

MEMBERS OF COUNCIL

HON. KIM REYNOLDS
GOVERNOR

HON. PAUL D. PATE
SECRETARY OF STATE

HON. ROB SAND
AUDITOR OF STATE

HON. ROBY SMITH
TREASURER OF STATE

HON. MIKE NAIG
SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE



Executive Council of Iowa

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

July 1, 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 request for retention of special counsel Iowa Code section 13.7(1), to request retention of special counsel pursuant to Iowa Code section 13.7 to represent the University of Iowa Health Care Medical Center Downtown in proceedings seeking to have its Medicare Inpatient Prospective Payment Rate rebased.

Firm: Bass, Berry & Sims, PLC
1201 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Suite 300
Washington, DC 20004

Rate: There is no cost to the Medical Center for this representation. Mercy Hospital Iowa City and Besler, a Medicare reimbursement contractor, entered into a contract in 2019 under which Besler would attempt, on a contingency basis, to secure greater Medicare reimbursements for the hospital. Bass, Berry & Sims would be hired and paid for under that contract, which the University of Iowa inherited as part of its purchase of Mercy Iowa City out of bankruptcy.

Sincerely,

Kristi Onstot

Kristi Onstot
Executive Secretary

BRENNA BIRD
ATTORNEY GENERAL

LEIF A. OLSON
CHIEF DEPUTY ATTORNEY GENERAL



1305 E. WALNUT ST.
DES MOINES, IA 50319
Main: 515-281-5164 • Direct: 515-954-9564
Email: Leif.Olson@ag.iowa.gov
www.iowaattorneygeneral.gov

IOWA DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

June 21, 2024

Kristi Onstot
Executive Secretary
Executive Council
State Capitol

Re: Retention of Special Counsel for UIHC Medical Center Downtown
Medicare Inpatient Prospective Payment Rate Rebase

Dear Kristi:

In accordance with Iowa Code § 13.7(1), the Attorney General requests the Executive Council authorize retention of Bass, Berry & Sims, PLC, 1201 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Suite 300, Washington, DC 20004, to represent the University of Iowa Health Care Medical Center Downtown in proceedings seeking to have its Medicare Inpatient Prospective Payment Rate rebased. A copy of the proposed representation agreement is attached. If successful, this would result in higher Medicare inpatient reimbursement rate moving forward. Bass, Berry & Sims has specialized expertise in Medicare-reimbursement law that our office currently does not.

There is no cost to the Medical Center for this representation. Mercy Hospital Iowa City and Besler, a Medicare reimbursement contractor, entered into a contract in 2019 under which Besler would attempt, on a contingency basis, to secure greater Medicare reimbursements for the hospital. Bass, Berry & Sims is hired and paid for under that contract, which the University of Iowa inherited as part of its purchase of Mercy Iowa City out of bankruptcy.

We appreciate your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

Leif A. Olson
Chief Deputy Attorney General