



## CITY OF NORMAN, OK STAFF REPORT

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**MEETING DATE:** 03/25/2025

**REQUESTER:** Rick Knighton, City Attorney

**PRESENTER:** Rick Knighton, City Attorney

**ITEM TITLE:** CONSIDERATION OF ADOPTION, REJECTION, AMENDMENT, AND/OR POSTPONEMENT OF RESOLUTION R-2425-99: A RESOLUTION OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NORMAN, OKLAHOMA, APPROPRIATING \$125,000 FROM THE GENERAL FUND BALANCE TO PAY PENDING AND ANTICIPATED OUTSIDE LEGAL EXPENSES FOR THE REMAINDER OF FYE 2025.

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### **BACKGROUND:**

The Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2025 (FYE 25) Budget appropriated \$215,000 for outside legal fees. That funding has now been depleted. Additional expenses for outside legal work for the remainder of FYE 25 is estimated to be \$125,000.

### **DISCUSSION:**

The Outside Legal Services account (10122220-44011) was allocated \$215,000 for FYE 25 for litigation expenses incurred for cases processed through the legal system during the fiscal year. This account pays all litigation costs, including outside legal counsel, trial preparation, expert and general witness fees, subpoenas, discovery, union contract arbitration and employment related issues, costs of appeals when necessary, and various other litigation expenses.

Because the filing of new lawsuits and litigation costs are somewhat unpredictable, additional funding is normally requested as a supplemental appropriation on an “as-needed” basis. In FYE 25, the primary draws on this account have come from litigation regarding the Central Library and legal fees associated with proposed tax increment finance districts.

### **RECOMMENDATION:**

It is recommended that \$125,000 be appropriated from the General Fund Balance (10-29000) to the Outside Legal Services account (10122220-44011).