



GEORGE GASCÓN
LOS ANGELES COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY

HALL OF JUSTICE
211 WEST TEMPLE STREET LOS ANGELES, CA 90012 (213) 974-3500

ADOPTED

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

March 19, 2024

The Honorable Board of Supervisors
County of Los Angeles
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
500 West Temple Street
Los Angeles, California 90012

78 March 19, 2024

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jeff Levinson".

JEFF LEVINSON
INTERIM EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Dear Supervisors:

**AUTHORIZE THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY TO EMPLOY
A RETIRED COUNTY EMPLOYEE ON A TEMPORARY BASIS
AND GRANT AN EXCEPTION TO THE
180-DAY WAITING PERIOD REQUIRED UNDER
THE CALIFORNIA PUBLIC EMPLOYEE'S PENSION REFORM ACT
(ALL SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICTS)
(3 VOTES)**

SUBJECT

The Los Angeles County District Attorney is requesting the Board's approval to grant an exception to the 180-day waiting period required under the California Public Employee's Pension Reform Act of 2013, before reinstating a retired County employee as 120-day rehired retiree. The Department affirms that this retiree is highly skilled and the services they will be providing are critical.

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT THE BOARD:

1. Waive the 180-day break in service requirement and reinstate retired County employee, Ms. Sharon Woo, on a 120-day temporary assignment as a Deputy District Attorney within the Department's Executive Administration.
2. Approve the request for Ms. Woo to receive compensation at the rate of \$107.24 per hour, for up to 960 work hours within a fiscal year, upon the Board's approval of Ms. Woo's temporary reinstatement as Deputy District Attorney IV.

PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTION

The Department is in civil litigation with numerous plaintiffs concerning employment, whistleblowing, and retaliation allegations. Ms. Woo is a central witness for the County in defense of these allegations. Ms. Woo will be working with County Counsel and outside counsel, Glasser-Weil, to defend the Department's actions in these lawsuits. This will require background information discussions, witness deposition, and trial preparation. Deposition dates are scheduled to begin as soon as February 2024, requiring research, discussions, and preparation prior to the deposition dates. Preparation for these hearings will require Ms. Woo to access case information, personnel information, and prior office-related emails and other communications. Access to, and review of, this information will best be achieved by having Ms. Woo reinstated as a retired County employee prior to the deposition dates.

The request to waive the 180-day break in service requirement will provide the department with the sole, necessary resource it needs to respond to certain allegations and to assist in the defense in these civil lawsuits.

Implementation of Strategic Plan Goals

Approval of the recommended actions is consistent with the County's Strategic Plan Goal No. III, Strategy III. 3: Pursue Operational Effectiveness, Fiscal Responsibility, and Accountability.

FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING

The department will utilize current budgeted vacancies to fund the requested rehired retirees.

FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS

The recommended action is consistent with the Public Employee's Pension Reform Act of 2013, which allows a person who retires from the County to serve without reinstatement from retirement or loss or interruption of benefits provided by the retirement system, before a period of 180-days, following the date of retirement, as long as the Board certifies the position is critically needed. The retired person is the only individual with the knowledge and skill required to perform work of limited duration.

IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES (OR PROJECTS)

Approval of this request will provide the department with the sole, necessary resource it needs to respond to certain allegations and to assist in the defense in these civil lawsuits.

CONCLUSION

Following Board approval, the Executive Officer-Clerk of the Board is requested to return two (2) copies of the adopted Board Letter to Chavon Smith, District Attorney's Office, 211 West Temple Street, Suite 200, California, 90012-3205. Any questions may be directed to Ms. Smith at (213) 257-2701, or at chsmith@da.lacounty.gov.

The Honorable Board of Supervisors

3/19/2024

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Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Gascon", written in a cursive style.

GEORGE GASCON

District Attorney

CS

c: Executive Officer, Board of Supervisors
Chief Executive Officer
County Counsel
Auditor Controller
Human Resources
LA County Employees Retirement Association