

RESOLUTION

No. 22-270

Date of Adoption JUL 07 2022

Approved as to Form and Legality

Factual content certified by

WESLEY BRIDGES, ATTORNEY AT LAW

ADAME E. CRUZ, BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR

Councilman/woman

Kathy McBride

presents the following Resolution:

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING A PAYMENT OF \$70,000.00 TO THE LAW OFFICES OF RENAUD DEAPPOLONIO, LLC FOR SERVICES RENDERED FOR GENERAL MUNICIPAL LITIGATION AND OTHER LEGAL MATTERS THROUGH A FAIR AND OPEN PROCESS IN ACCORDANCE WITH N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.5 ET SEQ.

WHEREAS, in Fiscal Year 2021, the City of Trenton had, and continued to have, the need for professional legal services for General Municipal Litigation and other legal matters for the City of Trenton, Department of Law; and

WHEREAS, in Fiscal Year 2021, the law firm *Renaud DeAppolonio, LLC* (the "Firm") was awarded a contract with the City for General Municipal Litigation (the "Contract"); and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the Contract, the Firm was assigned the following litigation matters:

W. Reed Gusciora v. City of Trenton, et al., Docket No. MER-L-1753-20
W. Reed Gusciora v. City of Trenton, et al., Docket No. MER-L-857-20
John Morelli v. City of Trenton, et al., Docket No. MER-L-1500-21
Matthew Conlon v. City of Trenton, et al., Docket No. MER-L-2235-21
City of Trenton v. MPS Communications, Inc., Docket No. MER-L-2244-21
Jason Woodhead v. City of Trenton, et al., Docket No. MER-L-2532-21; and

WHEREAS, in February 2022 Trenton City Council rejected a Resolution to award a Contract to the Firm; and

WHEREAS, based upon the amount of open invoicing for the above referenced matters assigned to the Firm, there is currently an excess of \$70,000.00 due to the Firm for services rendered; and

WHEREAS, many of the above cases are well into, if not beyond the discovery phase; and

WHEREAS, although the Firm very likely has a successful *quantum merit* cause against the City for services rendered, it has not done so while continuing to protect the City and its employees' interests in these matters to the extent possible, such litigation is inevitable if the legal fees are not addressed; and

WHEREAS, the Firm has agreed to accept \$70,000.00 as full payment for services rendered from Fiscal Year 2021 to current; and

WHEREAS, funds in an amount not to exceed \$70,000.00 have been certified to be available in the CY22 Budget in Account No. 2-01- -35-3500-290 for this purpose; and

RESOLUTION

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS RESOLVED, by the City Council of the City of Trenton, that the anticipated dispute between the City and the Firm is hereby resolved in its entirety; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the City of Treasurer is hereby authorized to issue a warrant for the payment of \$70,000.00 to the Law Office of Renaud Deappolonio LLC in accordance with this resolution of the Firm's outstanding legal fees.

	Aye	Nay	Abstain	Absent		Aye	Nay	Abstain	Absent		Aye	Nay	Abstain	Absent
CALDWELL -WILSON	✓				RODRIGUEZ					MCBRIDE	✓			
HARRISON		✓			VAUGHN	✓								
MUSCHAL		✓			WILKINS	✓								

This Resolution was adopted at a Meeting of the City Council of the City of Trenton on JUL 07 2022

Kathy McBride
President of Council

[Signature]
City Clerk

**CITY OF TRENTON
DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE**

CERTIFICATION OF AVAILABILITY OF FUNDS

I, Ron Zilinski, Chief Financial Officer of the City of Trenton, do hereby certify, to the best of my knowledge and belief that there now exist adequate funds to award the amount not to exceed \$70,000.00 to Renaud DeAppolonio, LLC for services rendered regarding General Municipal Litigation and other legal matters for the City of Trenton. Such funds for said rendered services shall be available in the Department of Law's CY2022 Budget, Account Number 2-01- -35-3500-290.

Dated: 6/12/22


Ronald Zilinski, Chief Financial Officer

6/22/22

Account Number: 2-01- -35-3500-290 - \$70,000.00