

ALLISON, BASS & MAGEE, L.L.P.

Attorneys at Law

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August 6, 2024

VIA E-MAIL & REGULAR MAIL

The Honorable James Oakley
Burnet County Judge
Courthouse-on-the-Square
220 S. Pierce
Burnet, Texas 78611

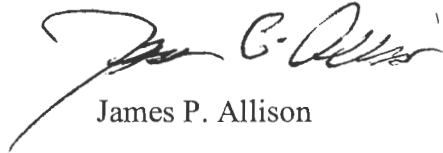
Re: Retainer Agreement for *Courthouse News Service v. Michael Gould, in his official capacity as Collin County District Clerk et al.*; Civil Action No. 4:24-cv-00368 in the United States Eastern District Court

Dear Judge Oakley:

For your consideration, enclosed please find a Contract for Professional Services between Burnet County, Texas and Allison, Bass & Magee LLP for legal representation of District Clerk Casie Walker as a Defendant in *Courthouse News Service v. Michael Gould, in his official capacity as Collin County District Clerk et al.*; Civil Action No. 4:24-cv-00368 in the United States Eastern District Court. Upon approval by the Commissioners Court, please return an executed original for our file.

We appreciate your consideration of our firm for this service to Burnet County. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,



James P. Allison

JPA/jm

Enclosure

cc: Members, Burnet County Commissioners Court
Eddie Arredondo, Burnet CA
earredondo@burnetcountytexas.org
Ms. Casie Walker, Burnet County District Clerk
cwalker@burnetcountytexas.org

RETAINER AGREEMENT

THIS AGREEMENT is made and entered into this _____ day of _____, 2024, by and between Burnet County, Texas, hereinafter referred to as "Client", and Allison, Bass & Magee, L.L.P. hereinafter referred to as "Attorneys".

Recitals

The Client is a political subdivision of the State of Texas. The Attorneys are duly licensed to practice law in the State of Texas and desire to render their professional services for the Client as provided herein.

The Commissioners Court of Burnet County, Texas, acting in its judicial and executive capacity, finds that the public interest requires the retention of legal counsel to represent the County in the referenced matters.

THEREFORE, the Client hereby engages the services of the Attorneys, and in consideration of the mutual promises herein contained, the parties agree as follows:

Services of Attorney

1. The Attorneys will advise and represent the Client in legal matters as requested by the Client, by and through a majority vote of the Commissioners Court, for representation of District Clerk Casie Walker as a Defendant in *Courthouse News Service v. Michael Gould, in his official capacity as Collin County District Clerk et al.*; Civil Action No. 4:24-cv-00368 in the United States Eastern District Court and on such legal matters as may be assigned by the Commissioners Court. Services will also include drafting and reviewing of documents, briefing, and any negotiations, legal proceedings or trials/appeals that may be required for resolution of this matter.

2. This Retainer Agreement shall serve as the basis for understanding regarding fees and costs to be charged to the Client, but the subject matter for legal services may only be authorized by

an Order of the Commissioners Court.

3. Fees will include any and all necessary research, drafting and reviewing of documents, briefing, and any negotiations required for the proper disposition of any and all matters entrusted to the Attorneys pursuant to this retainer agreement.

Compensation

4. For the services described in Paragraph 1, the Client agrees to pay the Attorneys the sum of \$400.00 per hour for services rendered by partners of the firm and \$300.00 for services rendered by associates of the firm. The client will be billed at the rate of \$150.00 per hour for services rendered by any paralegal of the firm. A travel time fee of \$200.00 per hour will be charged for all time actually in transit, in lieu of any hourly charge normally attributed to the Attorney. Billing rates are subject to change with advance notice to Client. The Client will also be billed for all direct out-of-pocket expenses including travel expenses, telephone, photocopy, facsimile costs, reports, studies, and exhibits incurred by Attorneys in the investigation of this matter. The Attorneys will provide Client with an itemized billing stating services rendered.

Devotion of Time

5. The Attorneys shall make themselves available for consultation with the Client at reasonable times, at the request of the Client.

Term

6. This agreement shall be effective on the execution hereof by Client and shall continue in effect until the matter has been finally resolved or upon 30 days written notice by either party. The Client shall send notice to the Attorneys' office at 1301 Nueces Street, Suite 201, Austin, Texas 78701, and the Attorneys shall send notice to the Client care of the County Judge, Burnet County Courthouse, Courthouse-on-the-Square, 220 S. Pierce, Burnet, Texas 78611.

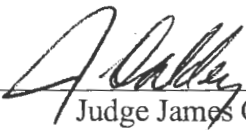
Prior Agreements Superseded

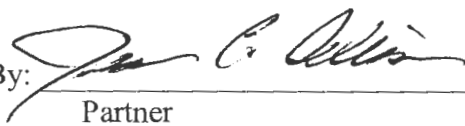
7. This agreement constitutes the sole and only agreement of the parties hereto and supersedes any prior understandings or written or oral agreements between the parties respecting the within subject matter.

EXECUTED on the 13TH day of August, 2024.

CLIENT
BURNET COUNTY, TEXAS

ATTORNEYS
ALLISON, BASS & MAGEE, L.L.P.

By: 
Judge James Oakley

By: 
Partner

County Identification Number assigned to the contract as required by the Ethics Commission:

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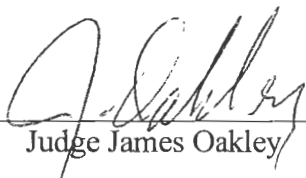
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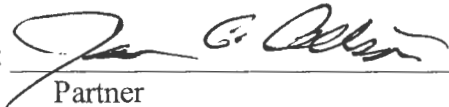
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EXECUTED on the _____ day of _____, 2024.

CLIENT
BURNET COUNTY, TEXAS

ATTORNEYS
ALLISON, BASS & MAGEE, L.L.P.

By: 
Judge James Oakley

By: 
Partner

County Identification Number assigned to the contract as required by the Ethics Commission:
