

BEFORE THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

FOR THE COUNTY OF MULTNOMAH

ORDINANCE NO. 607

An Ordinance concerning the organization and functions of the Office of County Counsel and repealing MCC 2.30.450(H).

Multnomah County ordains as follows:

Section 1. Office of County Counsel

A. The County Counsel function shall consist of the County Counsel and such assistants as are necessary to perform the functions of the office.

B. The County Counsel shall be appointed and may be removed by the Chair, who shall consult with the Board prior to making the appointment or removal.

C. Assistant County Counsels and support staff shall be appointed by the County Counsel.

D. The County Counsel and all Assistant County Counsels shall be members in good standing of the Bar of the State of Oregon.

E. The County Counsel shall be the Chief Legal Officer of the County

F. The County Counsel function shall be organizationally part of the Office of the Chair and subject to the Chair's general administrative supervision.

G. Nothing in this ordinance is intended to abrogate the authority of the Board of Commissioners to retain counsel in accordance with ORS 203.145.

Section 2. Duties

The County Counsel shall have the following duties:

(1) Appear for, represent and defend the County, its boards and commissions, officers and employees and other persons entitled to County representation under the Oregon Tort Claims Act in all appropriate civil law proceedings;

(2) Draft or review all ordinances, resolutions, rules, orders, contracts, bonds, conveyances, deeds and other legally binding instruments to which the County is a party;

(3) Give advice and opinions orally and in writing, on matters of a civil nature in connection with the functions of the county, its officials and employees;

(4) Retain and, as appropriate, supervise and coordinate the services of outside legal counsel when necessary.

Section 3. Records

(A) The County Counsel shall have charge and custody of the Office of County Counsel and of all legal papers pertaining thereto and shall keep in the Office a complete docket and set of pleadings of all suits, actions or proceedings in which the County or any official, employee or department is a party. If the proceedings are being conducted by outside counsel the County Counsel shall keep such pleadings and records as are deemed necessary;

(B) The County Counsel shall keep and record all significant written opinions furnished by the Office of County Counsel and shall compile and keep an index thereof.

Section 4. Chief Assistant County Counsel

The County Counsel may designate a Chief Assistant who shall act as the County Counsel in his or her absence.

Section 5. Repeal

MCC 2.30.450(H) is repealed.

Section 6. Adoption.

This Ordinance, being necessary for the health, safety, and general welfare of the people of Multnomah County, shall take effect on the thirtieth (30th) day after its adoption, pursuant to Section 5.50 of the Charter of Multnomah County.

ADOPTED this 19th day of January, 1989, being the date of its second reading before the Board of County Commissioners of Multnomah County.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
MULTNOMAH COUNTY, OREGON

(SEAL)

By Polly Casterline
Polly Casterline
Vice Multnomah County Chair

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

LAURENCE KRESSEL, COUNTY COUNSEL
FOR MULTNOMAH COUNTY, OREGON

By Laurence Kressel
Laurence Kressel
County Counsel

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