

**DETERMINATION AND FINDINGS  
FOR  
SOLE SOURCE PROCUREMENT**

1. **Authorization**<sup>1</sup>

- D.C. Code § 34-801
- D.C. Code § 34-804
- 15 D.C.M.R. § 3700

2. **Minimum Need**

The Office of the People’s Counsel requests the services of Marjorie K. Conner, Esq.

3. **Estimated Fair and Reasonable Price**

**\$27,000**

4. **Facts That Justify a Sole Source Procurement**

A. The Office of the People’s Counsel (“OPC” or “Office”) is an independent agency of the District of Columbia government. By law, it is the advocate for consumers of natural gas, electric and telephone services in the District. District of Columbia law designates the Office as a party to all utility-related proceedings before the Public Service Commission. The Office also represents the interests of District ratepayers before federal regulatory agencies. The Office is authorized to investigate the operation and valuation of utility companies independently of any pending proceedings.

Marjorie K. Conner, Esq. is a telecommunications attorney with 25 years experience practicing before state regulatory agencies and the U.S. Federal Communications Commission. In addition, Ms. Conner has represented various

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<sup>1</sup> Procurement authority is vested in the Commission pursuant to § 13(c) (2) of the Residential Real Property Seller Disclosure, Funeral Services Date Charge, and Public Service Commission Independent Procurement Authority Act of 1998 (D.C. Law 12-263). The Commission is statutorily exempt from the D.C. procurement rules as set forth in D.C. Official Code § 1-1181 et seq.

D.C. Code § 34-804, hereby established within the Public Service Commission of the District of Columbia, as established by D.C. Code § 34-801, an Office to be known as the “Office of the People’s Counsel.” The Office shall be a party, as of right, in any investigation, valuation, reevaluation, or proceeding of any nature by the Public Service Commission of or concerning a public utility operating in the District of Columbia.

15 D.C.M.R. § 3700: Public Utilities and Cable Television – Public Service Commission Rules of Practice and Procedure.

municipalities, counties and state agencies. The legal tasks covered in this procurement will include:

- Consulting with technical witnesses to prepare for cross-examination in evidentiary proceedings before the Commission
- Conducting cross-examination in evidentiary proceedings before the Commission
- Providing input in and drafting the initial and post-hearing briefs as directed
- Assisting OPC as necessary.

B. Given Marjorie K. Conner's familiarity with telecommunications issues and, in particular, the issues designated in Formal Case No. 1090, Ms. Conner is uniquely qualified to assist the Office of the People's Counsel in the evidentiary hearings and brief preparation phases of the case concerning the quality of Verizon Washington, D.C. Inc's regulated telecommunications service provided to District consumers and ratepayers.

C. It is for the reasons outlined herein that it is recommended that a sole source contract to awarded to Marjorie K. Conner, Esq., SNR Denton US LLP.

5. **Certification by the Contracting Officer**

I hereby certify that the above facts are accurate and complete.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Frank G. Scott, Jr.  
Contracting Officer

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

**DETERMINATION**

Based on the above findings and in accordance with the District of Columbia procurement regulations: *DC Law: 34-804; DC Law: 34-804; and 15 DCMR §3700*, I hereby determine that

the award of a sole source contract for the services described herein is in the best interest of the Office of the People's Counsel.

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Sandra Mattavous-Frye  
People's Counsel

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Date

### **DETERMINATION**

Based on the above findings and in accordance with the District of Columbia procurement regulations: *DC Law: 34-804; DC Law: 34-804; and 15 DCMR §3700*, I hereby determine that the award of a sole source contract for the services described herein is in the best interest of the Office of the People's Counsel.