



**REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS FOR  
BOND COUNSEL FOR  
NEW JERSEY WATER SUPPLY AUTHORITY  
APPOINTMENT AS BOND COUNSEL FOR A THREE-YEAR PERIOD (2020, 2021 AND 2022)**

Date Issued: June 9, 2020

Question & Answer Cut-off Date: June 30, 2020

Proposals Due: July 21, 2020

GURBIR S. GREWAL

ATTORNEY GENERAL OF NEW JERSEY

MICHELLE L. MILLER

DIRECTOR, DIVISION OF LAW

STATE OF NEW JERSEY, DEPARTMENT OF LAW AND PUBLIC SAFETY, DIVISION OF LAW

Richard J. Hughes Justice Complex, 25 Market Street, P.O. Box 112 Trenton, N.J. 08625-0112

**REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS (“RFQ”)  
FOR BOND COUNSEL  
NEW JERSEY WATER SUPPLY AUTHORITY  
APPOINTMENT AS BOND COUNSEL FOR A THREE-YEAR PERIOD (2020, 2021 AND 2022)**

**1.0 PURPOSE AND INTENT**

- 1.1 The Attorney General of New Jersey, through the Department of Law and Public Safety, Division of Law (the “Attorney General”) serves as the legal representative and counsel for the departments, boards, offices, commissions and other instrumentalities of State government, its officers and employees, and represents the New Jersey Water Supply Authority (the “Authority”). Proposals are being sought by the Attorney General on behalf of the Authority for the appointment of Bond Counsel to the Authority for the issuance of bonds, notes or other obligations (collectively, the “Bonds”) during 2020, 2021 and 2022. One transaction may involve the issuance of Bonds to finance future major projects. Additionally, the Authority expects to secure permanent financing for two projects (Delaware & Raritan Canal Dredging project and Round Valley Reservoir Structures Refurbishment and Resource Preservation Project) that are currently financed via interim notes issued by the New Jersey Infrastructure Bank (the “I-Bank”). Finally, Bond Counsel may be asked during 2020, 2021 and 2022 to provide advice to the Authority on other matters relating to Bonds issued during the period of designation in connection with various types of financing structures (as described below), including variable rate, fixed rate, tax-exempt or taxable bonds or notes (collectively, the “Bonds”). You are invited to submit a proposal for appointment to serve as Bond Counsel for these transactions and to provide general advice on bond-related matters to the Authority.
- 1.2 The Attorney General will designate one or more attorneys from the Division of Law in the Department of Law and Public Safety who will be the sole point(s) of contact for all matters pertaining to this engagement and who will oversee and coordinate the activities of Bond Counsel.
- 1.3 The firms selected must comply with all local, State and federal laws, rules and regulations applicable to the engagement and to the services to be performed thereunder.
- 1.4 Compensation for the firm selected as Bond Counsel for this engagement shall be negotiated based upon the provisions set forth in Sections 4.0 and 5.0 below.

**2.0 MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS**

AT A MINIMUM, RESPONDING FIRMS MUST HAVE THE FOLLOWING QUALIFICATIONS:

- (1) Experience as bond counsel for a governmental entity issuing municipal bonds to the I-Bank and to the State of New Jersey acting by and through the Department of Environmental Protection for clean water related projects.
- (2) Expertise in Federal Tax Law Matters as applicable to the types of obligations described herein.
- (3) Experience in Federal Securities Laws applicable to the types of obligations described herein.

Failure by a firm to meet these minimum requirements will result in the proposal's immediate rejection.

### **3.0 BACKGROUND AND ANTICIPATED STRUCTURE OF THE BONDS**

#### **3.1 Background**

The Authority is a body corporate and politic established by the New Jersey Water Supply Act of 1981, L. 1981, c. 293, as amended (the "Act"). The Authority was established for the purpose of operating State water supply facilities inclusive of property necessary for the collection and accumulation of supply. The Authority operates the Spruce Run Reservoir, Round Valley Reservoir, Delaware and Raritan Canal and the Manasquan Water Supply System, Treatment Plant and Transmission System. The treatment plant and transmission system is owned by the Southeast Monmouth Municipal Utilities Authority, which sets the rates, and is operated and maintained by the Authority under the terms of an operating agreement.

The Authority collects revenue from the sale of approximately 182 million gallons of water per day to its customers in the Raritan Basin and from the sale of approximately 19 million gallons per day to its customers in the Manasquan Basin. The Authority's rate structure is divided into various components to fund operations and maintenance, source water protection, debt service and capital. The Authority has dedicated a component of its rate to cover debt service that will result from the financing of its major projects, as follows:

- (1) Delaware & Raritan Canal Dredging Bonds – In 2013, the Authority submitted a loan application to the I-Bank to finance a dredging program for an approximately 10 mile reach of the Delaware & Raritan Canal in Franklin Township, Somerset County between Route 27 and Amwell Road and established a debt service rate component of \$25.00 per million gallons at N.J.A.C. 7:11-2.4(b) dedicated to anticipated debt service for this project. The dredging project was deferred until 2018, and, in 2018, the Authority issued an interim note under its General Bond Resolution to the I-Bank for \$49.5 million. Upon substantial completion of the dredging project, which is

anticipated to occur in 2020, it is expected that permanent financing will be secured with the I-Bank for this project. The debt service rate component may be increased as necessary to cover debt service on these bonds.

- (2) Round Valley Reservoir Structures Refurbishment and Resource Preservation Project - In 2019, the Authority issued an interim note to the I-Bank for the Round Valley Reservoir Structures Refurbishment and Resource Preservation Project under its General Bond Resolution to finance necessary improvements to all three of the Round Valley Reservoir embankments located in Clinton, New Jersey. The three embankments improved are the Round Valley North Dam, the Round Valley South Dam and the Round Valley Dike. In Fiscal Year 2018, the Authority established a debt service rate component of \$60.00 per million gallons at N.J.A.C. 7:11-2.4(b) dedicated to anticipated debt service for the rehabilitation project. The interim note is in the amount of \$15.2 million, which covers administrative and engineering costs as well as construction of the initial phases of the project. A second interim note for the remainder of the project (approximately \$60 million) is anticipated to be issued in April 2020. Upon substantial completion of the project, expected to occur in 2021, the Authority intends to secure permanent financing with the I-Bank for this project, for the total amount of approximately \$75 million. The debt service rate component may be increased as necessary to cover debt service on the rehabilitation bonds.
- (3) Future Projects – In 2022, the Authority is considering issuing bonds to finance additional major capital projects. Project costs are expected to be approximately \$50 million. In future rate filings, the Authority will increase the debt service component of its rate as necessary to accommodate debt service for these potential projects.

Thirty uninterruptible take or pay water sales contracts provide the basis of the pledged property securing the Bonds. Note that 84% of Raritan Basin System water sales are to two large customers whose long-term uninterruptible water supply contracts expire in 2023. Long-term renewal of these contracts is anticipated. 16% of water sales are under contracts with varying expiration dates. Twelve contracts are with governments for potable water or irrigation. Eighteen contracts are with public utilities and other private sector purveyors.

### 3.2 Anticipated Structure

It is the Authority's intention to issue all financing (interim and/or permanent) for the projects described above through negotiated sale to the I-Bank and the State. The bonds issued to the State do not bear interest. The interest rate on the bonds issued to the I-Bank is determined by the interest rate on bonds issued by the I-Bank to the public at

competitive sale. The interim loans will be non-interest bearing and are retired by the I-Bank upon the issuance of permanent financing.

The Bonds for the projects described above may be sold on either a competitive or negotiated basis.

### **3.3 Transcripts of Prior Proceedings**

Copies of the entire transcripts of the record of proceedings with respect to prior Authority financings are available for inspection at the offices of the Authority. For an appointment to review such transcripts, please contact:

Susan Buckley, Director of Finance and Administration  
New Jersey Water Supply Authority  
1851 Highway 31  
P.O. Box 5196  
Clinton, New Jersey 08809  
(908) 638-6121

### **4.0 SELECTION OF BOND COUNSEL**

- 4.1 Bond Counsel will be selected by the Attorney General, after consultation with the Authority, in accordance with Executive Order No. 26 and the Attorney General's Guidelines for the Selection of Bond Counsel and as further described in Section 8.0 herein.
- 4.2 If a firm is selected to serve as Bond Counsel for a particular transaction and such transaction does not close, the firm will not be permitted to submit a bill for the work done.

### **5.0 SCOPE OF SERVICES**

In connection with the Bonds, Bond Counsel will be expected to provide legal advice and representation concerning all aspects of the proposed transactions, including, but not limited to, the following:

- 5.1 Assistance with the development of the size and structure of the transaction, including advice in regard to tax and other legal issues, including, without limitations, the applicable statutes, regulations and the State Constitution and/or drafting of legislation necessary to implement the transaction.
- 5.2 Preparation of all documents necessary to implement the transactions including but not limited to resolutions, purchase contracts, notices of sale, supplemental resolutions, loan agreements, escrow agreements, notes, bonds, documents necessary to comply with

continuing disclosure requirements, any investment agreements or other contracts for the investment of the proceeds of the Bonds, credit enhancement commitments and related documentation, swap agreements, subscribing for SLGS, closing documents, including but not limited to, arbitrage certificates and any other documents necessary to implement the transactions. Many of the documents used in connection with the Bonds will be initially prepared by the I-Bank's Bond Counsel. In competitively bid transactions, Bond Counsel will be expected to draft the notice of sale and the disclosure documents. In negotiated transactions, Bond Counsel could be asked to draft the purchase agreement and the disclosure documents.

- 5.3 Review of any documents prepared or submitted by other entities involved in the transaction.
- 5.4 Attendance at various meetings necessary to the transaction including meetings with the board of the Authority, the I-Bank and due diligence meetings; consultation and negotiation with all parties to the transaction including, but not limited to, the trustee, bond purchasers, the rating agencies, underwriters, bond insurers, if any, credit enhancers, if any, and swap providers, if any; negotiation of agreements related to the transaction on behalf of the Authority and participation in any other meetings or telephone conference calls relating to the transaction and coordination with the Attorney General's Office and the trustee.
- 5.5 Attendance at the sale of the Bonds, preparation of all closing documents and certificates, attendance at the pre-closing and closing of the Bonds.
- 5.6 Rendering approving opinions relating to the validity of the Bonds or other agreements entered into by the Authority, the tax exempt status of interest on the Bonds; adequacy of disclosure (Rule 10b-5) and compliance with Rule 15c2-12 (including the preparation of any agreements relating to secondary market disclosure); compliance with the requirements relating to delivery of the Preliminary and Official Statements for the Bonds, including by electronic delivery of the Preliminary Official Statement for the Bonds and such other opinions as may be required from Bond Counsel for the transaction.
- 5.7 In addition, Bond Counsel will be asked from time to time to undertake assignments with respect to previously closed Bond issues. Bond Counsel for such transactions will be expected to draft and review all necessary documents to consummate the transaction and deliver appropriate opinions to the Authority in connection with the transaction and is expected to be available for post-sale Internal Revenue Code compliance questions, continuing disclosure requirements and any other post-closing issues that may arise with respect to the Bonds.

## 6.0 **REQUIRED COMPONENTS OF THE RFQ PROPOSAL**

Proposals must respond to each of the following requests in the order indicated. Please provide the information requested below for all counsel who may perform any of the requested services.

6.1 Complete the cover sheet attached as Exhibit B with the name, address of your firm, contact information for this proposal and the number of attorneys in your firm.

### 6.2 Firm Profile and Experience

- A. Indicate the date your firm was established.
- B. Describe the legal services provided by your firm.
- C. Describe your firm's specialty and/or area(s) of expertise.
- D. Identify the number of employees in your firm (licensed attorneys; legal support staff; other support staff).
- E. Indicate whether you are a small firm. For the purposes of this RFQ, a small firm has less than twenty (20) full or part-time attorneys. Any firm with twenty (20) or more full or part-time attorneys will be deemed a medium/large firm.
- F. Describe the participation of women and minorities in your firm. Please note the number of women partners and associates and minority partners and associates and indicate the percentage of your firm that is owned by women and by minorities.
- G. Describe any special training or experience members of your firm possess that may assist in providing the requested legal services.
- H. Provide a description of your firm's presence in New Jersey. Note the location of each office, the number of attorneys resident in each office, whether they are partners or associates and whether attorneys not licensed in the State of New Jersey will be assigned to provide any of the requested legal services if your firm is appointed pursuant to this RFQ.
- I. Identify any State agencies or departments represented by the firm during the last five (5) years. For each matter, provide the name of the State agency or department, a description of the matter, the dates of the engagement and the name and contact information of the State employee responsible for overseeing the work of the firm on that matter.

- J. Identify any State agencies or departments before or against that the firm has regularly appeared on behalf of other clients and identify any potential conflicts of interest arising from representation of the Authority. Please note that the Authority, as a public entity, is precluded by the Rules of Professional Conduct from waiving conflicts of interest. See RPC 1.7(a)(2) and RPC 1.7(b) (2).
- K. Describe the firm's approach to maintaining responsive communications with the Attorney General and keeping the State and the Authority informed of problems and progress.
- L. Provide a representative listing of the firm's major private sector clients.
- M. Provide the name, address, telephone number, e-mail address, and facsimile number for the contact person in your firm.

### 6.3 Qualifications and Experience in Area of Law

Firms should provide the information set forth below for the issuance of the Bonds. Failure to meet the Minimum Qualifications will result in rejection of your proposal.

- A. Demonstrate specifically how the firm meets the Minimum Qualifications set forth above.
- B. Identify and give the office location of each attorney who practices in the areas of the law which are necessary in order to carry out the transactions described in this RFQ. Please indicate what percentage of your firm's practice is in these areas.
- C. List all attorneys in your firm that have at least five (5) years experience pertaining to these areas.
- D. The qualifications and experience of your firm to perform the required services in connection with the Bonds: list and describe in detail up to five (5) examples in which your firm served as bond counsel or underwriter's counsel and which are representative of the qualifications of your firm to undertake the proposed assignment. Please include information about the role your firm had, the type of issue and your firm's familiarity with the Authority.
- E. State the qualifications and experience of the particular attorneys proposed to staff the assignment, including that of your tax counsel. These attorneys should have worked on at least one of the matters mentioned in response to paragraph 6.3(D). Identify and describe in detail up to three (3) examples that demonstrate the qualifications of these individuals relevant to the anticipated assignment; indicate in each case the role the individual had in the matter and whether or not the



individual participated in the matter on behalf of your firm; indicate in what jurisdictions such individuals are admitted to practice law.

In addition, for each member of your firm that would be involved in handling the matter as Bond Counsel on behalf of the Authority, provide a detailed resume including information as to:

- (i) Education, including advanced degrees;
- (ii) Years and jurisdictions of admission to practice;
- (iii) Number of years engaged in practice pertaining to tax-exempt bonds;
- (iv) General work experience;
- (v) Any professional distinctions (e.g., certifications, teaching experience); and
- (vi) Office location of the attorney.

- F. As to the members of your firm who would be involved in handling the representation as Bond Counsel, describe the role each would play in the representation and the approximate percentage of the work that each would perform. Percentages for junior lawyers may be listed separately or in the aggregate.

#### 6.4 Other Qualification Information

- A. Identify all adverse determinations against your firm or any of its partners, associates or employees or persons acting on its behalf, with respect to actions, proceedings, claims or complaints of any kind under any local, state or Federal law, regulation, court rule, or Rule of Professional Conduct.
- B. Identify and describe in detail any indictments, convictions or civil offenses arising directly or indirectly from the conduct of business by your firm or any of its partners, associates, employees, or agents.
- C. Identify any material arrangements, relationships, associations, employment or other contacts that may cause a conflict of interest or the appearance of a conflict of interest if your firm acts as counsel to the Authority.
- D. Identify your firm's malpractice insurer and describe the insurance limits.
- E. Outside Counsel Guidelines. Counsel designated as Bond Counsel and retained on any specific matter shall be required to comply with the Outside Counsel Guidelines ("Guidelines") available for review at: <http://www.nj.gov/oag/law/pdf/rfq/oag-dol-Outside-Counsel-Guidelines.pdf>. The Guidelines may be updated from time to time. Such updates will be available at the same link. If your firm is designated as Bond Counsel, by submitting a

proposal, you agree that whenever your firm is retained, it shall abide by the Guidelines as written, as well as with any updates that may be made during the term.

- (a) Conflict of Interest. Section III of the Guidelines requires that counsel be free of any conflict of interest. Please note that the Authority, as a public entity, is precluded by the Rules of Professional Conduct from waiving conflicts of interest. See RPC 1.7(a)(2) and RPC 1.7(b)(2). If your firm is designated as Bond Counsel, you have a continuing obligation during the term to disclose to the Attorney General of New Jersey any actual or potential conflicts. Additionally, retained counsel shall not disclose any confidential information learned or received in any way as part of a retention, either during the retention or at any time after the retention has concluded.
- (b) Billing. Bond Counsel retained for a specific matter(s) shall be required to bill the Authority for their services in accordance with the Guidelines.
- (c) Costs. Bond Counsel shall have resources sufficient to advance all costs, including the costs of any necessary experts. Billing for costs shall be done in accordance with the Guidelines.

- F. Confirm that upon selection as special counsel your firm will provide updated Ownership Disclosure Form, Affirmative Action Supplement with Affirmative Action Employee Information Report and the certifications required by Public Law 2005, Chapters 51 and 271, Executive Order No. 117 (Corzine 2005) and Public Law 2012, Chapter 25 as further explained in Exhibit A. These forms are initially required by the RFQ and then required by law again at retention.
- G. Provide any additional information that may be relevant to the selection process, such as prior experience with the Authority or recent transactions of the same nature as the anticipated transactions, the need for other special counsel and anticipated extraordinary expenses.
- H. Additional Submission Requirements for All Office of the Attorney General – Diversity Questionnaire, Exhibit C. Your proposal must include a completed Diversity Questionnaire, provided in Exhibit C.

#### 6.5 Additional Requirements for all Office of the Attorney General, Division of Law Retention Agreements

The Additional Requirements set forth in Exhibit A are material terms of any retention resulting from this RFQ.

## 6.6 Fees

Please submit a blended hourly rate for:

- (a) Attorneys (partners, associates, counsel, etc.);
- (b) Paralegals;
- (c) Law clerks and other persons to be charged on an hourly basis.

Please include the percentage discount the proposed blended hourly fee represents from your customary hourly fee for similar work. Bond Counsel fees do not include reimbursables, such as computer time, postage, telephone charges, travel, duplicating, etc. Permitted expenses will be reimbursed to your firm in accordance with the Guidelines. If the fee proposals submitted by all qualified responders are in excess of those deemed reasonable by the Attorney General, a lower fee may be negotiated.

## 6.7 Fee Caps

Based on the blended hourly rates proposed by you in Section 6.6, please provide the upper limit of fees (the “fee caps”) for providing Bond Counsel services to the Authority for:

- (a) the Dredging Bonds;
- (b) the Round Valley Rehabilitation Bonds; and
- (c) Future Major Project(s) bonds,

**Please understand that any deviation from the fee cap established for the scope of services described above will be considered only as the result of unforeseeable substantial changes in the structure or circumstances of the transaction as agreed upon by the Attorney General or his/her designee.**

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## **7.0 PROPOSAL SUBMISSION**

7.1 One (1) original and five (5) sealed copies of the proposal must be marked “Bond Counsel RFQ for the New Jersey Water Supply Authority” and delivered **no later than 2:00 p.m. on July 21, 2020** to the following:

Kavin K. Mistry (1 original and 3 copies)  
Deputy Director  
Division of Law  
Robert J. Hughes Justice Complex  
First Floor-West Wing  
P.O. Box 112  
25 Market Street  
Trenton, New Jersey 08625-0112

Susan Buckley, Director of Finance and Administration (2 copies)  
New Jersey Water Supply Authority  
1851 Highway 31  
P.O. Box 5196  
Clinton, New Jersey 08809

Proposals may not be delivered by fax or e-mail.

**An electronic copy of the proposal must also be submitted to Deputy Director Kavin K. Mistry and to Susan Buckley in PDF format on a CD.**

7.2 The Attorney General will accept questions pertaining to this RFQ from all potential bidders electronically. Questions shall be directed to Kavin K. Mistry, Deputy Director, Division of Law at the following e-mail address:

RFQUESTIONS@LAW.NJOAG.GOV

**Please note that the “subject” line of your e-mail must specifically reference this RFQ as follows: “Bond Counsel RFQ for New Jersey Water Supply Authority.”**

Questions will be accepted until **2:00 pm on June 30, 2020.**

7.3 In the event the Attorney General determines that additional clarification to this RFQ or additional information is necessary, the Attorney General reserves the right to hold a conference call with eligible firms for the purpose of providing the same.

7.4 In the event that it becomes necessary to clarify or revise this RFQ, such clarification or revision will be by addendum. Any addendum to this RFQ will become part of this RFQ and part of any designation of a firm as Bond Counsel as a result of this RFQ.

ALL RFQ ADDENDA WILL BE POSTED ON THE DEPARTMENT OF LAW AND PUBLIC SAFETY'S WEBSITE.

It is the sole responsibility of the bidder to be knowledgeable of all addenda related to this RFQ.

- 7.5 The Attorney General reserves the right to interview the most qualified firms responding to this RFQ prior to making a final selection.
- 7.6 The Attorney General reserves the right to reject any and all proposals received in response to this RFQ, when determined to be in the State's best interest, and to waive minor noncompliance in a proposal, modify or amend, with the consent of the submitting firms, any statement, and to effect any agreement deemed by the Attorney General to be in his best interest, or in the best interests of the Division of Law. The Attorney General further reserves the right to make such investigations as he deems necessary as to the qualifications of any and all firms submitting proposals in response to this RFQ. In the event that all proposals are rejected, the Attorney General reserves the right to re-solicit proposals.
- 7.7 All documents and information submitted in response to this RFQ generally shall be made available to the general public as required by applicable law.
- 7.8 Neither the State nor the Authority will be responsible for any expenses in the preparation and/or presentation of the proposals and oral interviews, if any, or for the disclosure of any information or material received in connection with the solicitation, whether by negligence or otherwise.
- 7.9 Failure by a firm to meet the Minimum Qualifications set forth in Section 2.0 will result in the proposal's immediate rejection.

## **8.0 SELECTION PROCESS**

- 8.1 All proposals will be reviewed to determine responsiveness. The Attorney General may reject non-responsive proposals without evaluation, but may waive minor non-compliance. An Evaluation Committee will evaluate responsive proposals. The Evaluation Committee will have a minimum of three (3) members and may include a representative(s) from the Authority. The following evaluation criteria categories, separate or combined in some manner, and not necessarily listed in order of significance, will be used to evaluate proposals received in response to this RFQ.
- Knowledge and experience of named attorneys as applicable with:
    - State laws relevant to bonds;
    - Federal securities, tax and other laws relevant to bonds;

Experience with complex financings;

- Knowledge and experience of the firm with bond work and similar transactions;
- Resources of the firm;
- Approach to communication with the Division of Law;
- Past experience of the State and the Authority with the firm and/or named attorneys; and
- Fees.

- 8.2 Proposals will be ranked based on the above criteria. Bond Counsel will be selected by the Attorney General in consultation with the Authority. The Attorney General reserves the right to reject any and all responses to the RFQ; waive any requirements or minor informalities; modify or amend, with the consent of the submitting firms, any statement; and to effect any agreement deemed by the Attorney General to be in his best interest, or in the best interests of the State and the Authority.
- 8.3 The Attorney General reserves the right, in the Attorney General's sole discretion, to require interviews or oral presentations from the most qualified firms that submitted proposals prior to making a final determination.
- 8.4 The recommendation for selection is submitted to the Attorney General for the Attorney General's determination, in the Attorney General's discretion, as to which firm, if any, shall be designated as Bond Counsel and the Attorney General's designation must be approved by the Governor, in the Governor's discretion.
- 8.5 Notification. The Division shall notify the firm selected as Bond Counsel and the firm selected shall be posted on the Division's website at:  
<https://www.nj.gov/oag/law/outside-counsel.htm>.

## **9.0 ADDITIONAL TERMS**

- 9.1 No endorsement: Designation as Bond Counsel does not constitute an endorsement by the State of New Jersey, the Attorney General or the Department of Law and Public Safety.
- 9.2 Effect of RFQ response: A response to this RFQ will not bind or otherwise obligate the State of New Jersey to engage the responding firm as Bond Counsel.
- 9.3 Attorney General's Authority Not Constrained: Nothing in this RFQ is intended to limit or constrain the discretion of the Attorney General in exercising any authority, duty, prerogative or power established or recognized by the State Constitution, statutes, Executive Orders, regulations, or case law.
- 9.4 Designation as Bond Counsel. Selection of a firm as Bond Counsel will not bind or otherwise obligate the State or the Authority to retain the listed firm for legal services. Selection of a firm as Bond Counsel will not guarantee any other form of employment or engagement.

## **10.0 SPECIAL COUNSEL DESIGNATIONS AND RETENTION LETTERS**

- 10.1 Special Counsel Designation. A firm selected pursuant to this RFQ with the approval of the Attorney General and the Governor, will be the subject of a special counsel designation, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 52:17A-13. A firm may not represent the Authority unless it is given a special counsel designation. A special counsel designation, however, is not a retention for a specific matter and does not entitle a firm to be retained for a specific matter. The terms and conditions set forth in this RFQ shall be the terms and conditions of the special counsel designation.
- 10.2 Retention Letter. A firm may not represent the Authority unless it also executes a retention letter. The firm may be required to submit updated certifications, as required by Exhibit A and will receive a retention letter to countersign. The terms and conditions set forth in this RFQ shall be included in addition to the terms and conditions in the retention letter.

## **11.0 EVALUATIONS**

Not less frequently than annually, the Attorney General or his designee shall evaluate the firm's performance. The evaluation will focus on responsiveness; quality of work; adequacy and appropriate utilization of resources; adherence to invoice submittal standards; and cost effectiveness. The Attorney General or his designee will advise each firm of any problem areas. If, as the result of one or more evaluations, the Attorney General determines, in his sole discretion, that a firm should be removed from the engagement as Bond Counsel, the firm may be removed after written notice is provided to the firm. Other than this written notice, nothing in this RFQ creates any rights, entitlements, privileges, or presumptions in favor of a law firm that would constrain the Attorney General's authority to remove a firm from being Bond Counsel.

Attachments: Exhibit A – Additional Requirements for all Office of Attorney General, Division of Law Retention Agreements  
Exhibit B – Cover Sheet  
Exhibit C – Diversity Questionnaire

## **Exhibit A to Special Counsel Retention Agreements**

These additional terms and conditions are required by law, as indicated herein (Additional Terms) and shall be executed by the Special Counsel prior to the Division of Law executing any Special Counsel Retention Agreement with the Division of Law on behalf of any of its clients. These Additional Terms shall be incorporated into any Special Counsel Retention Agreement (Retention Agreement) executed by the Division of Law and Special Counsel.

### **I. Special Counsel shall complete the following forms or otherwise satisfy the following requirements prior to the State executing a Retention Agreement with Special Counsel:**

#### **A. Ownership Disclosure**

The Ownership Disclosure addresses the requirements of N.J.S.A. 52:25-24.2, for any contract or retention agreement and must be completed and submitted either with the proposal or with the signed Retention Agreement. The Retention Agreement cannot be finalized by the Division of Law unless and until the Ownership Disclosure is properly completed and accepted. The form can be downloaded from the Department of Treasury website under the heading Vendor Forms. It is located at:

<http://www.state.nj.us/treasury/purchase/forms/OwnershipDisclosure.pdf>

#### **B. Affirmative Action Supplement with Affirmative Action Employee Information Report – Form AA-302**

The Affirmative Action Supplement with Affirmative Action Employee Information Report addresses the requirements of N.J.S.A. 10:5-31 to -34 and N.J.A.C. 17:27.3.1 et seq., for any contract or retention agreement. The Special Counsel agrees that and the Special Counsel must either:

1. complete and submit the Employee Information Report either with the proposal or with the signed Retention Agreement. The Retention Agreement is not completed unless and until the form is properly completed and submitted to the Division of Law, as well as to the Contract Compliance and Audit Unit within the New Jersey Department of Treasury, Division of Purchase and Property along with a \$150.00 check. The form can be downloaded from the Department of Treasury website under the heading Vendor Forms:

<https://www.state.nj.us/treasury/purchase/forms.shtml>.

The instructions for the form are available at:

<http://www.state.nj.us/treasury/purchase/forms/EmployeeInformationReportInstructions-aa302ins.pdf>;

or

2. present to the Division of Law a current Certificate of Employee Information Report issued by the Contract Compliance and Audit Unit within the New Jersey Department of Treasury, Division of Purchase and Property; or
3. present to the Division of Law a copy of its existing federally approved or sanctioned affirmative action report.

#### **C. New Jersey Business Registration**

Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 52:32-44 (b), Special Counsel must either

1. submit with the signed Retention Agreement a copy of a valid New Jersey Business Registration. If the business is not already registered with the New Jersey Division of Revenue, registration can be completed on line at the Division of Revenue website:

<http://www.state.nj.us/treasury/revenue/busregcert.shtml>;

or

2. advise that a copy of the valid New Jersey Business Registration is on file with the Division of Law and that the firm has not changed its name, address or tax identification number.

#### **D. Certification of Non-Involvement in Prohibited Activities in Iran**

Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 52:32-58, Special Counsel must certify that neither Special Counsel, nor one of its parents, subsidiaries, and/or affiliates (as explained in N.J.S.A. 52:32-56(e)(3)), is listed on the Department of the Treasury's List of Persons or Entities Engaging in Prohibited Investment Activities in Iran and that neither is involved in any of the



investment activities set forth in N.J.S.A. 52:32-56(f). If Special Counsel is unable to so certify, Special Counsel shall provide a detailed and precise description of such activities. The form is available at:  
<http://www.state.nj.us/treasury/purchase/forms/DisclosureofInvestmentActivitiesinIran.pdf>.

**E. New Jersey State W-9 and Vendor Questionnaire – NJStart Vendor Registration**

No Special Counsel shall be paid unless Special Counsel has properly completed New Jersey State W-9 and Vendor Questionnaire on file with the State.

If Special Counsel has not registered with NJStart, it must do so. This will also provide all of the W-9 information required.

General Information, including an explanatory video about NJStart is available at:

<http://www.state.nj.us/treasury/purchase/vendor.shtml>.

Use this link to register for or access the NJStart system:

<https://www.njstart.gov/bsol/>.

If Special Counsel has previously submitted a State of New Jersey W-9 and Vendor Questionnaire or has previously registered with NJStart, and has not changed its name, address or tax identification number, the firm need not register with NJStart. The firms should notify the Division of Law that its NJ Start Registration is current.

**Note:** If at any time Special Counsel needs to revise its W-9 for any reason, including a change in firm name, address, tax identification number, Special Counsel shall be required to register to use NJStart, if it has not done so, and make the revisions to the W-9 and Vendor Questionnaire in the NJStart system.

**F. Two-Year Chapter 51/Executive Order 117 Certification and Disclosure of Political Contributions**

Prior to entering any Retention Agreement retention agreement under which the State will pay more than \$17,500 to the Business Entity proposed as the Special Counsel, the Business Entity shall submit the Certification and Disclosure form, certifying that no contributions prohibited by Chapter 51 have been solicited or made by the Business Entity and reporting all contributions the Business Entity made during the preceding four years to any political organization organized under 26 U.S.C. ' 527 of the Internal Revenue Code that also meets the definition of a continuing political committee@ within the mean of N.J.S.A. 19:44A-3(n) and N.J.A.C. 19:25-1.7. Additional information about Chapter 51 and Executive Order 117, including a Summary and a Q&A, is available at:

<https://www.state.nj.us/treasury/purchase/forms.shtml>

The required form and instructions for completion and submission to the Deputy Attorney General prior to the finalization of the Retention Agreement are available for on the New Jersey Division of Purchase and Property's website, under the heading "Vendor Forms Required for Contract Award" at:

<https://www.state.nj.us/treasury/purchase/forms.shtml>

**Note: If Special Counsel has not registered with NJStart, it will need to do so. NJStart registration is necessary for the review of the Certification and Disclosure.**

If the Special Counsel has a currently valid Two-Year Chapter 51/Executive Order 117 Vendor Certification and has not made any contribution prohibited by Chapter 51, the prior notice from the Chapter 51 Unit of the current two-year approval may be submitted to the Division of Law instead of a new form.

**Special Counsel is required, on a continuing basis, to report any contributions and solicitations Special Counsel makes during the term of the Retention Agreement, and any extension(s) thereof, at the time any such contribution or solicitation is made. Failure to do so is a breach of the Retention Agreement.**

Special Counsel's failure to submit the form will preclude the Division of Law's countersignature of the Retention Agreement. The State Treasurer or his designee shall review the Disclosures submitted by the Special Counsel pursuant to this section, as well as any other pertinent information concerning the contributions or reports thereof by the intended Special Counsel, prior to award, or during the term of the retention agreement. If the State Treasurer determines that any contribution or action by the Special Counsel violated Chapter 51 and EO 117 the State Treasurer shall disqualify the

Special Counsel from award of such contract. If the State Treasurer or his designees determines that any contribution or action constitutes a breach of contract that poses a conflict of interest, pursuant to Chapter 51 or EO 117, the State Treasurer shall disqualify the Special Counsel from award of such contract.

**G. Disclosure Requirement of P.L. 2005, c. 271**

Pursuant to P.L. 2005, c.271 ("Chapter 271") every Business Entity contracting with the State is required to disclose its (and its principals=) political contributions within the immediately preceding twelve (12) month period. No prospective Special Counsel will be precluded from being retained by virtue of the information provided in the Chapter 271 disclosure, provided the form is fully and accurately completed. Prior to being retained, the Special Counsel anticipated to be selected will be required to submit Chapter 271 disclosures if the cost of Retention Agreement is anticipated to be in excess of \$17,500. This requirement is in addition to the requirements of Chapter 51 and EO 117. The form is at:

<http://www.state.nj.us/treasury/purchase/forms/CertandDisc2706.pdf>

**II. Special Counsel Certification**

**A. Source Disclosure Certification**

Special Counsel's execution of these Additional Terms to the Retention Agreement will confirm that Special Counsel agrees, in accordance with Executive Order 129 (2004) and N.J.S.A. 52:34-13.2 (P.L.2005, c. 92), that all services performed for the Retention Agreement shall be performed within the United States. In the event that all services performed for the Retention Agreement shall NOT be performed within the United States, Special Counsel shall send the Deputy Attorney General who executes the Retention Agreement a letter that states with specificity the reasons why the services cannot be so performed. Any such letter shall require review and approval pursuant to N.J.S.A. 52:34-14.2 prior to execution of this Retention Agreement or the delivery of the services which will not be performed within the US.

**III. The Special Counsel acknowledges that the Retention Agreement is subject to the following terms and conditions:**

**A. Breach of Requirements of Chapter 51 and Executive Order 117 (2008)** (Also referred to as "Pay to Play Restrictions," N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.13 to -20.25, or Executive Order 134(2004))

In order to safeguard the integrity of State government procurement by imposing restrictions to insulate the negotiation and award of State contracts, including retention agreements, from political contributions that pose the risk of improper influence, purchase of access, or the appearance thereof, the Legislature enacted P.L. 2005, c.51 (codified at N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.13 to -20.25) (Chapter 51), on March 22, 2005, effective retroactive to October 15, 2004, superseding the terms of Executive Order 134(2004). In addition, on September 24, 2008, Executive Order 117 was issued and made effective on November 15, 2008 (EO 117) which set forth additional limitations on the ability of executive branch agencies to contract with business entities that have made or solicited certain contributions.

Thus, pursuant to the requirements of Chapter 51 and EO 117, it shall be a material breach of the terms of the Retention Agreement for Special Counsel to do any of the following during the term of the Retention Agreement:

1. make or solicit a contribution in violation of the Chapter 51 or EO 117;
2. knowingly conceal or misrepresent a contribution given or received;
3. make or solicit contributions through intermediaries for the purpose of concealing or misrepresenting the source of the contribution;
4. make or solicit any contribution on the condition or with the agreement that it will be contributed to a campaign committee or any candidate or holder of the public office of Governor, or of Lieutenant Governor, or to any State, county or municipal party committee, or any legislative leadership committee;
5. engage or employ a lobbyist or Special Counsel with the intent or understanding that such lobbyist or Special Counsel would make or solicit any contribution, which if made or solicited by the business entity itself, would subject that entity to the restrictions of Chapter 51 or EO117;

6. fund contributions made by third parties, including Special Counsels, attorneys, family members, and employees;
7. engage in any exchange of contributions to circumvent the intent of the Chapter 51 or EO 117; or
8. directly or indirectly through or by any other person or means, do any act which would subject that entity to the restrictions of the Chapter 51 or EO 117.

#### **B. New Jersey Conflict of Interest Law**

The New Jersey Conflict of Interest Law, N.J.S.A. 52:13D-12 et seq. and Executive Order 189 (1988), prohibit certain actions by persons or entities which provide goods or services to any State Agency. Specifically:

1. No Special Counsel shall pay, offer to pay, or agree to pay, either directly or indirectly, any fee, commission, compensation, gift, gratuity, or other thing of value of any kind to any State officer or employee or special State officer or employee, as defined by N.J.S.A. 52:13D-13b. and e., in the Department of the Treasury or any other agency with which such Special Counsel transacts or offers or proposes to transact business, or to any member of the immediate family, as defined by N.J.S.A. 52:13D-13i., of any such officer or employee, or any partnership, firm, or corporation with which they are employed or associated, or in which such officer or employee has an interest within the meaning of N.J.S.A. 52:13D-13g.
2. The solicitation of any fee, commission, compensation, gift, gratuity or other thing of value by any State officer or employee or special State officer or employee from any Special Counsel shall be reported in writing forthwith by Special Counsel to the Attorney General and the Executive Commission on Ethical Standards.
3. No Special Counsel may, directly or indirectly, undertake any private business, commercial or entrepreneurial relationship with, whether or not pursuant to employment, contract or other agreement, express or implied, or sell any interest in such Special Counsel to, any State officer or employee or special State officer or employee having any duties or responsibilities in connection with the purchase, acquisition or sale of any property or services by or to any State agency or any instrumentality thereof, or with any person, firm or entity with which he is employed or associated or in which he has an interest within the meaning of N.J.S.A. 52:13D-13g. Any relationships subject to this provision shall be reported in writing forthwith to the Executive Commission on Ethical Standards, which may grant a waiver of this restriction upon application of the State officer or employee or special State officer or employee upon a finding that the present or proposed relationship does not present the potential, actuality or appearance of a conflict of interest.
4. No Special Counsel shall influence, or attempt to influence or cause to be influenced, any State officer or employee or special State officer or employee in his official capacity in any manner which might tend to impair the objectivity or independence of judgment of said officer or employee.
5. No Special Counsel shall cause or influence, or attempt to cause or influence, any State officer or employee or special State officer or employee to use, or attempt to use, his official position to secure unwarranted privileges or advantages for the Special Counsel or any other person.
6. The provisions cited above in paragraph H(I). through H(V) shall not be construed to prohibit a State officer or employee or special State officer or employee from receiving gifts from or contracting with Special Counsel under the same terms and conditions as are offered or made available to members of the general public subject to any guidelines the Executive Commission on Ethical Standards may promulgate.

#### **C. Obligation to Maintain Records**

Special Counsel shall maintain all records for products and/or services delivered against the contract for a period of five (5) years from the date of final payment under the Retention Agreement unless otherwise specified in the Retention Agreement. Such records shall be made available to the State, including the Comptroller, for audit and review upon request.

**D. Affirmative Action and Equal Employment Requirements:**

Pursuant to N.J.A.C. 17:27-3.5 Special Counsel agrees that:

1. Special Council or its or subcontractor, where applicable, will not discriminate against any employee or applicant for employment because of age, race, creed, color, national origin, ancestry, marital status, affectional or sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, disability, nationality or sex. Except with respect to affectional or sexual orientation and gender identity or expression, Special Counsel will ensure that equal employment opportunity is afforded to such applicants in recruitment and employment, and that all employees are treated during employment, without regard to their age, race, creed, color, national origin, ancestry, marital status, affectional or sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, disability, nationality or sex. Such equal employment opportunity shall include, but not be limited to, the following: employment, upgrading, demotion, or transfer; recruitment or recruitment advertising; layoff or termination; rates of pay or other forms of compensation; and selection for training, including apprenticeship. Special Counsel agrees to post in conspicuous places, available to employees and applicants for employment, notices to be provided by the public agency compliance officer setting forth provisions of this nondiscrimination clause;
2. Special Counsel or subcontractor, where applicable, will, in all solicitations or advertisements for employees placed by or on behalf of Special Counsel, state that all qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to age, race, creed, color, national origin, ancestry, marital status, affectional or sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, disability, nationality or sex;
3. Special Counsel or subcontractor will send to each labor union, with which it has a collective bargaining agreement, if any, a notice, to be provided by the agency contracting officer, advising the labor union of the Special Counsel's commitments under this chapter and shall post copies of the notice in conspicuous places available to employees and applicants for employment; and
4. Special Counsel or subcontractor, where applicable, agrees to comply with any regulations promulgated by the Treasurer pursuant to N.J.S.A.10:5-31 et seq., as amended and supplemented from time to time, and codified at N.J.A.C. 17:27-1.1 et seq.

Further, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 17:27-3.7, Special Counsel agrees that:

1. Special Counsel and its subcontractor, if any, agrees to make good faith efforts to meet targeted county employment goals established in accordance with N.J.A.C. 17:27-5.2.
2. Special Counsel and its subcontractor, if any, agrees to inform in writing its appropriate recruitment agencies including, but not limited to, employment agencies, placement bureaus, colleges, universities, and labor unions, that it does not discriminate on the basis of age, race, creed, color, national origin, ancestry, marital status, affectional or sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, disability, nationality or sex, and that it will discontinue the use of any recruitment agency which engages in direct or indirect discriminatory practices.
3. Special Counsel and its subcontractor, if any, agrees to revise any of its testing procedures, if necessary, to assure that all personnel testing conforms with the principles of job-related testing, as established by the statutes and court decisions of the State of New Jersey and as established by applicable Federal law and applicable Federal court decisions.
4. In conforming with the targeted employment goals, Special Counsel and its subcontractor, if any, agrees to review all procedures relating to transfer, upgrading, downgrading and layoff to ensure that all such actions are taken without regard to age, race, creed, color, national origin, ancestry, marital status, affectional or sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, disability, nationality or sex, consistent with the statutes and court decisions of the State of New Jersey, and applicable Federal law and applicable Federal court decisions.

**IV. Special Counsel is hereby notified of the following:**

**A. Chapter 271 Annual Disclosure Statement Filing Requirement**

If Special Counsel receives contracts in excess of \$50,000 from a public entity during a calendar year, Special Counsel is responsible to file an annual disclosure statement on political contributions with the New Jersey Election Law Enforcement Commission (ELEC), pursuant to N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.13 (P.L. 2005, c. 271, section 3) It is Special Counsel=s responsibility to determine if filing is necessary. Failure to so file can result in the imposition of financing penalties by ELEC. Additional information about this requirement, and the form to be filed is available from ELEC at (888)313-3532 or <https://www.elec.nj.gov/pay2play/form.html>.

**B. Set-off for State Taxes**

Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 54:49-19 et seq. (P.L. 1995, c159), and notwithstanding the provision of any other law to the contrary, whenever any taxpayer, partnership or S corporation under contract to provide goods or services or construction projects to the State of New Jersey or its agencies or instrumentalities, including the legislative and judicial branches of State government, is entitled to payment for those goods or services at the same time a taxpayer, partner or shareholder of that entity is indebted for any State tax, the Director of the Division of Taxation shall seek to set off so much of that payment as shall be necessary to satisfy the indebtedness. The amount set-off shall not allow for the deduction of any expense or other deduction which might be attributable to the taxpayer, partner, or shareholder subject to set-off under this Act.

The Director of the Division of Taxation shall give notice of the set-off to the taxpayer, partner or shareholder and provide an opportunity for a hearing within thirty (30) days of such notice under the procedures for protests established under N.J.S.A. 54:49-19. No request for conference, protest, or subsequent appeal to the Tax Court from any protest shall stay the collection of the indebtedness.

**C. Diane B. Allen Equal Pay Act**

The Diane B. Allen Equal Pay Act, L. 2018, c. 9, requires State contractors providing professional services to the State or a State entity to file information about its employee pay practices with the New Jersey Department of Labor and Workforce Development. Information about the Act and the reporting requirement is available at: <https://nj.gov/labor/equalpay/equalpay.html>

**Special Counsel hereby agrees to these Additional Term and Conditions:**

**Special Counsel Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Special Counsel Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Special Counsel Firm:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

**EXHIBIT B**

**MANDATORY COVER SHEET**



EXHIBIT B:  
COVERSHEET, AGREEMENT AND CERTIFICATION FOR  
STATE OF NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF LAW & PUBLIC SAFETY, DIVISION OF LAW  
PROPOSAL FOR SPECIAL COUNSEL DESIGNATION

Name of Special Counsel RFQ to which you are responding:

PROPERTY ACQUISITION AND CONDEMNATION PROPOSAL

Firm Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Firm Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of Attorneys in the Firm: \_\_\_\_\_

Attorney to Contact for this Proposal: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone Number of Contact for this Proposal: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address of Contact for this Proposal: \_\_\_\_\_

AGREEMENT AND CERTIFICATION

By submitting this proposal:

I agree, on behalf of my firm, that my firm will abide by the Outside Counsel Guidelines available at: <http://www.nj.gov/oag/law/rfqs.htm> and with any updates thereto during the term of a Special Counsel Designation and in the event that my firm is retained by the Division of Law.

I understand that in the event that my firm is selected and receives a Special Counsel Designation, the Special Counsel Designation is not a guarantee that my firm will be retained for any matter.

I agree that in the event that my firm receives a Special Counsel Designation and is retained, my firm shall bill at the rates [set forth in the RFQ/set forth in the Special Counsel Designation], and that the rates shall not increase during the term of the Special Counsel Designation.

I am confirming all of the Statements in the RFQ that my firms is required to confirm.

I warrant that I have the authority to bind my firm to the Proposal submitted and to any retention my firm may receive as a result.

I certify that the information in this proposal has been reviewed by me and is true and accurate to the best of my knowledge.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Contact Attorney

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

EXHIBIT C

DIVERSITY QUESTIONNAIRE





## OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL DEPARTMENT OF LAW AND PUBLIC SAFETY

### 2020 OUTSIDE COUNSEL DIVERSITY QUESTIONNAIRE

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The Office of the Attorney General/Department of Law and Public Safety recognizes diversity and inclusion as a core value that strengthens our ability to serve the people of New Jersey. We believe that an analysis of the participation and roles of certain groups that have historically been underrepresented in the legal profession is of particular importance to the Department. To that end we are asking the private practice law firms that we engage to complete this survey, so that we may benchmark and track information about diversity and inclusion among our outside counsel.

#### INSTRUCTIONS:

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1. **Applicable Period.** Except as otherwise noted, please provide information limited to your law firm's New Jersey Based Attorneys, current as of January 01, 2020
2. **Voluntarily Self-Reported Data Only.** All categories of reporting in this survey are limited to information that has been voluntarily self-reported to your firm by your firm's attorneys whereby they identify themselves as being within a particular demographic group ("**Identify**"), i.e. Gender, Race or Ethnicity categories, LGBTQIA, or having a Disability.
3. **Race/Ethnicity.** For ease of reporting, the race and ethnicity categories requested in the chart below are consistent with the categories established by the United States Equal Employment Opportunity Commission for mandatory reporting by certain employers. Detailed descriptions of the relevant Race/Ethnicity categories are available via <https://www.eeoc.gov/employers/eeo1survey/2007instructions.cfm>
4. **LGBTQIA.** The category "**LGBTQIA**" in the chart below refers to individuals who Identify as lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer/questioning, intersex or asexual.
5. **Disability.** The category "**Disability**" in the chart below refers to individuals who Identify as having a Disability. As used herein, "**Disability**" with respect to an individual is defined consistently with 28 CFR 35.108(a)(1)(i): "a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more of the major life activities of such individual."
6. **"New Jersey Based Attorneys"** means attorneys who are based in New Jersey who have an ownership interest in and/or who are employed by your law firm. Do not include temporary, *per diem* or contract attorneys in your responses. For the purposes of this definition, "**based in New Jersey**" means that the primary workplace location for the attorney is New Jersey, *i.e.* the law firm office where the attorney performs the greatest amount of work time, as compared with any other of your law firm's offices, is located in New Jersey.
7. **Multiple Categories.** If an attorney fits more than one of the requested categories, please count such individual in all of the applicable categories.

8. **Numerical Data Responses.** Please provide numerical data in response to the charts, entering “0” where the number is zero. If the requested information is not applicable to your firm, please enter “N/A” as your response.
9. **Definitions.** As used herein:
- a. **“Equity Partner”** means an attorney who has the title Partner, Shareholder, Member, Principal or another similar title, who has an ownership interest in the law firm.
  - b. **“Non-Equity Partner”** means an attorney who has the title Partner, Shareholder, Member, Principal or another similar title, who is employed by the firm but has no ownership interest in the law firm.
  - c. **“Counsel”** means an attorney who has the title of Counsel, Senior Counsel, Of Counsel, Special Counsel, Senior Attorney, or another similar title and is not an associate, Equity Partner or Non-Equity Partner, and who is a permanent, salaried employee of the firm and not a temporary or contract attorney.
  - d. **“Associate”** means an attorney who has the title of Associate, Attorney, or other similar title, and is not an Equity Partner, Non-Equity Partner or Counsel.
  - e. **“Minority-Owned Firm”** means your law firm is at least 51 percent owned, controlled, operated, and managed by an individual or individuals who are **“minority group members,”** as such term is defined by the National Minority Supplier Development Council (see, <http://www.nmsdc.org/mbes/what-is-an-mbe/>)
  - f. **“Women-Owned Firm”** means your law firm is at least 51 percent owned, controlled, operated, and managed by a woman or women.

## GENERAL FIRM INFORMATION

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1. Firm Name:\_\_\_\_\_
2. Name of Head of Firm (e.g. Managing Partner, Chairperson)\_\_\_\_\_
3. Person Responsible for Completion of Survey  
Name:\_\_\_\_\_  
Title:\_\_\_\_\_  
Email Address:\_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone Number:\_\_\_\_\_
4. Please indicate the number of attorneys employed by your law firm on a full-time basis
  - a. Firm-wide:\_\_\_\_\_
  - b. In the US:\_\_\_\_\_
  - c. In New Jersey: \_\_\_\_\_
5. Is your law firm Minority-Owned? ☐ YES ☐ NO
  - a. If yes, please indicate if it is certified as such? ☐ YES ☐ NO
  - b. If yes, please list the name of the certifying entity: \_\_\_\_\_
6. Is your law firm Women-Owned? ☐ YES ☐ NO
  - a. If yes, please indicate if it is certified as such? ☐ YES ☐ NO
  - b. If yes, please list the name of the certifying entity: \_\_\_\_\_

## DEMOGRAPHIC INFORMATION

Please provide the information sought in the chart below.

JOB TITLE	RACE or ETHNICITY							GENDER		LGBTQIA	DISABILITY	TOTAL
	Hispanic or Latino	White	Black or African American	Asian	Native American or Alaskan Native	Two or More Races	Unknown	Women	Men			
ALL ATTORNEYS FIRM-WIDE – # of NJ Based Attorneys who held the following positions as of January 1, 2020												
EQUITY PARTNERS												
NON-EQUITY PARTNERS												
COUNSEL												
ASSOCIATES												
FIRM LEADERSHIP – # NJ Based Attorneys who served in leadership positions as of January 1, 2020												
MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE (or top firm governing committee)												
ATTORNEYS IN-CHARGE OF FIRM OFFICES (for firms having multiple offices)												
DEPARTMENT HEADS (for firm-wide departments that include multiple practice groups and/or offices)												
PRACTICE GROUP LEADERS (for specialized areas of practice within larger departments)												
FIRM OFFICE LEADERS (local departmental or practice group)												
FIRM-WIDE COMMITTEE HEAD (top-most committee leadership role)												
PARTNER COMMITTEE (decides entry to partnership)												
COMPENSATION COMMITTEE (decides attorney compensation)												
HIRINGPARTNER(S) (final decision-making authority for new attorney hiring)												

JOB TITLE	RACE or ETHNICITY							GENDER		LGBTQIA	DISABILITY	TOTAL
	Hispanic or Latino	White	Black or African American	Asian	Native American or Alaskan Native	Two or More Races	Unknown	Women	Men			
PROMOTIONS – # of NJ Based Attorneys who were promoted during the 1-year period ending January 1, 2020												
ASSOCIATE TO EQUITY PARTNER												
ASSOCIATE TO NON-EQUITY PARTNER												
ASSOCIATE TO COUNSEL												
COUNSEL TO EQUITY PARTNER												
COUNSEL TO NON-EQUITY PARNTER												
ATTRITION – # of NJ Based Attorneys who left the firm (whether voluntarily or otherwise) during the 1-year period ending January 1, 2020												
EQUITY PARTNERS												
NON-EQUITY PARTNERS												
COUNSEL												
ASSOCIATES												
NEW HIRES – # of NJ Based Attorneys who were hired by the firm during the 1-year period ending January 1, 2020												
EQUITY PARTNERS												
NON-EQUITY PARTNERS												
COUNSEL												
ASSOCIATES												
PART TIME ATTORNEYS – # of NJ Based Attorneys who regularly worked on a part-time schedule during the 1-year period ending January 1, 2020												
EQUITY PARTNERS												
NON-EQUITY PARTNERS												
COUNSEL												
ASSOCIATES												