

COMMISSION MEETING DATE:

October 25, 2022

Vendor Name (& Location):			
Chasan Lamparello Mallon & Cappuzzo, PC - Secaucus, NJ Gluck Walrath LLP – Freehold, NJ Weiner Law Group LLP – Parsippany, NJ			
Description:			
Special Counsel - Workers' Compensation			
PROCUREMENT TYPE:			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Competitive	<input type="checkbox"/>	Non-Competitive
SOLICITATION TYPE:			
<input type="checkbox"/>	Bid	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	RFP
<input type="checkbox"/>	Sole Source	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other
<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	State Contract

Number: RM-173265			
\$ 1,500,000.00			
Budget Code:			
Various			
Contract Term (Including Options, if any):			
2-year contract with the option to extend for two (2) additional one-year terms at the discretion of the Authority.			
Funding Source: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Operating <input type="checkbox"/> Capital			
FS	Funding subject to authorization through WRAF approval process.	F	Funds are available in the appropriate operating/capital budgets for the referenced procurements.
<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	
FF	Future Funded	FP	Subject to funding availability at the time of ordering.
<input type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Requesting Department:			
Law			
Director/Manager:			
Ann Christine Monica			
Publicly advertised in the Star Ledger and the Asbury Park Press and posted on the Authority's and State's websites on August 17, 2022. Publicly advertised in the New Jersey Law Journal on August 22, 2022.			

The New Jersey Turnpike Authority ("Authority") issued a Request for Qualifications ("RFQ") for Special Counsel - Workers' Compensation ("Counsel") to assist the Law and Human Resource Departments in providing legal services for the Authority's Workers' Compensation program. The services will include consulting with various Authority staff, representing the Authority at various workers' compensation courts, and briefing staff and the Board on workers' compensation cases. The contract is for a period of two (2) years with an option to extend for two additional one-year terms at the discretion of the Authority. Fixed hourly rates for partners (\$140.00) and legal assistants/paralegals (\$75.00) were set forth in the RFQ.

The RFQ was advertised in the Star Ledger, the Asbury Park Press, the New Jersey Law Journal and posted on the websites of the Authority and State of New Jersey. In addition, 23 firms listed on the Authority's vendor database were notified of the procurement. On September 14, 2022, the Authority received Qualifications from the following eight (8) firms:

- | | |
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| 1. Biancamano & DiStefano, P.C., Edison, NJ | 5. Gluck Walrath LLP, Freehold, NJ |
| 2. Brown & Connery, LLP, Haddonfield, NJ* | 6. Malamut and Associates, LLC, Cherry Hill, NJ |
| 3. Chasan Lamparello Mallon & Cappuzzo, PC, Secaucus, NJ | 7. Shaffer Shain Jalloh PC, Bernardsville, NJ |
| 4. Florio Kenny Raval, LLP, Lyndhurst, NJ | 8. Weiner Law Group LLP, Parsippany, NJ |

*Withdrawn
October 20, 2022

An Evaluation Committee (“Committee”), established by the Executive Director, consisted of the Deputy Executive Director, Director of Human Resources, Director of Internal Audit, and HR Senior Benefits Manager. The Acting Director of Law and the Director of Procurement and Materials Management served as non-voting members of the Committee. The Committee reviewed the written Qualifications and invited representatives from the following three (3) top-ranked firms, namely: Chasan Lamparello Mallon & Cappuzzo, PC (“Chasan”); Gluck Walrath LLP (“Gluck”); and Weiner Law Group LLP. Oral presentations were held on October 11th and October 19th. Based on the written and oral presentations, the Committee then compiled a report that details the evaluation process and sets forth its findings and recommendations.

After a thorough review of all Qualifications and oral presentations, the Committee recommends that contracts be awarded to Gluck Walrath LLP, Chasan Lamparello Mallon & Cappuzzo PC, and Weiner Law Group LLP as Special Counsel-Workers’ Compensation. The Committee found that all three (3) firms have vast experience and are qualified to perform the Services. Both Gluck and Chasan have served as this Special Counsel for the Authority and are the current incumbents. The Committee also felt that a pool of firms could best serve the Authority for its volume of workers’ compensation claims.

This professional services procurement was conducted in accordance with *N.J.S.A. 27:23-6.1*, *N.J.A.C. 19:9-2.9*, Executive Order No. 37 (Corzine 2006), and Executive Order No. 26 (Whitman 1994). These awards are contingent upon the Treasurer of the State of New Jersey completing the review of all documents submitted by the selected awardees pursuant to Public Law 2005, Chapter 51 and Executive Order No. 117 (Corzine 2008), and having no objection to same.

Accordingly, authorization is requested to enter into two-year agreements with Gluck Walrath LLP, Chasan Lamparello Mallon & Cappuzzo PC, and Weiner Law Group LLP as Special Counsel-Workers Compensation in an aggregate amount not to exceed \$1,500,000.00 for the two-year contract. Authorization is also requested for the Executive Director to approve each of the two (2) optional one-year extensions upon satisfactory performance by the firms, subject to funding availability at the time of service. It is further requested that the Executive Director be authorized to extend any existing agreements with current Special Counsel – Workers’ Compensation in the event it is deemed appropriate and cost-effective to allow representation to continue with respect to pending matters. Finally, it is requested that the Executive Director be authorized to take such actions and execute any documents as may be deemed necessary and appropriate to further the intent and purpose of the within authorizations.