

County of Passaic

Board of County Commissioners



OFFICE OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Director Cassandra "Sandi" Lazzara
Deputy Director Orlando Cruz
John W. Bartlett
Rodney De Vore
Bruce James
Michael Ramaglia
Christina Schratz

401 Grand Street
Paterson, New Jersey 07505
Tel: 973-881-4402
Fax: 973-742-3746

Matthew P. Jordan, Esq.
Administrator
Nadege D. Allwaters, Esq.
County Counsel
Louis E. Imhof
Clerk Of The Board

Date: Jun 23, 2026 - 5:30 PM

Agenda: RESOLUTION RETAINING THE LAW OFFICE OF WILFREDO J. ORTIZ & ASSOCIATES TO PROVIDE OUTSIDE LEGAL SERVICES IN THE MATTER OF ESPERANZA F. GENAO V. COUNTY OF PASSAIC, ET AL., DOCKET NO. PAS-L-1465-26, PURSUANT TO N.J.S.A. 40A:11-5 AND RFQ-26-074

THIS RESOLUTION WAS REQUESTED BY:
COUNTY COUNSEL

REVIEWED BY:

Matthew P. Jordan, Esq.
COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND LEGALITY:

Nadege D. Allwaters, Esq.
COUNTY COUNSEL

Administration and Finance

COMMITTEE NAME

| Official Resolution# | |
|----------------------|---------------------|
| Meeting Date | 6/23/2026 |
| Introduced Date | 6/16/2026 |
| Adopted Date | |
| Agenda Item | 4. |
| CAF# | T-19-56-850-000-801 |
| Purchase Req. # | |
| Result | |

RESOLUTION RETAINING THE LAW OFFICE OF WILFREDO J. ORTIZ & ASSOCIATES TO PROVIDE OUTSIDE LEGAL SERVICES IN THE MATTER OF ESPERANZA F. GENAO V. COUNTY OF PASSAIC, ET AL., DOCKET NO. PAS-L-1465-26, PURSUANT TO N.J.S.A. 40A:11-5 AND RFQ-26-074

WHEREAS, the County of Passaic (“County”) is a body politic and corporate pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40:18-1 and vested with all rights contained therein; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40:20-1, the Board of County Commissioners of the County of Passaic (“Board”) is vested with managing the property, finances, and affairs of the County; and

WHEREAS, the County is a named defendant in Esperanza F. Genao v. County of Passaic, et al., Docket No. PAS-L-1465-26, a matter pending in Superior Court, requiring the retention of outside legal counsel; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:11-5, on May 22, 2026, the Passaic County Purchasing Agent issued RFQ-26-074, Expand Pool Outside Legal Counsel (“RFQ-26-074”), seeking to expand the pool of law firms qualified to provide outside legal services to the County in calendar year 2026; and

WHEREAS, contemporaneously with this Resolution, the Board is passing a separate resolution qualifying an expanded pool of outside legal counsel under RFQ-26-074 for calendar year 2026, which includes the Law Office of Wilfredo J. Ortiz & Associates; and

WHEREAS, the Passaic County Counsel is recommending to retain the Law Office of Wilfredo J. Ortiz & Associates to represent the County Defendants in the Genao matter, for an amount not to exceed sixty thousand dollars (\$60,000.00); and

WHEREAS, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 52:32-60.1, et seq., the Law Office of Wilfredo J. Ortiz & Associates executed the Non-Involvement in Prohibited Activities in Russia or Belarus Certification, attached hereto and made part of this Resolution, certifying the law firm is not involved in prohibited activities in Russia and Belarus, and the County confirmed that the Law Office of Wilfredo J. Ortiz & Associates is not identified on the Specially Designated Nationals and Blocked Persons list created by the Office of Foreign Assets Control; and

WHEREAS, funds are available in Account No. T-19-56-850-000-801, or any account that may be deemed appropriate by the Chief Financial Officer or his designee, and the availability of funds has been contingently certified by the Chief Financial Officer subject to sufficient funds being appropriated by the Board in the 2026 and/or subsequent County budget(s), which is attached hereto and made part of this Resolution; and

WHEREAS, this matter was discussed at the June 10, 2026, Administration and Finance Committee meeting, and is being recommended to the Board for approval.

NOW, THEREFORE, LET IT BE RESOLVED, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:11-5(1)(a)(i), the Board of County Commissioners of the County of Passaic retains the Law Office of Wilfredo J. Ortiz & Associates to represent the County in Esperanza F. Genao v. County of Passaic, et al., Docket No. PAS-L-1465-26, for an amount not to exceed sixty thousand dollars (\$60,000.00), in accordance with the terms and conditions set forth in RFQ-26-074.

LET IT BE FURTHER RESOLVED, the Clerk to the Board shall publish on the Public Notices page of the County’s website, a brief notice stating the nature, duration, service, and amount of the contract to the Law Office of Wilfredo J. Ortiz & Associates, and maintain a copy of this Resolution on file and available for public inspection in the Office of the Clerk to the Board.

LET IT BE FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Clerk to the Board, County Counsel, and Director of the Board are authorized to take any action necessary to carry out the purpose of this Resolution.