

**INDIGENT DEFENSE
CONTRACT FOR LEGAL SERVICES
PACIFIC COUNTY, WASHINGTON
(Justin Kover, Kover Law PLLC)**

THIS CONTRACT is entered into by the Superior Court Judge of Pacific County, hereinafter referred to as "JUDGE"; Justin Kover, Managing Attorney of Kover Law PLLC, 3905 Martin Way E Suite C, Olympia, WA 98506, hereinafter referred to as "CONTRACTOR". According to the terms of this contract and the Rules of Professional Conduct, the parties agree that the CONTRACTOR shall provide legal representation for persons who by law are entitled to legal representation at public expense.

SCOPE OF SERVICES

ADULT FELONY

The ATTORNEY shall be responsible for representing adults and declined juveniles who are entitled to counsel at public expense in criminal, contempt including civil contempt, and voluntary commitment cases in Pacific County, Washington, when ordered to do so by a court or at the request of an arrested defendant prior to his/her first appearance in court. The services provided by the CONTRACTOR also shall include, but not be limited to; representing indigents in criminal cases, involuntary commitment proceedings, in appeals from a District Court to Superior Court, in probation violation hearings, and in cases where contempt is sought as a sanction and counsel is appointed. Service also shall include preparation of post-judgment paperwork (modification of judgment, motion for furloughs, motion for special examinations, etc.) and preparation of a notice of appeal in cases where an appeal is requested by a defendant/respondent. This contract is intended to provide coverage for 1/3 appointments covered by a separate contract as described herein. The remaining two-thirds of case assignments shall be assigned by the court via a separate contract. The applicable court shall retain the right of assignment as specified under ASSIGNMENT OF CASES.

DUTIES OF CONTRACTOR

The CONTRACTOR agrees to represent, advise, defend in court, and otherwise provide legal assistance in accordance with the Rules of Professional Conduct and in keeping with the standards and requirements established in Pacific County Ordinance No. 159. The CONTRACTOR agrees to comply with the SCOPE OF SERVICES listed; however, the CONTRACTOR will not be appointed under this contract to represent a defendant or respondent who is charged with murder in the first degree, or for exceptional cases which require abnormal time and effort to reach resolution. The

CONTRACTOR reserves the right to petition the court for additional compensation in such exceptional cases. The court shall reserve the right to make such determinations.

The CONTRACTOR agrees to have a business telephone line(s) and an answering machine accessible without long distance charges. The CONTRACTOR agrees that to accept collect telephone calls from his clients. The CONTRACTOR does not have to accept collect telephone calls from clients who are abusive or who make repeated collect calls that are unnecessary. The CONTRACTOR agrees to maintain reasonable contact with his clients and respond to indigent client requests in a timely fashion. The CONTRACTOR agrees to provide legal services for indigent defense unless a conflict exists. For the purpose of this contract, a "conflict" means an ethical conflict under the Rules of Professional Conduct not arising from the CONTRACTOR'S contemporaneous "outside" employment. Scheduling difficulties, vacation periods, and illness shall not constitute a "conflict".

The CONTRACTOR must record in writing all contacts with indigent clients so the court can be apprised of the degree to which contact is being maintained with every indigent client.

The CONTRACTOR is responsible for making appropriate arrangements during any periods when he is unavailable due to medical reasons or when he is on vacation.

ASSIGNMENT OF CASES

In general, cases will be assigned to the CONTRACTOR by the court at the Court's discretion. The JUDGE agrees to give strong consideration to the CONTRACTOR'S preferences regarding appointments.

Notice of appointment shall be provided to appointed counsel as follows: by e-mail to the appointed CONTRACTOR, unless otherwise arranged by the CONTRACTOR and approved by the JUDGE. The CONTRACTOR shall secure one or more active e-mail addresses and shall provide the Court Administrator and the Clerk of the Court his e-mail address(es) for notification purposes. Notice of all appointments shall be forwarded to the CONTRACTOR by e-mail. Counsel or their designee shall check for appointments daily, Monday through Friday, except during court holidays. The CONTRACTOR under this contract and contractors under the other indigent legal service contracts shall arrange to attend to each other's appointments when any counsel is unavailable.

The CONTRACTOR agrees to be responsible for active indigent cases assigned by the JUDGE. A separate contract has been secured to cover the remaining adult felony cases and all juvenile civil, juvenile offender, and South and North District Court cases. It is understood that approximately one-third (1/3) of previously assigned active adult felony indigent cases will be assigned to the CONTRACTOR signatory to this

contract, and that approximately two-thirds (2/3) of such cases will be assigned to the CONTRACTOR(s) signatory to a separate contract.

To Assist the County and Office of Public Defense Grant requirements, the CONTRACTOR shall provide a report summary of cases assigned to the CONTRACTOR (forms provided by Court Administration) quarterly. The report shall include the following:

- 1) Number of cases appointed, including name and cause number. Please note:
 - a. Appointment is for new cases;
 - b. Reappointment on cases without a disposition; or
 - c. Appointment on probation violations. (PV cases may be weighted.)
- 2) Number of cases settled, name, and cause number.
- 3) Standards for Indigent Defense Certification of Compliance Required by CrR 3.1 / CrRLJ 3.1 / JuCR 9.2.

PAYMENT

In consideration of such services, the CONTRACTOR shall be paid by Pacific County, on a monthly basis for the year 2023 and any portion of 2022 is as follows:

Justin Kover, \$6000.00/per month

The total contract for the Calendar Years 2023, will be increased each year effective January 1st as follows:

- 2023 \$6000/per month plus *COLA

*COLA - Increased by the same percent cost of living increase, if any, that is provided to non-represented Pacific County management employees.

Note: representation includes the corresponding representation for persons subject to contempt proceedings as per the above distribution.

Note: This contract is for a maximum of one hundred (100) Adult Felony appointments in total per year as said appointments enumerated previously herein under SCOPE OF SERVICES. For any felony appointments in excess of the one hundred case cap, the CONTRACTOR would then have the option of accepting the additional appointment pursuant to mutually acceptable terms of payment.

The JUDGE will provide no additional compensation, benefits, or any other remuneration beyond the contract amount, except for appointments over the annual maximum, set forth immediately hereinabove.

The CONTRACTOR also agrees to pay any local, state or federal taxes applicable to compensation or income received by the CONTRACTOR pursuant to this contract.

The CONTRACTOR shall not charge a fee to any client who is assigned to him for work performed under this contract.

The CONTRACTOR'S ordinary business expenses are deemed included in the above rate.

The CONTRACTOR'S ordinary business expenses are those expenses related to the normal operation of a legal office such as support staff, copies, telephones, office rent, office supplies, etc. Expenses for investigation, expert witnesses, evaluations, etc. are not included in CONTRACTOR'S ordinary business expenses. In the event expenses for investigation, expert witnesses, evaluations, etc. are appropriate, the CONTRACTOR must petition a Court for authorization to incur those expenses.

EMPLOYMENT RELATIONSHIPS

The CONTRACTOR, its employees or agents performing under this contract are not deemed to be employees of the COUNTY nor agents of the COUNTY in any manner whatsoever. No officer, employee or agent of the CONTRACTOR will hold themselves out as, or claim to be, an officer, employee or agent of the COUNTY by reason hereof, nor will they make any claim, demand or application to or for any right or privilege applicable to an officer, employee or agent of the COUNTY.

INDEMNIFICATION/HOLD HARMLESS

Indemnification by CONTRACTOR. To the fullest extent permitted by law, the CONTRACTOR agrees to indemnify, defend and hold the COUNTY and its departments, elected and appointed officials, employees, agents and volunteers, harmless from and against any and all claims, damages, losses and expenses, including but not limited to court costs, attorney's fees and alternative dispute resolution costs, for any personal injury, for any bodily injury, sickness, disease or death and for any damage to or destruction of any property (including the loss of use resulting therefrom) which 1) are caused in whole or in part by any action or omission, negligent or otherwise, of the CONTRACTOR, its employees, agents or volunteers or CONTRACTOR's subcontractors and their employees, agents or volunteers; or 2) are directly or indirectly arising out of, resulting from, or in connection with performance of this Contract; or 3) are based upon the CONTRACTOR'S or its subcontractors' use of, presence upon or proximity to the property of the COUNTY. This indemnification obligation of the CONTRACTOR shall not apply in the limited circumstance where the

claim, damage, loss or expense is caused by the sole negligence of the COUNTY. The foregoing indemnification obligations of the CONTRACTOR are a material inducement to COUNTY to enter into the Contract, are reflected in the CONTRACTOR's compensation, and have been mutually negotiated by the parties.

Participation County – No Waiver. The COUNTY reserves the right, but not the obligation, to participate in the defense of any claim, damages, losses or expenses and such participation shall not constitute a waiver of CONTRACTOR's indemnity obligations under the Contract.

Survival of CONTRACTOR's Indemnity Obligations. The CONTRACTOR agrees all CONTRACTOR S's indemnity obligations shall survive the completion, expiration or termination of this Contract.

INSURANCE

Without limiting the CONTRACTOR'S indemnification of COUNTY, and prior to commencement of this Contract, CONTRACTOR shall obtain, provide and maintain during the term of this Contract, policies or insurance of the type and amounts described below and in a form satisfactory to the COUNTY.

Professional Liability (Errors & Omissions) Insurance. CONTRACTOR shall maintain professional liability insurance that covers the services to be performed in connection with this Contract, in the minimum amount of \$1,000,000 per claim and in the aggregate. Any policy inception date, continuity date, or retroactive date must be before the effective date of this Contract and CONTRACTOR agrees to maintain continuous coverage through a period no less than three years after completion of the services required by this Contract.

Waiver of Subrogation. All insurance coverage maintained or procured pursuant to this Contract shall be endorsed to waive subrogation against COUNTY, its elected or appointed officers, agents, officials, employees and volunteers or shall specifically allow CONTRACTOR or others providing insurance evidence in compliance with these specifications to waive their right of recovery prior to a loss. CONTRACTOR hereby waives its own right of recovery against COUNTY, and shall require similar written express waivers and insurance clauses from each of its subcontractors.

The CONTRACTOR must name the COUNTY as an additional insured. The CONTRACTOR agrees that its liability insurance shall be primary and non-contributory to the COUNTY's and that CONTRACTOR's liability insurance policy shall so state.

MONITORING, EVALUATION, AND CLIENT COMPLAINTS

The Superior Court Judge may periodically monitor, evaluate and review the performance of the CONTRACTOR as pertains to his performance under this contract in keeping with the term of and standards within Pacific County Ordinance No. 159. The Superior Court Judge may also investigate client complaints as per the procedures outlined in Pacific County Ordinance No. 159.

NONASSIGNABILITY

The CONTRACTOR'S duties shall not be delegated or assigned without court permission. Occasional coverage of court duties by other attorneys at the request of the CONTRACTOR shall not constitute a "delegation".

SUBCONTRACTING

The CONTRACTOR may not subcontract all or a portion of the services under this contract, without express prior written approval of the presiding JUDGE for whom services are to be provided.

TERMS AND TERMINATION

- 1) This contract shall be deemed to have commenced on November 1, 2022 and shall continue through December 31, 2023.
- 2) Either party may terminate this agreement upon sixty (60) days written notice.
- 3) Termination of the contract with less than sixty (60) days written notice must be for "good cause". "Good cause" includes, but not limited to, suspension from practice of law.

CONFLICT WITH LAW

To the extent that this contract might conflict with any law or court rules pertaining to the responsibility of the court to provide indigent defendants with adequate legal representation, the law and the court rules shall control.

QUALIFICATIONS AND TRAINING

The CONTRACTOR shall be qualified to practice law in the State of Washington during the entire period of this contract. If this provision is breached, the JUDGE shall have the authority to terminate this agreement immediately by providing written notice to

the CONTRACTOR. The CONTRACTOR shall complete a minimum of seven (7) hours of continuing legal education per year relevant to the provision of indigent legal defense as specified in Pacific County Ordinance No. 159.

The CONTRACTOR(s) acknowledges that he is subject to the Standards for Indigent Defense promulgated by the Washington State Supreme Court and incorporated in criminal court rules.

NON-DISCRIMINATION IN SERVICES

The CONTRACTOR agrees to provide equal opportunity in regard to the services to be provided. The CONTRACTOR agrees that no person who works for the CONTRACTOR or seeks employment with the CONTRACTOR or otherwise falls under the ambit of this contract shall be denied employment or benefits or be discriminated against on the grounds of race, creed, color, national origin, sex, honorably discharged veteran or military status, sexual orientation, or the use of a trained guide dog or service animal by a person with a disability.

SAVINGS AND SEVERABILITY

If any provision, or any portion thereof, contained in this contract is held to be unconstitutional, invalid or unenforceable, said provision(s) thereof shall be deemed severed, and the remainder of this contract shall not be affected and shall remain in full force and effect. Furthermore, if such an event occurs, the parties agree to negotiate a modification to replace the unacceptable provision(s) as soon as possible.

SCHEDULING

The Court will attempt to schedule all pre-trial hearings for the CONTRACTOR on the first and third Friday of each month. The CONTRACTOR agrees that he shall be present at the first and third Friday docket for which the Court is in session, and that the Court may, at its discretion, schedule hearings for any given Friday docket. Trials cannot be scheduled for Fridays; however, the Court will, as with all other contract attorneys, attempt to coordinate trials with attorney's schedules.

VENUE

In the event that any party to this contract or any subcontractor shall bring a suit or action on or arising out of this contract, it is mutually agreed that such suit or action shall be brought only in Pacific County, Washington.

NOTICE

Notice shall be given in writing. It may be delivered in person, or it may be mailed. Any notice delivered in person is effective upon delivery. If the notice is mailed, it shall be effective upon the third day after mailing.

PUBLIC RECORDS ACT

This CONTRACT and all public records associated with this CONTRACT shall be available from the COUNTY for inspection and copying by the public where required by the Public Records Act, Chapter 42.56 RCW (the "Act"). To the extent that public records then in the custody of the CONTRACTOR are needed for the COUNTY to respond to a request under the Act, as determined by the COUNTY, the CONTRACTOR agrees to make them promptly available to the COUNTY. If the CONTRACTOR considers any portion of any record provided to the COUNTY under this Agreement, whether in electronic or hard copy form, to be protected from disclosure under law, the CONTRACTOR shall clearly identify any specific information that it claims to be confidential or proprietary. If the COUNTY receives a request under the Act to inspect or copy the information so identified by the CONTRACTOR and the COUNTY determines that release of the information is required by the Act or otherwise appropriate, the COUNTY's sole obligations shall be to notify the CONTRACTOR (a) of the request and (b) of the date that such information will be released to the requester unless the CONTRACTOR obtains a court order to enjoin that disclosure pursuant to RCW 42.56.540. If the CONTRACTOR fails to timely obtain a court order enjoining disclosure, the COUNTY will release the requested information on the date specified.

The COUNTY has, and by this section assumes, no obligation on behalf of the CONTRACTOR to claim any exemption from disclosure under the Act. The COUNTY shall not be liable to the CONTRACTOR for releasing records not clearly identified by the CONTRACTOR as confidential or proprietary. The COUNTY shall not be liable to the CONTRACTOR for any records that the COUNTY releases in compliance with this section or in compliance with an order of a court of competent jurisdiction.

CONTRACTOR agrees to indemnify and, to the greatest extent legally possible, to hold harmless the COUNTY in any action by a third party due to the negligence, recklessness or intentional actions by the CONTRACTOR relating to his performance of this contract. This includes any lawsuit filed by a third party for the COUNTY's allegedly improper release of confidential or proprietary information pursuant to a public records request.

The CONTRACTOR shall comply with all Washington State Supreme Court Rules regarding confidentiality of client communications.

ENTIRE CONTRACT

The parties agree that this contract is the complete expression of the terms hereto and any oral representations or understandings not incorporated herein are excluded. Further, any modification of this contract shall be in writing and signed by all parties.

Dated this 24 day of October, 2022.

SUPERIOR COURT JUDGE:

[Signature] 10/24/22
Donald J. Richter Date

CONTRACTOR:

Justin Kover, Kover Law PLLC Date

CONFIRMED BY:

Board of Commissioners
Pacific County, Washington

ATTESTED:

Lisa Olsen Date
Chairperson

Clerk of the Board Date