December 10, 2002

The Honorable Common Council of the City of Milwaukee Room 205, City Hall

Re: Resolution Authorizing Additional Expenditure for Outside Counsel and Payment of

Expert Witness Fee in Wisconsin Correctional Services Appeal before the Board of

Zoning Appeals

Dear Council Members:

Enclosed please find a proposed resolution. We ask that it be considered by the Committee on Judiciary and Legislation and provide the following information.

The Common Council previously resolved to pay for an outside counsel to represent the City's interests before the Board of Zoning Appeals to oppose a request by the Wisconsin Correctional Services for a reasonable accommodation under the federal disabilities law in order to operate a mental health clinic at North 37th and West Wisconsin Avenue. Our office has a conflict and cannot represent the City before the Board as our office has previously represented and continues to advise the Board with respect to this matter.

In two previous resolutions, the Council approved a total of \$20,000 for this purpose, based upon the best available estimate of the additional amount that would be required to provide these legal services. Our office has now received invoices from the outside counsel and an expert witness retained by that counsel totaling approximately \$14,000. This billing includes all attorneys fees and expert witness fee through the completion of the hearing before the Board of Zoning Appeals and subsequent legal submissions to the Board so that it can reach a decision. While the Board has yet to announce its decision it is anticipated that only an insignificant amount of legal fees are yet to be incurred once the Board has made its determination.

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Given the conflict, and the City's prior determination, we have prepared the accompanying resolution authorizing an expenditure of an additional \$14,000 for payment of services rendered and likely to be rendered.

Very truly yours,

GRANT F. LANGLEY City Attorney

JAN A. SMOKOWICZ Assistant City Attorney

GFL:JAS:enm Enc.

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