

2600 Fresno Street
Fresno, CA 93721

October 26, 2021

TO: THOMAS ESQUEDA, City Manager

FROM: DAVID BOLTON, Risk Manager
Department

SUBJECT: Uniquely Qualified for ADR Consultant Services

BACKGROUND

Beginning July 1, 2015, the City of Fresno (City) entered into an Alternative Dispute Resolution Program (ADR Program) with the Fresno Police Officers Association (FPOA) as outlined in the "Workers' Compensation Alternative Dispute Resolution Agreement." The ADR Program aims to prevent and resolve disputes in fair and efficient manner, thus streamlining medical care and reducing workers' compensation expenditures without compromising the benefits provided to injured workers.

Steven Siemers Dispute Resolutions Inc. provides consulting services for the ADR Program which includes the following:

- Provides assistance to the Joint Committee in monitoring the work of the ombudsperson and other ADR professionals on an ongoing basis for compliance with training as well as the requirements set forth in the ADR program.
- Assists the City and third-party claims administrator in supplying the legally required data to the Division of Workers' Compensation in March of every year.
- Attends all labor/management meetings and report on the performance of the program.
- Other duties and assignments as established by the Joint Committee consistent with the intent and purpose of the program.

In FY2021, Siemers Dispute Resolutions Inc. annual service charges amounted to \$35K. We anticipate charges may exceed \$50K this year.

RATIONALE

Steve Siemers Dispute Resolutions Inc. has provided consultation services for the ADR Program since July 1, 2015. Steven Siemers is uniquely qualified as being the only consultant for the City ADR Program since inception, and the only known consultant in California to support ADR Program for public safety officers.

MEMORANDUM

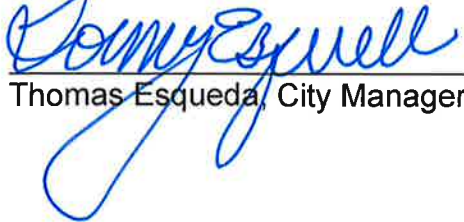
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The current contract for Steve Siemers Resolutions Inc. has expired and we are seeking to bypass the objective selection process as outlined under FMC 4-107 (h) and renew the contract under the *Uniquely Qualified* exemption.

APPROVAL

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Thomas Esqueda", is written over a horizontal line.

Thomas Esqueda, City Manager