

Exhibit “A”

PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT

THIS AGREEMENT made and entered into on this ____ day of April, 2022 by and between the **TOWNSHIP OF WEST ORANGE**, a municipal corporation of the State of New Jersey, with its Township Hall located at 66 Main Street, West Orange, New Jersey 07052, (the “TOWNSHIP”) and Joseph A. Deer, Esq., attorney at law of the State of New Jersey, with an office at 571 Bloomfield Avenue, Verona, New Jersey 07044 (“Deer”).

WITNESSETH THAT:

WHEREAS, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 2B:24-3, all municipalities are required to have a municipal public defender appointed by the governing body to perform the duties set forth in N.J.S.A. 2B:24-6;

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the mutual promises, terms and conditions hereinafter set forth, the parties hereto agree as follows:

1. The Township hereby retains the services of Joseph A. Deer, Esq. (“Deer”) as the municipal public defender commencing on January 1, 2022 and the Township agrees to pay Deer at a rate of Three Hundred Fifty Dollars (\$350) per court session as an independent contractor (“Session Fee”).

2. Deer shall be entitled to payment for such services rendered upon submission of duly executed vouchers on a monthly basis detailing the number of sessions actually rendered which shall be submitted to the Chief Financial Officer of the Township.

3. No later than fifteen (15) days from the commencement of this Agreement, Deer shall provide to the Township a proof of professional malpractice insurance in the amount of not less than \$500,000 per occurrence and \$1,000,000 in the aggregate. Deer shall maintain this level of insurance for the entire duration of his term as the Municipal Public Defender.

4. Deer is hereby placed on notice that no Department Head, individual member of the Governing Body, or any agent, servant or employee of the Township of West Orange possesses any lawful authority to: (a) engage the rendition of services or the performance of work; (b) authorize the continuation of services or work beyond the amount specifically approved in the Resolution and Certificate of Funds; or to (c) represent that future funds will be available as compensation for current services. Any such acts shall be deemed ultra vires and beyond the scope of any authority that individual may possess. No bills, statements or vouchers for any amount exceeding that originally approved will be honored or paid by the Township, irrespective of whether such services were actually performed.

6. The provisions of this agreement are subject to the limitations of the provisions of the New Jersey Tort Claims Act, N.J.S.A. 59:2-1 et seq., and the New Jersey Contractual Liability Act, N.J.S.A. 59:13-1 et seq.

7. This agreement shall be governed by the laws of the State of New Jersey without regard to principles of conflict of laws. All contract claims under this agreement shall be subject to and governed by the provisions of the New Jersey Contractual Liability Act N.J.S.A. 59:13-1 et seq.

8. This agreement may be terminated at any time on thirty (30) days written notice. No cause or justification is required for termination.

9. During the term of this agreement Deer shall be present at all municipal court sessions where a public defender's services may be needed. If an emergency arises, Deer shall be required to obtain a substitute public defender and provide notice to the Municipal Court Administrator, Municipal Prosecutor and Township Attorney. Such replacement shall receive the Session Fee for that session.

10. The term of this agreement shall expire on December 31, 2022; however, absent the selection of a new public defender, all terms and conditions of this agreement shall continue in full force and effect.

11. Both the Township and Deer agree to abide by the mandatory equal employment opportunity language as set forth in N.J.S.A. 10:5-31 et. seq. and N.J.A.C. 17:27.

12. During the performance of this contract, the Township agrees as follows:

(a) The Township, where applicable, will not discriminate against any employee or applicant for employment because of age, race, creed, color, national origin, ancestry, marital status, affectional or sexual orientation or sex. Except with respect to affectional or sexual orientation, the Township will take affirmative action to ensure that such applicants are recruited and employed, and that employees are treated during employment regard to their age, race, creed, color, national origin, ancestry, marital status, affectional or sexual orientation or sex. Such action shall include, but not limited to the following: employment, upgrading, demotion, or transfer; recruitment or recruitment advertising; layoff or termination; rates of pay or other forms of compensation; and selection for training, including apprenticeship. The Township agrees to post in conspicuous places, available to employees and applicants for employment, notices to be provided by the Public Agency Compliance Officer setting forth provisions of this nondiscrimination clause.

The Township, where applicable will, in all solicitations or advertisements for employees placed by or on behalf of the Township, state that all qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to age, race, creed, color, national origin, ancestry, marital status, affectional or sexual orientation or sex.

The Township, where applicable, will send to each labor union or representative or workers with which it has a collective bargaining agreement or other contract or understanding, a notice, to be provided by the agency contracting officer advising the labor union or workers' representative of the Township's commitments under this act and shall post copies of the notice in conspicuous places available to employees and applicants for employment.

The Township, where applicable, agrees to comply with any regulations promulgated by the Treasurer pursuant to **N.J.S.A. 10:5-31 et seq.** as amended and supplemented from time to time and the Americans with Disabilities Act.

The Township, agrees to inform in writing its appropriate recruitment agencies including, but not limited to, employment agencies, placement bureaus, colleges, universities, labor unions, that it does not discriminate on the basis of age, creed, color, national origin, ancestry, marital status, affectional or sexual orientation or sex, and that it will discontinue the use of any recruitment agency which engages in direct or indirect discriminatory practices.

The Township agrees to revise any of its testing procedures, if necessary, to assure that all personal testing conforms with the principles of job-related testing, as established by the statutes and court decisions of the State of New Jersey and as established by applicable Federal law and applicable Federal court decisions.

In conforming with the applicable employment goals, the Township agrees to review all procedures relating to transfer, upgrading, downgrading and layoff to ensure that all such actions are taken without regard to age, creed, color, national origin, ancestry, marital status, affectional or sexual orientation or sex, consistent with the statutes and court decisions of the State of New Jersey, and applicable Federal law and applicable Federal court decisions.

The Township shall furnish such reports or other documents to the Division of Contract Compliance & EEO as may be requested by the Division from time to time in order to carry out the purposes of these regulations, and public agencies shall furnish such information as may be requested by the Division of Contract Compliance & EEO for conducting a compliance investigation to Subchapter 10 of the **Administrative Code at N.J.A.C. 17:27.**

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties have set their hands and seals the day and year first above written.

TOWNSHIP OF WEST ORANGE

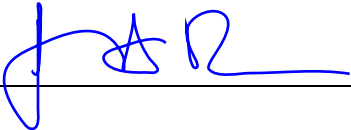
ATTEST:

KAREN J. CARNEVALE, R.M.C

By: _____
ROBERT D. PARISI, MAYOR

JOSEPH A. DEER, ESQ.

WITNESS:

By:  _____