



COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
OFFICE OF THE COUNTY COUNSEL

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Syn. No. 73
9/19/00

TO: SUPERVISOR ZEV YAROSLAVSKY, Chairman
SUPERVISOR GLORIA MOLINA
SUPERVISOR YVONNE BRATHWAITE BURKE
SUPERVISOR DON KNABE
SUPERVISOR MICHAEL D. ANTONOVICH

FROM: LLOYD W. PELLMAN 
County Counsel

RE: **Office of Independent Review - Attorney Costs**

When the Board approved the hiring process and operational plan for the Office of Independent Review (OIR) on September 19, 2000, this office was instructed to report back within six months after the start of the program on costs for part-time attorney hours and amounts billed.

As you may recall, after an extensive interview and review process conducted by a Board-approved panel, the Chief Attorney - OIR was hired in April 2001 and commenced services in June of 2001. On September 4, 2001, the Board authorized extension of contract offers to five attorneys to complete the staffing of the OIR. These offers were accepted and the fully staffed OIR commenced services in October of 2001.

The services of the Chief Attorney and other attorneys comprising the OIR are provided on a full-time basis with commensurate annual compensation paid in 12 monthly installments under their respective contracts. There currently are no part-time attorney services being provided to the OIR.

Based upon information provided by the Chief Administrative Office, compensation paid to OIR attorneys from the start of the fully staffed program in October 2001 through June 30, 2002 totaled \$750,000.00. Reimbursable expenses totaling \$11,298.36 were also paid during this period.

Total compensation and reimbursable expenses paid to OIR attorneys for the 2001-2002 fiscal year were \$811,486.01. For the 2000-2001 fiscal year, total compensation and expense reimbursements paid were \$16,720.95.

LWP:DMM:mr

c: David E. Janssen
Chief Administrative Officer

Violet Varona-Lukens, Executive Officer
Board of Supervisors

Michael Gennaco, Chief Attorney
Office of Independent Review