cause, the Contractor shall fail to fulfill in timely and proper manner his obligations under this Contract, or if the Contractor shall violate any of the covenants, agreements, or stipulations of this Contract, the County shall thereupon have the right to terminate this Contract by giving written notice to the Contractor of such termination and specifying the effective date thereof. In such event, all finished or unfinished documents, data, studies, and reports prepared by the Contractor under this Contract, shall be forthwith delivered to the County.

d. The County may terminate this Contract for public convenience at any time by a notice in writing from the County to the Contractor. If the Contract is terminated by the County as provided herein, the Contractor will be paid for the services rendered to the time of termination.

e. Notwithstanding the above, the Contractor shall not be relieved of liability to the County for damages sustained by the County by virtue of any breach of the Contract by the Contractor, and the County may withhold any payments to the Contractor for the purpose of set off until such time as the exact amount of damages due the County from the Contractor is determined.

f. Termination shall not affect the validity of the indemnification provisions of this Contract, nor prevent the County from pursuing any other relief or damages to which it may be entitled, either at law or in equity.

7. **NO ASSIGNMENT OR SUBCONTRACT.** This Contract may not be assigned, nor subcontracted by the Contractor, except as otherwise agreed in writing by both parties. Any attempted assignment or subcontract without such written consent shall be void with respect to the County, and no obligation on the County's part to such subcontractor or assignee shall arise, unless the County shall elect to accept, and consent to, such assignment or subcontract.

8. **INDEMNIFICATION.** The Contractor shall be responsible for, shall keep save and hold the County harmless from, and shall indemnify the County against, any claim, loss, liability, expense (specifically including but not limited to costs, counsel fees and/or experts' fees), or damage resulting from all mental or physical injuries or disability, including death, to employees or recipients of the Contractor's services or to any other persons, or from any damage to any property sustained in connection with this contract which results from any acts or omissions, including negligence or malpractice, of any of its officers, directors, employees, agents, servants, or independent contractors, or from the Contractor's failure to provide for the safety and protection of its employees, or from Contractor's performance or failure to perform pursuant to the terms and provisions of this Contract, whether or not due to negligence, fault, or default of the Contractor. The Contractor's liability under this Contract shall continue after the termination of this Contract with respect to any liability, loss, expense or damage resulting from acts occurring prior to termination.

9. **INSURANCE.** Contractor shall, if applicable to the services to be provided, maintain general liability, automobile liability, business operations, builders and Workers' Compensation insurance in amounts and with companies deemed satisfactory by the County. Said policies shall be in compliance with any applicable requirements of the State of New Jersey and of the United States. Contractor shall, simultaneously with the execution of this Contract, deliver certifications of said insurance to County, naming the County as an additional insured.

If Contractor is a member of a profession which is subject to suit for professional malpractice, then Contractor shall maintain and continue in full force and effect, an insurance policy for professional liability/malpractice with limits of liability acceptable to the County. Contractor shall, simultaneously with the execution of this Contract, and as a condition precedent to its taking effect, provide to County a copy of a certificate of insurance, verifying that said insurance is and will be in effect during the term of this Contract.

The County shall review the certificate for sufficiency and compliance with this paragraph and approval of said certificate and policy shall be necessary prior to this Contract taking effect. Contractor also hereby agrees to continue said policy in force and effect for the period of the applicable statute of limitations following the termination of this Contract, and shall provide the County with copies of certificates of insurance as the certificates may be renewed during that period of time.

10. **SET-OFF.** Should Contractor either refuse or neglect to perform the services which Contractor is required to perform in accordance with the terms of this Contract, and if expense is incurred by County by reason of Contractor's failure to perform, then and in that event, such expenses shall be deducted from any payment due to Contractor. Exercise of such set-off shall not operate to prevent County from pursuing any other remedy to which it may be entitled.

11. **PREVENTION OF PERFORMANCE BY COUNTY.** In the event that the County is prevented from performing this Contract by circumstances beyond its control, then any obligations owing by the County to the Contractor shall be suspended without liability for the period during which the County is so prevented.

12. **NON-WAIVER.** The failure by the County to enforce any particular provision of this Contract, or to act upon a breach of this Contract by Contractor, shall not operate as or be construed as a waiver of any subsequent breach, nor a bar to any subsequent enforcement

13. **PARTIAL INVALIDITY.** In the event that any provisions of this Contract shall be, or become, invalid under any law or applicable regulation, such invalidity shall not affect the validity or enforceability of any other provisions of this Contract.

14. **NOTICES.** Notices required by this Contract shall be effective upon mailing of notice by regular and certified mail to the addresses set forth above, or by personal service, or if such notice cannot be delivered or personally served, then by any procedure for notice pursuant to the Rules of Court of the State of New Jersey.

15. **GOVERNING LAW, JURISDICTION AND VENUE.** This Contract and all questions relating to its validity, interpretation, performance or enforcement shall be governed by and construed in accordance with the laws of the State of New Jersey. The parties each irrevocably agree that any dispute arising under, relating to, or in connection with, directly or indirectly, this agreement or related to any matter which is the subject of or incidental to this agreement (whether or not such claim is based upon breach of contract or tort) shall be subject to the exclusive jurisdiction and venue of the state and/or federal courts located in Gloucester County, New Jersey or the United States District Court, District of New Jersey, Camden, New Jersey. This provision is intended to be a "mandatory" forum selection clause and governed by and interpreted consistent with New Jersey law and each waives any objection based on forum non conveniens.

16. **INDEPENDENT CONTRACTOR STATUS.** The parties acknowledge that Contractor is an independent contractor, and is not an employee, or agent of the County.

17. **BINDING EFFECT.** This Contract shall be binding on the undersigned, and their successors and assigns.

18. **CONTRACT PARTS.** This Contract consists of this Contract document, RFP-25-002 issued by the County, and the Contractor's Proposal. Should there occur a conflict between this Contract or RFP-25-002, and Contractor's Proposal, then this Contract, or the RFP, as the case may be, shall prevail.

THIS CONTRACT is effective as of the date first written above.

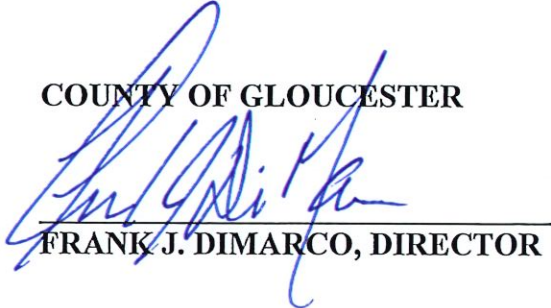
IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the County has caused this instrument to be signed by its Commissioner Director and attested by its Clerk of the Board, pursuant to a Resolution of the Board of County Commissioners passed for that purpose, and Contractor has caused this instrument to be signed by its properly authorized representative and its corporate seal affixed the day and year first above written.

ATTEST:



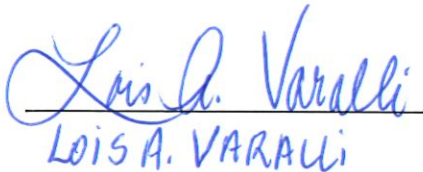
LAURIE J. BURNS,
CLERK OF THE BOARD

COUNTY OF GLOUCESTER



FRANK J. DIMARCO, DIRECTOR

ATTEST:



LOIS A. VARALLI

LAW OFFICES OF JOHN A. ALICE



BY: JOHN A. ALICE
TITLE: ATTORNEY

LAW OFFICES
OF
JOHN A. ALICE
28 COOPER STREET
WOODBURY, NJ 08096
(856) 845-7222
FAX (856) 845-3646

Member N.J. and PA Bar

November 14, 2024

Kimberly Larter, Qualified Purchasing Agent
Purchasing Department
County of Gloucester
Two S. Broad Street
Woodbury, NJ 08096
(Contains GC Adjuster RFP)

**Re: Legal Counsel for County of Gloucester Adjuster's Office
RFP No. #025-002**

Dear Ms. Larter:

Pursuant to the Request for Proposal for Legal Counsel for the Gloucester County Adjuster's Office, enclosed please find original and five (5) copies of RFP requested information, which includes the Proposal Checklist and Basis of Award sheet, together with my Curriculum Vitae, Certificate of Good Standing from the New Jersey Board of Bar Examiners, Certification of Debarment and Suspension, Lawyers Professional Liability Insurance Policy Declaration Page, Statement of Ownership, State of New Jersey Business Registration Certificate, Certificate of Employee Information Report, Non-Collusion Affidavit, Mandatory Equal Employment Opportunity Language, Americans with Disabilities Act Statement, and Stockholder Disclosure Certification.

In response to No. 3 – Standard Requirements of Technical Proposal:

- A. The law office of John A. Alice is located at 28 Cooper Street, Woodbury, New Jersey 08096. Telephone: 856-845-7222
- B. The firm was formed in 1983 as the Law Office of John A. Alice. The average number of employees over the past three years excluding myself is two (2) secretaries.
- C. Refer to the attached professional resume.

D. Refer to the attached professional resume.

E. I am presently providing the requested legal services herein discussed and have done so for some years. In order to appear on behalf of the County Adjuster for the civil commitment hearings, I am required to review various legal pleadings and supporting medical reports in advance of the individual's hearing. I then appear at the appropriate mental health facility for the conduct of the hearing. My experience and expertise extend not only to a knowledge of the applicable civil commitment law and procedures, but further in that I have developed a good working relationship with all parties involved in this process and look forward to an opportunity to continue to provide these services. Finally, my services shall be provided for compensation as developed by the County of Gloucester.

F. See attached insurance information.

G. See attached State of New Jersey Good Standing Certification.

H. I have all applicable Worker's Compensation and Employer's Liability Insurance in accordance with New Jersey law.

I. Neither the Law Office of John A. Alice, nor any individual assigned to this firm has been disbarred, suspended, or otherwise prohibited from professional practice by any federal, state or local agency.

J. My office is located at 28 Cooper Street, Woodbury, New Jersey 08096. This location is convenient to all Gloucester County offices, and I am able to meet with individuals at my office or other facilities, as necessary.

K. See attached Affirmative Action Statement

L. See attached Non-Collusion Affidavit

M. See attached Owner's Disclosure Statement

N. I agree to comply with the General Terms and Conditions required by the County and enter into the County's standard Professional Services Contract.

O. See attached Business Registration Statement

P. I hereby affirm that all services shall be provided in the United States of America.

Ms. Kimberly Larter
November 14, 2024
3 | Page

As stated, I presently perform the legal services identified in the instant Request for Proposal. As an active practicing attorney in New Jersey and Pennsylvania for over thirty years, I have the background and experience to provide the herein referenced legal services. I ask that you permit me to provide legal services on behalf of the Gloucester County Adjuster for the civil commitment hearings.

Thank you for your kind attention to this matter.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'John A. Alice', written in a cursive style.

John A. Alice

JAA/lv
Enclosures