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Executive Council of Iowa

CAPITOL BUILDING
DES MOINES, IOWA 50319
PHONE: 515 281-5368
FAX: 515 281-7562

December 2, 2024

Mr. Leif Olson
Chief Deputy Attorney General
Attorney General's Office
Hoover Bldg.
LOCAL

Dear Mr. Olson:

The Executive Council, in a meeting held this date, approved your renewal requests for retention of special counsel pursuant to Iowa Code section 13.7(1), to represent the Treasurer of State to retain Dentons Davis Brown, to advise his office on matters related to issues in connection with the disposition of unclaimed property. Special counsel will be paid from the Unclaimed Property Fund.

Firm: Dentons Davis Brown Law Firm
The Davis Brown Tower
215 10th Street, Suite 1300
Des Moines, IA 50309

Attorney: Courtney Strutt-Todd
Jana Weiler

Rate: Courtney Strutt-Todd - \$405 per hour
Jana Weiler - \$360 per hour

EXECUTIVE COUNCIL OF IOWA

Kristi Onstot

Kristi Onstot
Executive Secretary

BRENNA BIRD
ATTORNEY GENERAL

LEIF OLSON
CHIEF DEPUTY ATTORNEY GENERAL



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IOWA DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

November 18, 2024

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

Re: Renewal Request for Special Counsel

Dear Kristi:

The Treasurer's Office previously retained Dentons Davis Brown ("Dentons") as Special Counsel to provide legal services as special counsel on issues in connection with the disposition of unclaimed property. We are requesting approval to renew this Agreement.

Dentons has provided the following claim-by-claim fee as an economical way to manage their services. All attorney fees and costs will be paid from the Unclaimed Property Fund.

This compensation arrangement is equivalent to fees paid at other Des Moines law firms. Accordingly, our office recommends that Dentons Davis Brown be approved for renewal as special counsel to handle these matters for the Treasurer's Office.

Sincerely,

Leif Olson
Chief Deputy Attorney General



Roby Smith
Treasurer of State

Capitol Building
1007 E Grand Avenue
Des Moines, IA 50319

December 2, 2024

Honorable Brenna Bird
Iowa Attorney General
2nd Floor Hoover Building
Via Email

Re: Retention of Special Counsel for Unclaimed Property Program

Dear Attorney General Bird:

I am writing to request that you seek Executive Council re-authorization to employ Dentons Davis Brown as Special Counsel to provide legal advice to the Treasurer's Office on issues in connection with the disposition of unclaimed property.

Dentons Davis Brown provided a bid on March 15, 2023. The Executive Council initially approved retention of Dentons Davis Brown as Special Counsel on April 3, 2023, and we are seeking a renewal of this approval, along with the following update to Dentons' rates:

The legal services of Special Counsel shall be performed under the direction of Courtney Strutt Todd and Jana Weiler and compensated at standard hourly rates after applying a 10% discount for attorneys in the offices located in Iowa. The standard hourly rates in effect after applying the 10% discount in place at the date of this letter are as follows: Courtney Strutt Todd (\$405) and Jana Weiler (\$360). Should any services be required by attorneys out of the Iowa office, Special Counsel will notify State of the use of out of state counsel prior to utilization of any such services for which the 10% discount does not apply and receive approval by the State prior to any work being done. Standard hourly rates are subject to change.

I would respectfully request that you seek Executive Council re-authorization to continue to employ Dentons Davis Brown as special counsel to provide legal advice to the Treasurer's Office on probate issues in connection with the disposition of unclaimed property.

Sincerely,

/s/ Roby Smith

Roby Smith
Treasurer of State