

State of West Virginia Office of the Attorney General

Patrick Morrisey Attorney General

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WRITTEN DETERMINATION REGARDING THE APPOINTMENT OF OUTSIDE COUNSEL ON BEHALF OF MARSHALL UNIVERSITY

Marshall University ("Marshall") is in need of legal representation in conjunction with immigration matters for its employees and students. More specifically, Marshall is in need of an attorney capable of providing employment based immigration services including, but not limited to, assisting with the preparation and filing of H-1B visa petitions (including Labor Condition Applications), and permanent residency applications (including PERM applications, I-140 visa petitions and I-485 adjustment of status applications). Marshall could also require counseling regarding O-1 visas, J-1 visas, J-1 visa waivers, TN visa status and various other immigration matters. Furthermore, Marshall may be in need of assistance in conjunction with reviewing I-9s of foreign nationals and counseling regarding general immigration related matters which affect students.

In accordance with the Attorney General's Policy on Outside Counsel (Policy #WVAGO-004), the Office of the Attorney General has determined that it is both cost-effective and in the interest of the public to appoint outside counsel to assist WVSU with the legal matter set forth herein, based on the following factors:

- The matter at issue requires specific expertise in immigration law not currently possessed by the Office of the Attorney General.
- The legal services needed would require a significant time commitment from the Office of the Attorney General to familiarize itself in immigration law.
- There is a particular need for a private attorney with experience handling immigration matters in the context of higher education.
- Prompt and informed legal representation is needed to assure Marshall's interest in this immigration matter are met.
- It is not feasible or cost-effective for the Office of the Attorney General to provide the requested legal services without assistance from outside counsel at this time.

Accordingly, the Attorney General authorizes the appointment of outside counsel for the legal matter in question pursuant to commencement of the request for proposal process laid out in subsection (D) of Policy #WVAGO-004.

Robert Leslie

Senior Deputy Attorney General

Date Signed: April 17, 2015