

MONTEREY COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

MEETING:	December 6, 2011	AGENDA NO. Consent
SUBJECT:	Approve and amend the County Counsel Office's budget unit 121 for Fiscal Year (FY) 2011-12 making the following changes: 1. Add two Senior Deputy County Counsel; 2. Add one Senior Legal Secretary-Confidential; and 3. Reallocate one Assistant County Counsel to Chief Assistant County Counsel.	
DEPARTMENT:	Office of County Counsel	

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the Board of Supervisors:

Approve and amend the County Counsel Office's budget unit 121 for Fiscal Year (FY) 2011-12 making the following changes:

1. Add two Senior Deputy County Counsel;
2. Add one Senior Legal Secretary-Confidential; and
3. Reallocate one Assistant County Counsel to Chief Assistant County Counsel.

SUMMARY DISCUSSION:

The Office of County Counsel needs to increase its expertise in several areas of law beneficial to the County and entities under the control of the Board of Supervisors. Those areas most in need of immediate expertise include employment law, labor law, water law, litigation and healthcare law. In addition, the County currently funds administrative support services to the Grand Jury through the Monterey County Superior Court. The Superior Court desires to discontinue providing administrative support to the Grand Jury. Because Grand Jury activities are confidential and County Counsel has a statutory attorney-client relationship with the Grand Jury providing this service through County Counsel is appropriate. Making the above changes will enable County Counsel to fulfill these objectives.

OTHER AGENCY INVOLVEMENT:

The County Administrative Office supports these actions.

FINANCING:

Revenue to support this request will be realized from charges to the departments and agencies served. In addition, the County Counsel contains sufficient funds to cover the associated up-front costs. Finally, funds currently paid to the Courts for Grand Jury administrative support will return to the County and can be shifted to County Counsel if needed.

December 2, 2011

CHARLES J. MCKEE
COUNTY COUNSEL