

1 Introduced September 22, 2013, by
2 Councilman Hicks, seconded by
3 Councilman Cusimano, (by request of
4 Administration)

5 **RESOLUTION R13-22**


6
7 A resolution authorizing the Mayor of the City of Slidell to execute a Legal
8 Services Contract with Cotten, Schmidt & Abbott, L.L.P. relating to James B. Bowman vs
9 City of Slidell, et al, United States District Court Eastern District of Louisiana Civil Action
10 No. 13-2636, Section E(3).

11 WHEREAS, James B. Bowman has filed suit against the City of Slidell
12 relative to the Americans With Disabilities Act (ADA) and Family and Medical Leave Act
13 (FMLA); and

14
15 WHEREAS, the City of Slidell desires to employ legal counsel having
16 expertise in ADA and FMLA litigation.

17
18 NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Slidell City Council that
19 pursuant to the Code of Ordinances for the City of Slidell, Home Rule Charter Section 4-
20 02(D) the Mayor is hereby authorized to execute a Legal Services Contract attached
21 hereto with Cotten, Schmidt & Abbott, L.L.P. to represent the City relating to James B.
22 Bowman.
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27 **ADOPTED** this 24th day of September, 2013.

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31 Landon Cusimano
32 Vice President of the Council
33 Councilman-at-Large

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35 Thomas P. Reeves
36 Council Administrator
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COTTEN SCHMIDT & ABBOTT

L.L.P.

REPLY TO:
NEW ORLEANS OFFICE

650 Poydras Street
Suite 2810
New Orleans, LA 70130
Telephone (504) 568-9393
Facsimile (504) 524-1933

ATTORNEYS AT LAW

FORT WORTH • NEW ORLEANS

LAWRENCE E. ABBOTT

ADMITTED IN LOUISIANA, TEXAS
AND THE DISTRICT OF
COLUMBIA

labbott@csa-lawfirm.com

September 12, 2013

Bryan Haggerty
City Attorney
City of Slidell
2045 Second Street, Suite 304
Slidell, Louisiana 70458

Re: *James B. Bowman v. The City of Slidell, et al.*
United States District Court, Eastern District of Louisiana
Civil Action No.13-2636, Section E (3)

Dear Mr. Haggerty:

Thank you for requesting that our law firm, Cotten Schmidt & Abbott, L.L.P. (CSA), defend the City of Slidell in the referenced matter. This letter of engagement confirms our prior arrangement for representing the City of Slidell and sets forth the details of our billing.

Considering the history of our firm in representing the City of Slidell, we have waived the usual firm requirement of a retainer. We will keep a record of the time that we spend related to the referenced matter. Hourly fees, as well as expenses and costs that may be advanced on behalf of the City of Slidell will be billed monthly in the form of our Fee and Cost Statement, or may be required to be advanced by Slidell. The hourly rates for these professional services are as follows:

Lawrence E. Abbott, Attorney:	\$250.00
Nancy A. Brechtel, Attorney:	\$235.00
Erin W. Latuso, Attorney:	\$235.00
Paralegals:	\$150.00

These hourly rates apply to legal research, drafting, revising, and reviewing letters and documents, negotiations, meetings, telephone calls, travel time to and from all meetings, and all other legal services provided in connection with our work. Although Nancy Brechtel and I will be the primary billing attorneys on this matter, when appropriate and in your best interest we may call upon another attorney in our firm, or our Paralegals to perform work on appropriate tasks.

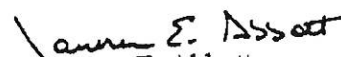
Our statement for legal services will also detail the miscellaneous costs incurred, such as filing fees, photocopies, express mail charges, computerized research, and other costs associated with this matter.

Bryan Haggerty
September 12, 2013
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If you have any questions regarding this retainer letter, please contact me at your earliest convenience. Upon your receipt, review, and acceptance of this agreement, and if the relationship set forth in this letter is acceptable to you, please sign and date in the space provided below and return a copy to our office. We would also appreciate a copy of the City Council's resolution approving our retention in this matter. Facsimile signatures shall constitute as original signatures for purposes of this agreement.

Once again, thank you for selecting our firm. As always, we deeply appreciate the opportunity to represent the City of Slidell.

Very truly yours,


Lawrence E. Abbott

LEA/jls

Agreed and Accepted:

Date: _____