



Office of the District Attorney
County of Westchester

MEMORANDUM

OnBase: 103091

Date: August 30, 2023

To: Honorable Board of Acquisition & Contract

From: Miriam E. Rocah
District Attorney

Re: Authority for the County of Westchester, acting by and through the District Attorney's Office, to enter into an agreement with Allie Meizlish, PLLC for the provision of consulting services in connection with the creation of programs in order to improve public safety including, but not limited to reducing reoffending by connecting offenders with needed services that will help stabilize their behavior, for the period commencing on September 14, 2023 through September 13, 2024, in an amount not to exceed \$132,000, payable pursuant to an approved budget, with the County having the sole option to extend the agreement for an additional period of one year.

The County of Westchester (the "County"), acting by and through the District Attorney's Office, ("the DA's Office"), issued a request for proposals on August 3, 2023 ("RFP") seeking qualified firms for the provision of consulting services as a crime response consultant to 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 DA's Office to focus on the most serious and harmful crimes, and to increase public trust and perceptions of the legitimacy of government. Proposals were due by August 18, 2023. In response to the RFP, one proposal was received from Allie Meizlish, PLLC (the "Consultant"). The proposal was carefully reviewed and it was determined that the Consultant met all of the criteria set forth in the RFP.

Authority is hereby requested for the County to enter in agreement with the Consultant for the provision of consulting services as a crime response consultant, to 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 DA's Office to focus on the most serious and harmful crimes, and to increase public trust and perceptions of the legitimacy of government (the "Agreement"). The term of the Agreement will commence on September 14, 2023 through September 13, 2024, in an amount not to exceed \$132,000, payable pursuant to an approved budget, with the County having the sole option to extend the Agreement for an additional period of one year.

In accordance with the proposed Agreement, the Consultant will work with the DA's Office to plan and provide consulting services in order to 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 DA's Office to focus on the most serious and harmful crimes, and to increase public trust and perceptions of the legitimacy of government.

The Consultant has provided similar services as a Senior Counsel for Crime and Justice Policy at the New York City Mayor's Office of Criminal Justice (MOCJ). In addition while at MOCJ, she spearheaded the NYC Criminal Justice Reform Act (CJRA).

The public purpose of the Agreement is to improve public safety by reviewing, expanding and enhancing existing problem solving courts, expanding pre-arraignment, early diversion programs and conducting a systematic needs assessment, and recommendation and blueprint for a restorative justice pilot program. The Consultant's performance pursuant to the Agreement will be tracked and monitored by DA's Office personnel.

Accordingly, approval of the annexed Resolution is respectfully requested.

MER/CJF/LAC

APPROVED BOARD OF ACQUISITION & CONTRACT - 09/01/2023 - RAYMOND SCULKS SECRETARY

RESOLUTION

Upon a communication from the District Attorney, be it hereby

RESOLVED, that the County of Westchester (the “County”), acting by and through the District Attorney’s Office (the “DA’s Office”) is authorized to ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH ALLIE MEIZLISH, PLLC FOR THE PROVISION OF CONSULTING SERVICES IN CONNECTION WITH THE CREATION OF PROGRAMS IN ORDER TO 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 DA’S OFFICE TO FOCUS ON THE MOST SERIOUS AND HARMFUL CRIMES, AND TO INCREASE PUBLIC TRUST AND PERCEPTIONS OF THE LEGITIMACY OF GOVERNMENT, FOR THE PERIOD COMMENCING ON SEPTEMBER 14, 2023 THROUGH SEPTEMBER 13, 2024, IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$132,000, PAYABLE PURSUANT TO AN APPROVED BUDGET (THE “AGREEMENT”), WITH THE COUNTY HAVING THE SOLE OPTION TO EXTEND THE AGREEMENT FOR AN ADDITIONAL PERIOD OF ONE YEAR; and be it further

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

RESOLVED, that the Agreement 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 Agreement 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 Agreement upon reasonable prior written notice; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the County Executive or his duly authorized designee is authorized to execute said agreement and all documents necessary to effectuate the purposes thereof.

Account to be
Charged/Credited

Fund	Dept	Major Program, Program & Phase Or Unit	Object/ Sub-Object	Trust Account	Dollars
264	37	8001	4380		\$132,000

Budget Funding Year(s) 2023-24 Start Date 09/14/2023 End Date 09/13/2024
(must match resolution)

Funding Source Tax Dollars: _____
State Aid: _____
\$ 132,000 Federal Aid: _____
(must match resolution) Other: \$132,000