

COMMITTEE ON MDC GOVERNMENT SPECIAL MEETING WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 4, 2023 5:00 PM

Location

Board Room

District Headquarters 555 Main Street, Hartford

Dial in #: (415)-655-0001 Access Code: 43808661#

Meeting Video Link

Commissioners

Avedisian Buell (VC)

DiBella (Ex-Officio)
Gardow

Hoffman (C)

Holloway

Magnan Taylor

Healy

Quorum: 5

1. CALL TO ORDER

2. PUBLIC COMMENTS RELATIVE TO AGENDA ITEMS

- 3. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES OF DECEMBER 5, 2022
- 4. CONSIDERATION AND POTENTIAL ACTION RE: APPOINTMENT OF LEGISLATIVE CONSULTANTS
- 5. OPPORTUNITY FOR GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENTS
- 6. COMMISSIONER COMMENTS & QUESTIONS
- 7. ADJOURNMENT

COMMITTEE ON MDC GOVERNMENT APPOINTMENT OF LEGISLATIVE CONSULTANTS

To: Committee on MDC Government

January 4, 2023

Over the past year, the firms of Gaffney, Bennett and Associates Inc. (Attorney Brendan Fox), SJB Strategies, LLC (Attorney Steve Bonafonte) and Strategic Outreach Solutions, LLC (Janice Flemming) have provided exemplary service in the area of government relations and advocacy within state government on behalf of the District, and the same holds true for Squire Patton Boggs (William Schuster) and SJB Strategies, LLC on the federal level. Based upon their collective past performance, and to maintain the necessary level of continuity within the District's legislative and administrative lobbying activities, District staff recommends the reappointment of each of these firms for the 2023 state and federal legislative consultants. The term of these appointments would be from January 1, 2023 through December 31, 2023, subject to Board approval.

Furthermore, in the event the Committee on MDC Government forwards the appointments to the District Board, District staff recommends the following annual fees for state legislative/administrative consultants: (1) Gaffney, Bennett and Associates, Inc. receive \$60,000.00, (2) SJB Strategies, LLC receive \$20,000.00 and (3) Strategic Outreach Solutions, LLC receive \$60,000.00, for a total of \$140,000.00.

On the Federal level, District staff recommends the reappointment of Squire Patton Boggs and SJB Strategies LLC as federal legislative consultants. In the event the Committee on MDC Government forwards the appointments to the District Board, District staff recommends the following annual fees for federal legislative/administrative consultants: (1) Squire Patton Boggs receive \$150,000.00; and (2) SJB Strategies, LLC receive \$70,000.00.

It is therefore recommended that it be:

Voted: That the Committee on MDC Government recommends to the District

Board passage of the following resolution:

Resolved: That the firms of Gaffney, Bennett and Associates Inc., SJB Strategies, LLC

and Strategic Outreach Solutions, LLC be retained to perform state lobbying services for a period commencing on January 1, 2023 and terminating on December 31, 2023. Gaffney, Bennett and Associates, Inc. fee will receive \$60,000.00, SJB Strategies, LLC will receive \$20,000.00, and Strategic Outreach Solutions, LLC will receive \$60,000.00, subject to the execution of a written agreement prepared and approved by District Counsel as to form and content, reflecting the scope of services, reporting requirements and such other terms and conditions as District Counsel, may

specify.

Further Resolved:

That the firms of Squire Patton Boggs and SJB Strategies, LLC be retained to perform federal lobbying services for a period commencing on January 1, 2023 and terminating on December 31, 2023. Squire Patton Boggs will receive at \$150,000.00 and SJB Strategies, LLC will receive \$70,000.00, subject to the execution of a written agreement prepared and approved by District Counsel as to form and content, reflecting the scope of services, reporting requirements and such other terms and conditions as District Counsel may specify.

Respectfully submitted,

Scott W. Jellison Chief Executive Officer