

ORDINANCE

APPROVING RENEWALS OF PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENTS FOR FEDERAL REPRESENTATION SERVICES FOR A PERIOD OF TWO YEARS WITH AKIN GUMP STRAUSS HAUER & FELD LLP, AT AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$540,000.00; AND SERNA & SERNA PLLC, AT AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$90,000.00 COMMENCING JANUARY 1, 2025, AND ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2026; FUNDING IS AVAILABLE FROM THE FY 2025 GENERAL FUND BUDGET; FUNDING FOR SUBSEQUENT FISCAL YEARS IS SUBJECT TO APPROPRIATION.

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WHEREAS, for more than 28 years the City of San Antonio has retained consultants to represent its interests with the federal government by supporting and strengthening the City's advocacy efforts with federal agencies, members of Congress, and the Administration to advance legislation and seek federal funding that is beneficial to the San Antonio community; and

WHEREAS, the City's federal priorities for each of the two-year Congressional sessions are stated in a City Council approved Federal Legislative Program developed by the Government Affairs (GA) Department in collaboration with other City departments, federal consultants, and partner organizations; and

WHEREAS, on December 15, 2022, through ordinance number 2022-12-15-0982, the City Council approved the execution of professional services agreements with Akin Gump Strauss Hauer & Feld LLP and Serna & Serna PLLC for federal representation services through December 31, 2024 with a right to renew for two additional two-year terms upon City Council approval; and

WHEREAS, federal consultants are responsible for supporting and implementing the City's Federal Legislative Program through the development of strategic action items that include timelines, goals, and objectives to advance the City's priorities; and

WHEREAS, during the 118th Congress San Antonio's federal consultants assisted in the coordination of advocacy visits to Washington to pursue grant funding; supported City Councilmember and staff participation in U.S. Conference of Mayors, National League of Cities, and Federal Administration events; and

WHEREAS, in addition, federal consultants helped coordinate the advocacy work for the SAT-DCA nonstop flight – a major priority for the San Antonio community, and supported the City's Government Affairs efforts to successfully help pass legislation in support of the San Antonio nonstop flight to Reagan National Airport; and

WHEREAS, two major funding bills, the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) and the Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) made available trillions of dollars for infrastructure, clean energy development, sustainability, and resilience, and significant work was dedicated to identifying and advocating for available funds for the community; and

WHEREAS, federal consultants assisted in the City's pursuits of funding with federal agencies and the administration, and through these efforts over \$180 million was awarded to the City of San Antonio in 2023 and 2024; and

WHEREAS, GA is currently in the process of developing the federal legislative program for the 119th Congress, which will start in January 2025, and our consultants have helped to continuously monitor legislative activities, develop strategies to advance the City's interests, and identify issues that are likely to be addressed by the incoming Congress, demonstrating that the federal consultants' team is equipped and prepared to advocate on behalf of the San Antonio community with the incoming Congress, administration and agencies; and

WHEREAS, it is now necessary to approve the two-year renewal of the current professional services agreements for federal representation services; **NOW THEREFORE:**

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SAN ANTONIO:

SECTION 1. The two-year renewal of the Federal Representation Services Agreements for terms commencing on January 1, 2025 and ending December 31, 2026 with Akin Gump Straus Hauer & Feld LLP for total amount not to exceed \$540,000.00, and the Federal Representation Services-Local Liaison Agreement with Serna and Serna PLLC for a total amount not to exceed \$90,000.00, are authorized and approved. The City Manager or designee is authorized to sign the Agreements, attached to this Ordinance as **Exhibit A**. Fully executed copies shall be subsequently attached.

SECTION 2. Funding in the amount of \$315,000.00 for this ordinance is available in Fund 11001000, Cost Center 0801010001 and General Ledger 5201040 as part of the Fiscal Year 2025 Adopted Budget approved by City Council.

SECTION 3: Additional funding in the amount of \$315,000.00 for this ordinance is contingent upon City Council approval of the Fiscal Years 2026 and 2027 Budgets.

SECTION 4: Payment in the amount up to \$270,000.00 annually is authorized to Akin Gump Straus Hauer & Feld LLP, and \$45,000.00 annually is authorized to Serna and Serna, PLLC and should be encumbered with purchase orders.

SECTION 5: Additional funding in the amount of \$315,000.00 for this ordinance is contingent upon City Council approval of the Fiscal Years 2026 and 2027 Budgets.

SECTION 6: The financial allocations in this Ordinance are subject to approval by the Deputy Chief Financial Officer, City of San Antonio. The Deputy Chief Financial Officer may, subject to concurrence by the City Manager or the City Manager's designee, correct allocations to specific Cost Centers, WBS Elements, Internal Orders, General Ledger Accounts, and Fund Numbers as necessary to carry out the purpose of this Ordinance.

SECTION 7. This Ordinance is effective immediately upon the receipt of eight affirmative votes; otherwise it is effective ten days after its passage.

PASSED AND APPROVED this 12th day of December 2024.

M A Y O R
Ron Nirenberg

ATTEST:

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Debbie Racca-Sittre, City Clerk

Andrew Segovia, City Attorney

Exhibit A
Federal Representation Services Renewal Agreements

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