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Executive Council of Iowa

CAPITOL BUILDING
DES MOINES, IOWA 50319
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August 3, 2026

Mr. Steven Blankinship
Chief Deputy Attorney General
Attorney General's Office
Hoover Bldg.
LOCAL

Dear Mr. Blankinship,

The Executive Council, in a meeting held this date, approved your requests for retention of outside counsel pursuant to Iowa Code section 13.3(1), in *Diephuis, Richard v. Department of Public Safety, State of Iowa and Second Injury Fund of Iowa*, a worker's compensation case filed by a State employee.

Firm: Patterson Law Firm, L.L.P.
Attorney: Ryan Clark
505 5th Avenue
Suite 729
Des Moines, IA 50309
Rate: \$175.00 Per Hour

EXECUTIVE COUNCIL OF IOWA

Kristi Onstot

Kristi Onstot
Executive Secretary

BRENNA BIRD
ATTORNEY GENERAL

STEVEN BLANKINSHIP
CHIEF DEPUTY ATTORNEY GENERAL



IOWA DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

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July 27, 2026

Kristi Onstot
Executive Secretary
Executive Council
State Capitol
L O C A L

Re: Request for Special Counsel - Patterson Law Firm

Dear Kristi:

Our office requests appointment of outside counsel under Iowa Code section 13.3(1) in *Diephuis, Richard v. Department of Public Safety, State of Iowa, Second Injury Fund*, a case filed by a state employee. Because the resolution of this claim may turn on whether the State of Iowa or the Second Injury Fund must pay workers' compensation benefits, our office cannot represent both defendants.

In order to avoid a conflict of interest, the Civil Litigation Division has contacted Ryan Clark of the Patterson Law Firm, L.L.P., 505 5th Avenue, Suite 729, Des Moines, Iowa 50309-2390, to represent the Second Injury Fund. Mr. Clark has agreed to represent the Second Injury Fund at the rate of \$175.00 per hour. Our office will represent the State of Iowa.

Accordingly, we request Executive Council approval to retain Mr. Clark to represent the Second Injury Fund in this case.

Sincerely,

Steven Blankinship
Chief Deputy Attorney General