

## **Office of the District Attorney** County of Westchester

## MEMORANDUM

## **OnBase: 109700**

Date: August 23, 2024

To: Honorable Board of Acquisition & Contract

- From: Miriam E. Rocah **District Attorney**
- RAYMOND SCULK SECRETARY Resolution authorizing the County of Westchester, acting by and through the District Re: Attorney's Office, to enter into an amendment to an agreement with Allie Meizlish, PLLC for the provision of consulting services in connection with the creation of programs that will help reduce reoffending by connecting offenders with needed services that will help stabilize their behavior, in order to exercise the County's option to extend the agreement commencing on September 14, 2024 through February 28, 2025 in an amount not-to-exceed \$66,000 and payable pursuant to an approved budget.

On September 7, 2023, your Honorable Board authorized the County of Westchester, acting by and through the District Attorney's Office (the "County"), to enter into an agreement (the "Agreement") with Allie Meizlish, PLLC (the "Consultant") for the provision of consulting services improve public safety by reducing reoffending, to connect offenders with needed services like drug treatment that will stabilize their behavior; to create more efficient allocation of scarce law enforcement resources that will allow the District Attorney's Office to focus on the most serious and harmful crimes; and to increase public trust and perceptions of the legitimacy of government, in an amount not-to-exceed \$132,000 commencing on September 14, 2023 through September 13, 2024, with the County having the option to extend the Agreement for an additional one-year period, and payable pursuant to an approved budget. The Agreement was subsequently executed.

Authority is being requested herein for the County to enter into an amendment (the "Amendment") to the Agreement in order for the County to exercise its option to extend the term of the Agreement commencing on September 14, 2024 through February 28, 2025, in an amount not-to-exceed \$66,000, payable pursuant to an approved budget, and subject to appropriations.

In accordance with the proposed Amendment, the Consultant will work with the District Attorney's Office to continue to plan and provide consulting services in connection with improving public safety by reducing reoffending, to connect offenders with needed services like drug treatment that will stabilize their behavior; to create more efficient allocation of scarce law enforcement resources that will allow the District Attorney's Office to focus on the most serious and harmful crimes; and to increase public trust and perceptions of the legitimacy of government.

The District Attorney's Office has been satisfied with the consulting services provided by the Consultant during the term of the Agreement and wishes to enter into the proposed Amendment in order to continue the positive advancements that have been accomplished pursuant to this Agreement. Specifically, the "Opt-In" Program was created which offers community based treatment and services instead of prosecution to individuals with substance use disorders arrested for misdemeanor drug possession.

The public purpose of the proposed Amendment is to improve public safety by reviewing, expanding and enhancing exiting problem solving courts, expanding pre-arraignment, early diversion programs and conducting a systematic needs assessment, recommendation and blueprint for restorative justice pilot program. The goals and objectives of the Amendment are to continue with more initiatives and expand the Opt-In Program county-wide. The goals and objectives of the Amendment will be tracked and monitored by the staff in the District Attorney's Office.

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## RESOLUTION

Upon a communication from the District Attorney, be it hereby

**RESOLVED**, that the County of Westchester, acting by and through the District Attorney's Office (the "County") is authorized to enter into an amendment (the "Amendment") to an agreement (the "Agreement") with Allie Meizlish, PLLC (the "Consultant") for the provision of consulting services in connection with the creation of programs that will help reduce reoffending by connecting offenders with needed services that will help stabilize their behavior, in order to exercise the County's option to extend the term of the Agreement commencing on September 14, 2024 through February 28, 2025, in an amount not-to-exceed \$66,000 payable pursuant to an approved budget; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Amendment is subject to County appropriations; and be it further

**RESOLVED**, that the Amendment is also subject to further financial analysis of the impact of any New York State Budget (the "State Budget") proposed and adopted during the term of this Agreement. The County shall retain the right, upon the occurrence of any release by the Governor of a proposed State Budget and/or the adoption of a State Budget or any amendments thereto, and for a reasonable period of time after such release(s) or adoption(s), to conduct an analysis of the impacts of any such State Budget on County finances. After such analysis, the County shall retain the right to either terminate this Amendment or to renegotiate the amounts and rates approved herein. If the County subsequently offers to pay a reduced amount to the Consultant, then the Consultant shall have the right to terminate this Amendment apon reasonable prior written notice; and be it further

**RESOLVED**, that the County Executive or his duly authorized designee is authorized and empowered to execute any and all documents necessary to effectuate the purposes hereof.

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Account to be	Ś						
Charged/Credited	2),						
	S		Major Program,				
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0,	Fund	Dept	Or Unit	Sub-Object	Account	Dollars	
	263	37	707Z	4380	T707	\$66,000	
Budget Funding Year(s) (must match resolution)		2 <u>5</u> Start I	Date <u>09/14/2024</u>	End Date <u>02</u>	2/28/2025		
Funding Source	Tax Do	Tax Dollars:					
8	State Aid: <u>\$66,000</u>						
\$ 66,000	Federa	Federal Aid:					
(must match resolution)	Other:	Other:					