

MARCUS J. MOLINARO
COUNTY EXECUTIVE



JAMES M. FEDORCHAK
COUNTY ATTORNEY

COUNTY OF DUTCHESS
DEPARTMENT OF LAW

October 14, 2015

James L. Coughlan, Comptroller
22 Market Street
Poughkeepsie, NY 12601

Re: Assigned Counsel Audit
Our File No. G-0626

Dear Jim:

We have one comment.

On pg. 4 in the penultimate sentence of the first paragraph the audit states: "An additional spreadsheet is also kept to monitor the expenses of services charged by the law firms against the funds previously paid to the firm as a retainer."

I stand to be corrected but we cannot think of one firm we have retained while I have been County Attorney on a prepaid retainer basis. All of our arrangements have been on an hourly basis with the expectation that we will be billed monthly. Expenses are included with the monthly bills and are to be supported with copies of statements for services rendered from vendors to the firms.

We view the audit as constructive and have instituted the procedural changes sited in the audit to assure accountability from our retained firms.

Thank you for having given us the opportunity to review and provide our comments in this regard.

Very truly yours,


JAMES M. FEDORCHAK
County Attorney

JMF/kh