

**GIARMARCO, MULLINS & HORTON, P.C.**

**101 West Big Beaver Road  
Tenth Floor Columbia Center  
Troy, MI 48084**

**Attorneys and Counselors at Law  
Providing Legal Services to  
Cities, Townships, School Districts, and  
Municipalities throughout Michigan**

**John C. Clark  
(248) 457-7023**

**Presented to:  
Village of Lake Orion, Michigan**

**REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS/PROPOSALS  
LEGAL SERVICES**

**Due: October 22, 2025, 2:00 PM**

**Village of Lake Orion  
Attn: Village Clerk  
21 East Church Street  
Lake Orion, MI 48362**

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**1. FIRM NAME**

**a. Areas of Specialty**

Giarmarco, Mullins & Horton, P.C. (“GMH”) represents a wide variety of public and private entities throughout the State of Michigan. The firm’s commitment to the representation of local governments has been a primary focus of the firm throughout its 40+ year history. Primary areas of practice include municipal/public sector, education law, labor and employment, environmental, automotive, business, transactional, government-related services, international law, immigration law, taxes, mergers and acquisitions, telecommunications, real estate, probate and estate planning, tax tribunal, and election law. The firm’s litigation services include all areas of civil, commercial, criminal, workers’ compensation, and regulatory litigation.

**b. Years in Business**

GMH ranks in the top twelve largest law firms in Michigan and was founded in 1973.

**2. OFFICE LOCATIONS**

**a. Office Location Where the Majority of the Work Will Be Performed.**

The Firm's primary office is located in at the corner of Big Beaver and Livernois in Troy, Michigan. While GMH also has offices in Okemos and Munising, the attorneys providing services to the Village will be located in the Troy office.

**b. Name and Address of Parent Firm (if applicable)**

Giarmarco, Mullins & Horton, P.C.  
101 West Big Beaver Road, 10<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Troy, Michigan 48084

**3. PERSONNEL**

**a. Principal Contact of the Firm**

GMH proposes John C. Clark as the lead counsel and contact for the Village of Lake Orion. John can be reached directly at:

John C. Clark  
Email: [jclark@gmhlaw.com](mailto:jclark@gmhlaw.com)  
Office: (248) 457-7023; Cell: (248) 310-1968

**b. Proposed Personnel for Legal Services**

Our Municipal practice group partners, John Clark, Anthony Chubb, and Stephen Hitchcock, are all Martindale-Hubbell AV rated and offer more than 50 years' cumulative experience in representing municipalities and public entities in their day-to-day operations, litigation, and other related issues.

The attorneys who will be assigned to work with the Village of Lake Orion are as follows:

- John C. Clark  
(248) 457-7023; Cell: (248) 310-1968; Email: [jclark@gmhlaw.com](mailto:jclark@gmhlaw.com)
- Anthony K. Chubb  
(248) 457-7054; Cell: (734) 834-1906; Email: [achubb@gmhlaw.com](mailto:achubb@gmhlaw.com)
- Steven J. Hitchcock  
(248) 457-7024; Cell: (248) 320-8196; Email: [sjh@gmhlaw.com](mailto:sjh@gmhlaw.com)
- Anne R. Gabbert  
(248) 457-7053; Cell: (248) 765-9207; Email: [agabbert@gmhlaw.com](mailto:agabbert@gmhlaw.com)
- Karie Miller  
(248) 457-7027; Cell: (248) 4420-5425; Email: [kmiller@gmhlaw.com](mailto:kmiller@gmhlaw.com)
- Michael Bosnic  
(248) 457-7026; Cell: (248) 568-5461; Email: [mbosnic@gmhlaw.com](mailto:mbosnic@gmhlaw.com)

- George Contis  
(248) 457-7063; Cell: (248) 890-6256; Email: [gcontis@gmhlaw.com](mailto:gcontis@gmhlaw.com)

**c. Other Key Personnel**

GMH employees year-round law clerks who will assist in providing exceptional legal services to the Village.

**d. Total Number of Licensed Attorneys at Primary Office**

There is a total of 52 licensed attorneys at the Primary Office.

**e. Total Number of All Staff at Office at Primary Office**

There is a total of 107 individuals employed at GMH's Primary Office, inclusive of the highest quality support staff and attorneys.

#### **4. STAFFING**

GMH is adequately staffed to provide high quality, effective, and efficient legal services to the Village of Lake Orion. Our Firm has been fortunate to expand its client base and should the need arise to hire additional staff, GMH is prepared and excited to integrate competent attorneys and staff to meet those needs. All GMH attorneys are fully licensed with the State Bar of Michigan. In addition, the Firm is constantly updating its information technology systems and legal research platforms, offering state-of-the-art resources to provide exceptional legal services to its clients. Attorneys and staff undergo not only cybersecurity training several times a year, but also receive continued educational training for software applications, programs, and cybersecurity measures.

GMH has a full and complete understanding of the scope of work to be provided to the Village of Lake Orion as set forth in the RFP. In addition, GMH believes that its public sector clients are unique, and the relationships must be based upon trust, good communication, and straightforward advice. Municipal officials have several constituencies to serve, and unlike the private sector, a Village attorney is viewed almost as a part of the Village of Lake Orion’s “team.” It is important that the perception and communication with the public, press, and Village employees is consistent with the goals and objectives of the Village Council. GMH recognizes that it is a political process, which is far different than representing a CEO or owner of a privately held company. In addition to the Village of Lake Orion’s lead attorney, many of GMH’s lawyers have held elected or appointed positions on governmental boards.

The entire firm of GMH is committed to providing quality legal representation to the Village of Lake Orion. The firm has the experience and resources in all areas necessary for effective and efficient legal services. We are committed to our public sector representation and to the local area. Our goal is to develop a long-term relationship with the Village. We are excited by the opportunity to become part of the Village of Lake Orion’ team. Of note, GMH has been accredited by the Detroit Free Press with the Top Work Places award and by Best Lawyers with the Best Law Firms award.



*Attorneys*

GMH proposes **John C. Clark** as the lead attorney to serve the Village of Lake Orion. Mr. Clark is an equity partner with the firm and currently serves on the GMH Board of Directors. He chairs the firm's Municipal/Labor Law practice group and has over 30 years of experience in Municipal and Public Sector law. John has represented numerous townships, cities, villages, and other governmental entities in day-to-day general representation.

Mr. Clark is a certified employment arbitrator through the American Arbitration Association overseeing complicated employment matters litigated by both public and private sector claimants. John has vast experience in labor and employment law, including contract negotiations, arbitrations, employment discrimination claims, wrongful discharge matters, civil rights complaints, proceedings in State and federal court, as well as matters pending before the Michigan Employment Relations Commission, the Michigan Department of Civil Rights, and the National Labor Relations Board.

Mr. Clark represents a variety of public and private sector clients, including several high-profile Metro Detroit cities, townships, and villages, private sector manufacturing companies, non-profit organizations, as well as public and charter schools. Mr. Clark is a long-standing member of several national, State, and local legal organizations. He has authored papers and has been a presenter of a variety of labor and employment topics, as well as addressing the complicated process and procedures surrounding the appointment of Emergency Managers. His most recent accolade is serving as a lecturer for the Public Sector Labor and Employee Relations class offered through the Master of Public Administration Program at Oakland University.

At the discretion of the Village of Lake Orion, other attorneys with significant municipal and specialized experience may be called in to assist the Village. Such attorneys include Anthony Chubb, Steve Hitchcock, Karie Miller, Michael Bosnic, and Anne R. Gabbert.

**Anthony K. Chubb** has over a decade of experience representing municipalities and governmental entities. As the Deputy Chief Legal Officer and subsequently the Chief Legal Officer for the City of Flint, Mr. Chubb argued in state and federal courts, including an issue of governmental immunity before the Michigan Supreme Court. He further honed his labor and employment and collective bargaining agreement negotiation and implementation skills as the City's Director of Human Resources and Labor Relations. He previously served as Assistant General Counsel for the SMART

regional transit authority in Detroit, where he focused his practice on labor and employment issues and commercial litigation. Mr. Chubb's extensive background working in-house for municipalities has given him a broad knowledge of both the legal and administrative sides of resolving complex cases.

In addition to labor and employment matters, Mr. Chubb has experience in counseling and advising clients on a wide array of topics including, FOIA, OMA, employee agreements, employment policies and practices, FMLA & ADA compliance, and best practices for municipal risk management.

**Stephen J. Hitchcock** concentrates in the areas of municipal law, litigation, employee benefits, and business transactions. Mr. Hitchcock has extensive experience in municipal matters over the past fifty years, handling municipal government and school board issues. He also represents a number of insurance companies in litigation defense, fringe benefits, disability, and other employment-related litigation. Mr. Hitchcock has previously served on the Zoning Board of Appeals and the School Board in Novi. He is former trustee on the Novi Educational Foundation.

Mr. Hitchcock has an "AV" Peer Review rating from Martindale-Hubbell, the highest ranking by peers for general ethical standards and legal ability. He represented the City of Romulus as city attorney from 1995 to 2001, and 2013 to present, and he continues to represent the City on retained matters.

**Karie Miller** will also assist and advise the Village of Lake Orion. Ms. Miller worked as an Assistant Prosecuting Attorney for Oakland County. There she litigated numerous criminal and civil cases on behalf of the People of the State of Michigan and developed extensive trial, motion and preliminary examination experience. She served in warrants, district court, juvenile and circuit court special units. She completed the Prosecuting Attorneys Association of Michigan (PAAM) prosecutor trial advocacy training, the National Institute of Trial Attorney (NITA) trial advocacy training, and numerous other litigation and law enforcement training on topics such as cross examination, money laundering, asset forfeiture, forensic interviewing, and operating while intoxicated investigations. Karie has experience in labor law and is proficient in the investigation of complaints regarding harassment and discrimination. She is familiar with the development and implementation of employee policies that strive to promote efficiency and assist in the fostering of a positive work environment. Karie served as an Instructor for the Oakland Police Academy, teaching basic and advanced training of law enforcement officers in the areas of Criminal Law, Criminal Procedure, Contraband, Civil Procedure, Juvenile Law, Testimony and Court Structure. Following law school, Karie clerked for the Honorable Edward Sosnick in 6th Circuit Court of Oakland County. Karie gained invaluable insight into the practice of law and developed a passion

for litigation. Karie also believes in serving and giving back to her community. She has served as an executive board member of the Berkley Youth Assistance, the Tri-Community Coalition, and the PTA.

**Anne Gabbert** has served as an assistant prosecutor in both Wayne and Oakland Counties. She has handled criminal matters as serious as capital crimes and as complex as white-collar crime and money laundering. Her practice has, in tandem, included a civil practice of asset forfeiture. Ms. Gabbert's experience in the civil practice of asset forfeiture for nearly thirteen years has given her expertise in the field. Anne has also worked closely with crime victims and places great value in her ability to listen and have those she represents feel both seen and heard. Ms. Gabbert is experienced in labor law and has developed departmental employee policies. She is knowledgeable in the investigation of employee complaints in the workplace, including those involving harassment and discrimination.

Ms. Gabbert has completed the National Institute of Trial Attorney Trial Advocacy Training (NITA), the Prosecuting Attorneys Association of Michigan (PAAM) trial advocacy training, money laundering, and civil asset forfeiture trainings. She has also served as an instructor on civil asset forfeiture for police agencies across the state of Michigan. Ms. Gabbert served as an instructor for the Oakland County Police Academy for a decade, teaching law enforcement officers in the areas of Civil Procedure, Criminal Procedure, Contraband, and Court Functions. Ms. Gabbert has served as a volunteer for the Redford Goodfellows Organization, Capital Area Humane Society, and as a speaker at Career Fairs for numerous local area schools.

**Mike Bosnic** concentrates his practice in the areas of school and municipal representation and litigation. He has successfully represented a number of communities in District and Circuit Courts, and is currently involved with numerous municipalities through his judicially appointed work with Drug Treatment/Sobriety Courts in Troy, Novi, and Waterford. He is deeply involved in the Veterans Court in Redford Township. Mike has extensive experience in the area of Property Tax Appeals. He has presented across the State on this practice area, at the request of numerous public officials. He also successfully represents clients in Federal Court, having prosecuted their claims for age and gender discrimination. He obtained a record jury verdict against the Internal Revenue Service, and was featured on the cover of the February 10, 2003 edition of *Michigan Lawyers Weekly*.

Mr. Bosnic currently serves as a magistrate judge in the 52-1 District Court in Novi. Mike has an "AV" Peer Review Rating from Martindale-Hubbell, the highest ranking by peers for general ethical standards and legal ability.

Current profiles for each attorney to be assigned to the Village are provided at *Attachment A*.

*Support Staff*

Giarmarco, Mullins & Horton has experienced legal assistants and paralegals on the ready to assist the municipal law practice group at all times. Each support staff member is trained and experienced in the legal field. Experienced legal assistants, Joan Sidlauskas, who has been a legal assistant/paralegal since 1991 and employed at GMH since 2000, and Shyraw Smith, who has been a legal assistant with the firm since 2020, proficiently provide timely and efficient support to the municipal law practice group. The firm also employs law clerks throughout the year, whose services will not be billed to the Village of Lake Orion.

## **5. FIRM EXPERIENCE**

The Municipal Law practice group has been retained by over 25 cities and townships, including the Cities of Keego Harbor, Northville, Saline, East Lansing, Westland, Pontiac, Mount Clemens, Flint, Hamtramck, Saginaw, Benton Harbor, Belleville, Inkster, Melvindale, Warren, Highland Park, Ecorse, Trenton, Romulus, Taylor, Alpena, and Dearborn Heights and the Charter Townships of Northville, Independence, Bloomfield, Orion, Oakland, Oxford, Commerce, Royal Oak, Plymouth, Redford, Brownstown, Canton, Clinton, Van Buren, and Shelby.

Our municipal law specialists devote virtually all of their time to representation of public sector employers in connection with problems associated with the employer-employee relationship. This work involves substantial contact with numerous governmental agencies, including the Michigan Employment Relations Commission, the Michigan Department of Civil Rights, the Department of Labor, the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, the Bureau of Workers' Disability Compensation, and the National Labor Relations Board. In short, we have attorneys that are experts in all of the areas in which the Village of Lake Orion would seek legal advice.

Throughout its history, GMH has employed an entrepreneurial philosophy in the delivery of legal services. By keeping its internal cost structure low, the firm has been able to provide quality legal services at a fair rate. Internally, GMH has created a competitive entrepreneurial environment which benefits our clients.

Not surprisingly, under the above management style, GMH has continued to grow despite the tough economic times in which we live. When budgets get tight, our clients have found we have the flexibility to work with them in reducing costs. The Village of Lake Orion can rest assured that it will be given the highest level of priority at GMH and that each attorney of the firm is committed to providing quality legal services to the Village.

## 6. WHY GMH SHOULD BE CONSIDERED

Throughout its history, GMH has enjoyed the highest rating awarded by Martindale Hubbell in its ranking of quality law firms. Many GMH attorneys are selected as court appointed mediators and guest speakers in their particular areas of expertise. Our continued growth in these challenging times is a result of our commitment to providing quality legal services on a timely basis and at a reasonable price.

### How GMH Meets or Exceeds the Minimum Qualifications

#### *Client Commitment*

The Village of Lake Orion will be given the highest priority by the attorneys of GMH. Our policy is to respond quickly and effectively to all client inquiries. We will make available all contact information, including email addresses, work, cell, and home telephone numbers, and will be available virtually all hours of the day, night, or weekend. GMH understands the importance of the client relationship and that we are a partner with the Village.

#### *Results*

GMH understands that the bottom line in providing quality legal services is the results obtained. The firm welcomes accountability in its advice and services provided. We understand that clients seek straightforward, experienced advice. Legal advice designed to protect the lawyer is no advice at all. Many areas of the law are unclear and the results uncertain, however, GMH understands that the decision-maker must ultimately “make the decision.” We provide advice based upon our experience and knowledge and not based upon whether we will look good or be protected if an unanticipated result occurs.

#### *Cost Effectiveness*

The culture of GMH is a businesslike approach to providing legal services. We do not pursue issues for the academic fun of it or to increase the firm’s status. We work closely with our clients to understand their goals and objectives. Together, we then implement the most cost-efficient strategy for success. While setting precedence or new law for an attorney may be rewarding, we do not do so at the expense of our clients. GMH bills its clients hourly, in increments of 0.10 hours, providing a detailed monthly invoice for legal services rendered. Clients are billed for reimbursable charges such as filing fees, court reporters, overnight delivery, and milage at the statutory IRS rate.

GMH offers the Village of Lake Orion a three-prong approach towards providing proactive legal services to minimize expenses.

1. GMH offers comprehensive training on a variety of topics for all Village staff, including areas of discrimination, harassment, confidentiality, employee discipline and counseling. Additionally, the Firm offers training to Village Council, as well as Village Boards and Commissions on important topics including meeting decorum, Robert's Rules of Order, Open Meetings Act, Freedom of Information Act requests, and handling issues of public concern.
2. The Firm constantly monitors both State and federal legislation that could have an impact on the operations of the Village, including legislation that could affect Village finances, Open Meetings Act, Freedom of Information Act requests, environmental, zoning, planning, and taxation.
3. We closely monitor recent court decisions that again could have a direct impact on Village operations, similar to an overview of pending legislation. The Firm monitors recent court filings through *Detroit Report*, which sets forth recent Circuit Court and Federal Court filings.

#### *Philosophy on Attorney-Client Relationship*

GMH believes that its public sector clients are unique and the relationships must be based upon trust, effective communication, and straightforward advice. Government officials have many constituencies to serve, and unlike the private sector, a municipal attorney is viewed almost as a part of the government's "team." It is important that the perception and communication with the public, press, and Village employees is consistent with the goals and objectives of the client. GMH recognizes that it is a political process, which is far different than representing a CEO or owner of a privately held company. In addition to the Village's lead attorney, many of GMH's lawyers have held elected or appointed positions on governmental boards.

#### *Summary*

The entire firm of GMH is committed to providing quality legal representation to the Village of Lake Orion. The firm has the experience and resources in all areas necessary for effective and efficient legal services. We are committed to our public sector representation and to the local area. Our goal is to develop a long-term relationship with the Village. We are excited by the opportunity to become part of the Village of Lake Orion's team.

**7. MUNICIPAL REFERENCES**

Charter Township of Redford  
Pat McRae, Superintendent  
15145 Beech Daly Road Redford, MI 48239  
(313) 387-2750  
[pmcrae@redfordtwp.com](mailto:pmcrae@redfordtwp.com)

General municipal, labor and employment, litigation, District Court prosecutions, real estate, and Michigan Tax Tribunal appeals

City of Northville  
George Lahanas, City Manager  
General municipal, labor and employment, litigation, District Court prosecutions, real estate, and Michigan Tax Tribunal appeals

City of Saline  
Dan Swallow, City Manager  
100 N. Harris Street  
Saline, Michigan 48176  
(734) 476-3961  
[dswallow@cityofsaline.org](mailto:dswallow@cityofsaline.org)  
General municipal, labor and employment

Charter Township of Bloomfield  
Mike McCready, Township Supervisor  
4200 Telegraph Road  
Bloomfield Hills, MI 48303  
(248) 433-7755  
[mmccready@bloomfieldtwp.org](mailto:mmccready@bloomfieldtwp.org)  
General municipal and labor and employment

City of Keego Harbor  
Tammy Neeb, Clerk and City Manager  
2025 Beechmont Street  
Keego Harbor, Michigan 48320  
(248) 682-1930, Ext. 1  
[manager@keegoharbor.com](mailto:manager@keegoharbor.com)  
General municipal, labor and employment, litigation, District Court prosecutions, real estate, and Michigan Tax Tribunal appeals

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City of Taylor

Dan Bzura, Chief of Staff

23555 Goddard Rd.

Taylor, MI 48180

(734) 374-1452

[dbzura@ci.taylor.mi.us](mailto:dbzura@ci.taylor.mi.us)

General municipal, labor and employment, and litigation

Charter Township of Northville

Todd Mutchler, Township Manager

44405 Six Mile Road

Northville, MI 48168

(248) 348-5800

[tmutchler@twp.northville.mi.us](mailto:tmutchler@twp.northville.mi.us)

General municipal and labor and employment

City of Saginaw

Tim Morales, City Manager

1315 S. Washington Avenue

Saginaw, MI 48601

(989) 759-1401

[TMorales@saginaw-mi.com](mailto:TMorales@saginaw-mi.com)

Labor and employment and litigation

Charter Township of Plymouth

Chuck Curmi, Township Supervisor

9955 N. Haggerty Road

Plymouth, MI 48170-4673

(734) 354-3201 Office

[ccurmi@plymouthtwp.org](mailto:ccurmi@plymouthtwp.org)

General municipal and labor and employment

## **8. CLIENT CONFLICTS OF INTEREST**

Giarmarco, Mullins and Horton has been retained by over 25 cities, villages, and townships. It has been our experience that representation of other municipalities generally provides opportunities for collaboration rather than conflicts. However, should any potential conflict arise, we would timely notify the Village and provide a proposed path moving forward. Prior to handling any new matter, an internal conflict check is routed to all staff in the firm, including the firm's billing system, which will show conflicts of any past and current client representation, including any real estate developers doing business with or anticipating doing business with the Village of Lake Orion.

## **9. DAY-TO-DAY ACTIVITIES**

The GMH Municipal Group is staffed to allow for integration of the Village of Lake Orion's legal needs. The Village of Lake Orion will be given the highest priority by the attorneys of GMH. Our policy is to respond quickly and effectively to all client inquiries. We will make available all contact information, including email addresses, work, cell, and home telephone numbers, and will be available virtually all hours of the day, night, or weekend. GMH understands the importance of the client relationship and that we are a partner with the Village.

GMH understands that the bottom line in providing quality legal services is the results obtained. The firm welcomes accountability in its advice and services provided. We understand that clients seek straightforward, experienced advice. Legal advice designed to protect the lawyer is no advice at all. Many areas of the law are unclear and the results uncertain; however, GMH understands that the decision-maker must ultimately "make the decision." We provide advice based upon our experience and knowledge and not based upon whether we will look good or be protected if an unanticipated result occurs.

The culture of GMH is a businesslike approach to providing legal services. We do not pursue issues for the academic fun of it or to increase the firm's status. We work closely with our clients to understand their goals and objectives. Together, we then implement the most cost-efficient strategy for success. While setting precedence or new law for an attorney may be rewarding, we do not do so at the expense of our clients.

**10. INSURANCE**

GMH maintains Workers' Compensation, comprehensive general liability, and vehicle insurance as required by the Village of Lake Orion. Should GMH be awarded this contract, it will purchase and maintain, throughout the term of the Contract, insurance from an insurance company authorized to do business in the State of Michigan that will protect Contractors, subcontractors, and the owner from all liability claims under the Contract. The insurance will name the Village of Lake Orion as additional insured party on appropriate coverage(s) where possible.

**11. EXCEPTIONS**

GMH does not foresee any exceptions or conflicts of interest in its representation of the Village of Lake Orion.

**12. BAR ASSOCIATION COMPLAINTS**

Giarmarco, Mullins and Horton, P.C. has not been the subject of any Bar Association complaints within the past five years.

**13. BANKRUPTCY OR REORGANIZATION**

GMH's financial condition is stellar. All vendor invoices are paid within 30 days of submission and maintains a D&B "Good" rating. GMH has never filed for bankruptcy and is extremely proud of its commitment and reputation in the legal community.

#### **14. TERMINATION**

The City of Hamtramck ceased using the services of Giarmarco, Mullins and Horton, P.C. in 2018 after a change in City leadership.

The Charter Township of Royal Oak ceased using the services of Giarmarco, Mullins and Horton, P.C. in 2019 after a change in Township leadership. However, GMH was rehired as the Township's general and prosecutorial counsel in 2021.

The City of Wayne ceased using the services of Giarmarco, Mullins and Horton, P.C. for its labor and employment legal services in 2024 after a change in City leadership. However, GMH remains the City's general and prosecutorial counsel.

## **15. RESPONSE TIME**

The Village of Lake Orion will be provided the direct contact information for all GMH personnel working for the Village. GMH staff will correspond directly with Village personnel upon engagement of an assignment or task when presented to them. Depending on the assignment, the average response time to a verbal inquiry or contact is one day, the average response time for written tasks is three days. This schedule of course is subject to the time-sensitive nature of the task.

Based upon our commitment to our clients, GMH makes it a priority to respond to all inquiries in a timely and efficient manner. Attorneys of the firm can be reached by phone, cell phone, email, text, or any other manner desired by the Village of Lake Orion. The Village's lead attorney will be available and responsive by any of the above means at any time of the day or evening, including weekends and vacations. All meetings, conferences, court appearances or other important events will be the priority in the lead attorney's schedule. As part of this client communication, GMH also will provide free municipal updates on emerging issues or cases, as well as seminars on relevant issues to the Village of Lake Orion and its employees. We take pride in our accessibility and recognize that emergencies do not respect a nine-to-five schedule.

## **16. FAMILIARIZATION WITH CURRENT VILLAGE ISSUES**

The GMH Municipal Group is staffed to allow for integration of the Village of Lake Orion's legal needs. The Village will be given the highest priority by the attorneys of GMH. Our policy is to respond quickly and effectively to all client inquiries. We will make available all contact information, including email addresses, work, cell, and home telephone numbers, and will be available virtually all hours of the day, night, or weekend. GMH understands the importance of the client relationship and that we are a partner with the Village of Lake Orion.

GMH understands that the bottom line in providing quality legal services is the results obtained. The firm welcomes accountability in its advice and services provided. We understand that clients seek straightforward, experienced advice. Legal advice designed to protect the lawyer is no advice at all. Many areas of the law are unclear and the results uncertain, however, GMH understands that the decision-maker must ultimately "make the decision." We provide advice based upon our experience and knowledge and not based upon whether we will look good or be protected if an unanticipated result occurs.

The culture of GMH is a businesslike approach to providing legal services. We do not pursue issues for the academic fun of it or to increase the firm's status. We work closely with our clients to understand their goals and objectives. Together, we then implement the most cost-efficient strategy for success. While setting precedence or new law for an attorney may be rewarding, we do not do so at the expense of our clients.

**17. FIRM CONFLICTS OF INTEREST**

GMH does not foresee any exceptions or conflicts of interest in its representation of the Village of Lake Orion.

As stated above, prior to handling any new matter, an internal conflict check is routed to all staff in the firm, including the firm's billing system, which will show conflicts of any past and current client representation, including any real estate developers doing business with or anticipating doing business with the Village of Lake Orion.

**17. PRICING**

A preliminary estimate or range of overall anticipated annual costs can only be ascertained based on the need for legal services by the Village of Lake Orion. However, GMH offers the following as its proposed compensation for legal services:

	Pricing Component	Amount
1.	Hourly Rate – Prosecution of Building/Code/Zoning Violations	\$ 165.00
2.	Hourly Rate – Civil Litigation and Litigation of Non-Insurance Cases	\$ 175.00
3.	Hourly Rate – Board of Review (if necessary)	\$ 175.00
4.	Hourly Rate (All Other Legal Services)	\$ 175.00
5.	Expenses: The Village will pay GMH for all expenses and court costs resulting from the Village’s legal services, including photocopying at \$0.20/page, overnight and express mail, courier fees, filing fees, and mileage fees (at the IRS annual rate).	

Any client telephone conferences less than 15 minutes and brief client email exchanges will not be billed. Also, the Village of Lake Orion will not be charged for law clerk or legal assistant services.

**SIGNATURE PAGE AND ACKNOWLEDGMENT**

Firm name: Giarmarco, Mullins & Horton, P.C.

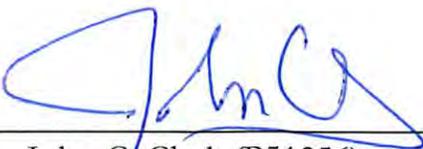
Address: 101 West Big Beaver Road, 10<sup>th</sup> Floor

City/State/Zip Code: Troy, Michigan 48084-5280

Telephone Number: (248) 457-7023

Fax Number: (248) 457-7001

Email Address: jclark@gmhlaw.com

SIGNATURE/DATE:  October 21, 2025  
John C. Clark (P51356)

**ATTACHMENT A – ATTORNEY PROFILES**

## **JOHN C. CLARK** EXPERIENCE

Mr. John Clark concentrates his practice in the areas of labor and employment law, servicing clients in both the public and private sector. Mr. Clark has been a member of the firm since 1995 and currently sits on the firm's Board of Directors. Mr. Clark also chairs the firm's municipal/labor and employment section. In addition, Mr. Clark is a certified employment arbitrator through the American Arbitration Association overseeing complicated employment matters litigated by both public and private sector claimants.

Mr. Clark has vast experience in labor and employment law, including contract negotiations, arbitrations, Act 312 proceedings, fact-findings, employment discrimination claims, wrongful discharge matters, civil rights complaints, proceedings in state and federal court, as well as matters pending before the Michigan Employment Relations Commission, the Michigan Department of Civil Rights and the National Labor Relations Board.

Mr. Clark represents a variety of public and private sector clients, including several high profile Metro Detroit cities and townships, private sector manufacturing companies, non-profit organizations as well as public and charter schools.

Mr. Clark is an expert in employee and management training on such topics as discrimination, harassment, bias, progressive discipline, Open Meetings Act, collective bargaining, and privacy. Mr. Clark also develops employee policies that strive to promote efficiency and aid in fostering a positive work environment.

Mr. Clark is a long-standing member of several National, State and local legal organizations. He has authored papers and has been a presenter of a variety of labor and employment topics, as well as addressing the complicated process and procedures surrounding the creation of positive labor relations between management and organized labor.

Mr. Clark's most recent accolade is serving as a lecturer for the Public Sector Labor and Employment Relations class offered through the Masters of Public Administration program at Oakland University. Mr. Clark also serves as a Trustee for an Oakland County Township.

### **PRACTICE AREAS**

- Governmental Law
- Employment & Labor Law
- Litigation
- Municipal & Government
- Education Law
- Police Liability/Excessive Force Matters



### **EDUCATION**

- Michigan State University, B.A.
- University of Detroit, J.D.
- American Arbitration Association, Certified

### **ADMITTED TO PRACTICE**

- Michigan: 1994

### **PROFESSIONAL LEADERSHIP/ MEMBERSHIPS**

- American Bar Association
- State Bar of Michigan
- Oakland County Bar Association
- American Arbitration Association: Certified Employment Arbitrator
- Department of Treasury Government Turnaround Association Founding Member and Presenter

### **HONORS/AWARDS**

- Voted Top Lawyers 2021, 2022, and 2023 by DBusiness Magazine
- "AV" Peer Review Rating from Martindale-Hubbell, the highest ranking by peers for general ethical standards and legal ability
- Leading Lawyer

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**Leading Lawyers™**

## **ANTHONY CHUBB** EXPERIENCE

Anthony K. Chubb is an equity shareholder in the firm's municipal group and has dedicated his career to representing cities, townships, and governmental entities. He currently serves as City Attorney for the cities of East Lansing, Northville, Keego Harbor, and Saline, as well as General Counsel for Grand Blanc and Redford Townships and the Genesee County 911 Consortium.

Mr. Chubb has over 15 years of experience representing municipalities and governmental entities as general counsel, including election law, governmental immunity, prosecution, water quality and rate setting defense, medical and recreational marijuana regulation, and administrative law. Before joining GMH, Mr. Chubb was the Deputy Chief Legal Officer and, subsequently, the Chief Legal Officer for the City of Flint and the City's Director of Human Resources and Labor Relations. He previously served as Assistant General Counsel for the SMART regional transit authority in Detroit, where he focused his practice on labor and employment issues and commercial litigation. Mr. Chubb's extensive background in municipal law, including working in-house for municipalities, has given him a broad knowledge of both the legal and administrative sides of resolving complex cases.

In addition to his professional background, Mr. Chubb has a history of public and community service. He was elected to the Michigan Bar Association Government Law Council (2023-2026) and serves on the Board of Directors of the Grosse Pointe Animal Adoption Society as pro-bono legal counsel (for which he has fostered dozens of dogs.) Mr. Chubb was previously elected to two terms (2017-2020, 2020-2023) to the Genesee County Bar Association Board of Directors.

## **PRACTICE AREAS**

- Municipal Law
- Employment & Labor Law
- Medical and Recreational Marijuana Regulation
- Water Quality and Rate Setting Defense
- Election and Ballot Initiative Matters
- Police Liability/Excessive Force Matters

## **EDUCATION**

- Wayne State University Law School, Detroit, Michigan, 2008, J.D.
- University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Michigan, 2003, B.A.



## **PROFESSIONAL LEADERSHIPS**

- State Bar of Michigan Government Law Section Council 2023-2026
- Genesee County Bar Association Board of Directors 2017-2020; 2020-2023
- Board of Directors, Grosse Pointe Animal Adoption Society

## **MEMBERSHIPS**

- State Bar of Michigan
- U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Michigan
- U.S. District Court for the Western District of Michigan
- U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the Eastern District of Michigan
- U.S. Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit

## **HONORS/AWARDS**

- "AV" Peer Review Rating from Martindale-Hubbell, the highest ranking by peers for general ethical standards and legal ability
- 2019 Super Lawyers "Rising Star" in state, local & municipal law

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## **STEPHEN J. HITCHCOCK** EXPERIENCE

Mr. Stephen Hitchcock concentrates in the areas of municipal law, litigation, employment law, employee benefits and business transactions. Mr. Hitchcock has extensive experience in municipal matters over the past thirty years, handling municipal government and school board issues. He also represents a number of insurance companies in litigation defense, fringe benefits, disability and other employment related litigation.

Mr. Hitchcock has previously served on the Zoning Board of Appeals and the School Board in Novi. He is former trustee on the Novi Educational Foundation.

Mr. Hitchcock has an "AV" Peer Review rating from Martindale-Hubbell, the highest ranking by peers for general ethical standards and legal ability.

### **GENERAL MUNICIPAL EXPERIENCE**

- Represented local cities and townships for over thirty years in matters related to water/sewer, zoning, planning, land use, ordinance drafting, contract negotiations and municipal litigation.
- Represented the City of Romulus as city attorney – 1995 to 2001, 2013 to present.
- Belleville city attorney – 2012 to present.
- Representing the Charter Township of Brownstown – 2004 to Present.
- Represented Kochville Township on various legal matters – 2000 to 2005.
- Provided legal services for the City of Pontiac, City of Belleville, Charter Township of Redford, City of Taylor, City of Trenton, City of Montrose, City of Wayne and other municipalities on specific retained basis.

### **PRACTICE AREAS**

- Employment and Labor Law
- Government Law
- Litigation
- Municipal

### **EDUCATION**

- University of Michigan and Western Michigan University, B.A.
- Detroit College of Law, J.D.



### **ADMITTED TO PRACTICE**

- Michigan: 1973
- Michigan Supreme Court
- U.S. Court of Appeals
- U.S. Supreme Court

### **PROFESSIONAL LEADERSHIP/ MEMBERSHIPS**

- State Bar of Michigan
- Oakland County Bar Association
- Oakland County Bar Association Federal Court Committee, Former Chairman
- Michigan Association of Municipal Attorneys
- International Municipal Lawyers Association

### **HONORS/AWARDS**

- "AV" Peer Review Rating from Martindale-Hubbell, the highest ranking by peers for general ethical standards and legal ability
- Michigan Super Lawyer
- dBusiness "Top Lawyer"
- Leading Lawyers

**KARIE MILLER**  
EXPERIENCE

Karie Miller has joined Giarmarco, Mullins & Horton in the Municipal Section. Karie worked as an Assistant Prosecuting Attorney for Oakland County. There she litigated numerous criminal and civil cases on behalf of the People of the State of Michigan and developed extensive trial, motion and preliminary examination experience. She served in warrants, district court, juvenile and circuit court special units. She completed the Prosecuting Attorneys Association of Michigan (PAAM) prosecutor trial advocacy training, the National Institute of Trial Attorney (NITA) trial advocacy training, and numerous other litigation and law enforcement training on topics such as cross examination, money laundering, asset forfeiture, forensic interviewing, and operating while intoxicated investigations.

Karie has experience in labor law and is proficient in the investigation of complaints regarding harassment and discrimination. She is familiar with the development and implementation of employee policies that strive to promote efficiency and assist in the fostering of a positive work environment.

Karie served as an Instructor for the Oakland Police Academy, teaching basic and advanced training of law enforcement officers in the areas of Criminal Law, Criminal Procedure, Contraband, Civil Procedure, Juvenile Law, Testimony and Court Structure.

Following law school, Karie clerked for the Honorable Edward Sosnick in 6th Circuit Court of Oakland County. Karie gained invaluable insight into the practice of law and developed a passion for litigation.

Karie also believes in serving and giving back to her community. She has served as an executive board member of the Berkley Youth Assistance, the Tri-Community Coalition and the PTA.



**EDUCATION**

- Wayne State University School of Law, J.D.(2004)
- Central Michigan University, B.S. (2000)

**ADMITTED TO PRACTICE**

- Oakland County Prosecutor Assistant Prosecuting Attorney 2006 - 2018
- Judicial Law Clerk 2004 - 2006
- Judicial Internship 3rd Circuit Court Frank Murphy Hall of Justice, Wayne County, MI
- Social Worker, Oakland Family Services

## **ANNE GABBERT**

### EXPERIENCE

Ms. Gabbert has served as an assistant prosecutor in both Wayne and Oakland Counties. She has handled criminal matters as serious as capital crimes and as complex as white-collar crime and money laundering. Her practice has, in tandem, included a civil practice of asset forfeiture.

Ms. Gabbert's experience in the civil practice of asset forfeiture for nearly 13 years has given her expertise in the field. Anne has also worked closely with crime victims and places great value in her ability to listen and have those she represents feel both seen and heard.

Ms. Gabbert is experienced in labor law and has developed departmental employee policies. She is knowledgeable in the investigation of employee complaints in the workplace, including those involving harassment and discrimination.

Ms. Gabbert has completed the National Institute of Trial Attorney Trial Advocacy Training (NITA), the Prosecuting Attorneys Association of Michigan (PAAM) trial advocacy training, money laundering, and civil asset forfeiture trainings. She has also served as an instructor on civil asset forfeiture for police agencies across the state of Michigan.

Ms. Gabbert served as an instructor for the Oakland County Police Academy for a decade, teaching law enforcement officers in the areas of Civil Procedure, Criminal Procedure, Contraband, and Court Functions.

Ms. Gabbert has served as a volunteer for the Redford Goodfellows Organization, Capital Area Humane Society, and as a speaker at Career Fairs for numerous local area schools.



### PRACTICE AREAS

- Municipal Law
- Employment and Labor Law
- Civil Law
- Criminal Law
- Asset Forfeiture Law

### EDUCATION

- Michigan State University, graduating with high honor
- University of Detroit Mercy School of Law

**MICHAEL L. BOSNIC**  
EXPERIENCE

Mr. Bosnic concentrates his practice in the areas of school and municipal representation and litigation. He has successfully represented a number of communities in District and Circuit Courts, and is currently involved with numerous municipalities through his judicially appointed work with Drug Treatment/Sobriety Courts in Troy, Novi and Waterford.

Mike has extensive experience in the area of Property Tax Appeals. He has presented across the state on this practice area, at the request of numerous public officials. He also successfully represents clients in Federal Court, having prosecuted their claims for age and gender discrimination. He obtained a record jury verdict against the Internal Revenue Service, and was featured on the cover of the February 10, 2003 edition of Michigan Lawyers Weekly.

Mr. Bosnic has an "AV" Peer Review Rating from Martindale-Hubbell, the highest ranking by peers for general ethical standards and legal ability.

**PRACTICE AREAS**

- School District and Municipal Representation
- Litigation
- Governmental Law

**EDUCATION**

- Michigan State University, B.A.
- Notre Dame Law School, J.D.

**PROFESSIONAL LEADERSHIP/  
MEMBERSHIPS**

- State Bar of Michigan
- U.S. District Court, Eastern District of Michigan
- U.S. Court of Appeals, 6th Circuit



**HONORS/AWARDS**

- "AV" Peer Review Rating from Martindale-Hubbell, the highest ranking by peers for general ethical standards and legal ability
- Award of Merit: Michigan Association of School Boards
- "Drug Court Hero" award from MADCP

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## **GEORGE A. CONTIS**

### **EXPERIENCE**

Mr. George Contis concentrates his practice in the areas of, real estate acquisition and development, construction, mortgage and end-loan lending, participation loans, commercial and industrial leasing for landlords and tenants (including master leases, ground leases and subleases) and business planning.

Mr. Contis regularly works with lenders, owners and court appointed receivers in the sale of distressed office, commercial and industrial properties and manufactured home communities. He represented LA Fitness International and negotiated leases on its behalf for the establishment of its first six fitness facilities in Southeastern Michigan.

Mr. Contis earned his Bachelor of Arts Degree in Economics from the University of Pittsburgh in 1982 and received his Juris Doctor Degree from the University of Detroit in 1985. While at the University of Detroit, Mr. Contis participated in several local and national Moot Court competitions and was selected for membership to the Order of Barristers.

His publications include: Tax Aspects of Divorce in Michigan, Michigan Tax Law Journal, 1984; Bring a Weapon to School, Get Expelled 370 Laches 8, Nov. 1996; and Year End Planning Considerations for 1031 Exchanges, Bar Briefs, December 2000.

Mr. Contis has an "AV" Peer Review rating from Martindale-Hubbell, the highest ranking by peers for general ethical standards and legal ability.

### **PRACTICE AREAS**

- Business Law & Commercial Transactions
- Banking and Finance
- Real Estate
- Construction Law

### **EDUCATION**

- University of Detroit Law School, J.D., 1985
- University of Pittsburgh, B.A., 1982.

### **ADMITTED TO PRACTICE**

- Michigan 1985



### **PROFESSIONAL LEADERSHIP/ MEMBERSHIPS**

- State Bar of Michigan
- Macomb County Bar Association

### **HONORS/AWARDS**

- "AV" Peer Review Rating from Martindale-Hubbell, the highest ranking by peers for general ethical standards and legal ability
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