

July 30, 2026

**AUTHORIZE NEW RETENTION OF VARIOUS OUTSIDE COUNSEL LAW FIRMS
ON AN HOURLY OR FLAT FEE BASIS**

THE GENERAL COUNSEL REPORTS THE FOLLOWING DECISION:

New retention of various outside counsel law firms for Fiscal Year 2027.

DESCRIPTION: The General Counsel has retained various outside counsel law firms (see attached list of firms) to provide legal services to the Board in fiscal year 2027 on an hourly or flat fee basis, including, but not limited to the following legal services: representation in administrative hearings, affirmative litigation, consultative services, litigation defense, transactions, and such other matters as deemed appropriate by the General Counsel. The law firms and the not-to-exceed amounts authorized are set forth in Attachment A. As invoices are received, they will be reviewed by the General Counsel and, if satisfactory, processed for payment.

LSC REVIEW: LSC approval is not applicable to this report.

AFFIRMATIVE ACTION STATUS: None.

FINANCIAL: Charge \$350,000.00 to Risk Management - Professional Services:

Budget Classification Fiscal Year 2027..... 10760-115-54125-252801-000312

GENERAL CONDITIONS:

Inspector General – Each party to the agreement shall acknowledge that, in accordance with 105 ILCS 5/34-13.1, the Inspector General of the Chicago Board of Education has the authority to conduct certain investigations and that the Inspector General shall have access to all information and personnel necessary to conduct those investigations.

Conflicts – The agreement shall not be legally binding on the Board if entered into in violation of the provisions of 105 ILCS 5/34-21.3 which restricts the employment of, or the letting of contracts to, former Board members during the one year period following expiration or other termination of their terms of office.

Indebtedness – The Board's Indebtedness Policy Section 404.2, as amended from time to time, shall be incorporated into and made a part of the agreement.

Ethics – The Board's Ethics Code adopted August 24, 2023 (23-0824-PO2), as amended from time to time, shall be incorporated into and made a part of the agreement.

Contingent Liability – The agreement shall contain the clause that any expenditure beyond the current fiscal year is deemed a contingent liability, subject to appropriation in the subsequent fiscal year budget(s).

APPROVED,

Signed by:

Elizabeth Barton

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ELIZABETH K BARTON
General Counsel

ATTACHMENT A**OUTSIDE COUNSEL LAW FIRMS**

	Firm/Practitioner	Not to exceed Authority
1.	Làzaro Law Group, LLC	\$100,000.00
2.	McCoy Leavitt Laskey, LLC	\$250,000.00
	TOTAL NTE AUTHORITY:	\$350,000.00