



State of West Virginia
Office of the Attorney General

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Attorney General

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**WRITTEN DETERMINATION REGARDING THE
APPOINTMENT OF OUTSIDE COUNSEL ON BEHALF OF
THE WEST VIRGINIA SECRETARY OF STATE'S OFFICE**

The West Virginia Secretary of State's Office (hereinafter "WVSOS") is seeking the assistance of outside counsel to provide legal services related to two matters currently pending in the Circuit Court of Kanawha County, West Virginia. More specifically, the WVSOS is seeking qualified outside counsel to provide legal services in *Elizabeth D. Walker v. Natalie Tennant, Gary A. Collias, and Vincent Cardi, Members of the West Virginia State Election Commission; Glenn B. Gainer, III; West Virginia Auditor; John Perdue, West Virginia State Treasurer; and William R. Wooten*, Civil Action No. 16-AA-13 and *Elizabeth D. Walker v. Natalie Tennant, ex-officio, Gary A. Collias, and Vincent P. Cardi, members of the West Virginia State Election Commission; and Brent D. Benjamin, candidate for the Supreme Court of Appeals of West Virginia*, Civil Action No. 16-AA-17.

In accordance with the Attorney General's Policy on Outside Counsel (Policy #WVAGO-004), the Office of the Attorney General has determined that it is both cost-effective and in the interest of the public to appoint outside counsel to assist with the legal matters in question, based on the following factors:

- The matter at issue requires particular and specialized expertise in election and campaign finance law.
- Due to the current schedule and deadlines for these litigations, there is an immediate need for the requested legal services.
- Kanawha County is the geographic area where the legal services will be performed.
- It is not feasible or cost-effective for the Office of the Attorney General to provide the requested legal services without the assistance of outside counsel at this time.

Accordingly, the Attorney General authorizes the appointment of outside counsel in the current legal matter pursuant to commencement of the request for proposal process laid out in subsection (D) of Policy #WVAGO-004.



J. Robert Leslie
Senior Deputy Attorney General

Date Signed: February 23, 2016