



COMMISSIONERS COURT  
COMMUNICATION

REFERENCE NUMBER \_\_\_\_\_

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DATE: 03/19/2024

SUBJECT: **APPROVAL OF ATTORNEY EMPLOYMENT AGREEMENT  
ENGAGING THE LAW OFFICE OF KENNETH E. EAST AS  
OUTSIDE COUNCIL RE: DEFENSE OF FORMER TARRANT  
COUNTY EMPLOYEE IN A LAWSUIT ENTITLED SHANELLE  
JENKINS VS. OFFICER MICHAEL TAHMAHKERA, ET AL., CIVIL  
ACTION NO. 4:23-CV-01207-P**

**\*\*\* CONSENT AGENDA \*\*\***

**COMMISSIONERS COURT ACTION REQUESTED**

It is requested that the Commissioners Court approve an Attorney Employment Agreement engaging the Law Office of Kenneth E. East as outside council re: defense of former Tarrant County employee Michael Tahmahkera.

**BACKGROUND**

Tarrant County employee Michael Tahmahkera has been sued in an inmate civil rights case. Pursuant to Loc. Gov't Code Section 157.901, it is necessary for outside counsel to be employed to represent this individual in the lawsuit entitled Shanelle Jenkins v. Officer Michael Tahmahkera, et al., Civil Action No. 4:23-cv-01207-P in the United States District Court for the Northern District of Texas, Fort Worth Division.

With approval of this action, Tarrant County employee Michael Tahmahkera will have representation in this federal suit.

**FISCAL IMPACT**

The fiscal impact associated with this action is unknown at this time, however, the law firm is to use all reasonable means to resolve this matter at a total cost of no more than \$30,000.00, subject to further court approval. The funds are available in account 61500-2024 Self Insurance Fund/1912000000 Self Insurance/585071 Litigation Expense.

SUBMITTED BY:	Criminal District Attorney	PREPARED BY: APPROVED BY:	Polly S. Maxwell
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