

**WHATCOM COUNTY CONTRACT
INFORMATION SHEET**

Whatcom County Contract No.
202312006-1

Originating Department:	Administrative Services		
Division/Program: (i.e. Dept. Division and Program)	Human Resources		
Contract or Grant Administrator:	Melissa Keeley		
Contractor's / Agency Name:	Summit Law Group		
Is this a New Contract? If not, is this an Amendment or Renewal to an Existing Contract?		Yes <input checked="" type="radio"/> No <input type="radio"/>	
Yes <input type="radio"/> No <input checked="" type="radio"/>		If Amendment or Renewal, (per WCC 3.08.100 (a)) Original Contract #: <u>202312006</u>	
Does contract require Council Approval? Yes <input checked="" type="radio"/> No <input type="radio"/> If No, include WCC:			
Already approved? Council Approved Date: _____ (Exclusions see: Whatcom County Codes 3.06.010, 3.08.090 and 3.08.100)			
Is this a grant agreement?			
Yes <input type="radio"/> No <input checked="" type="radio"/> If yes, grantor agency contract number(s): _____ CFDA#: _____			
Is this contract grant funded?			
Yes <input type="radio"/> No <input checked="" type="radio"/> If yes, Whatcom County grant contract number(s): _____			
Is this contract the result of a RFP or Bid process?			
Yes <input checked="" type="radio"/> No <input type="radio"/> If yes, RFP and Bid number(s): <u>23-62</u> Contract Cost Center: <u>55004000</u>			
Is this agreement excluded from E-Verify? No <input type="radio"/> Yes <input checked="" type="radio"/> If no, include Attachment D Contractor Declaration form.			
If YES, indicate exclusion(s) below:			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Professional services agreement for certified/licensed professional. <input type="checkbox"/> Goods and services provided due to an emergency <input type="checkbox"/> Contract work is for less than \$100,000. <input type="checkbox"/> Contract for Commercial off the shelf items (COTS). <input type="checkbox"/> Contract work is for less than 120 days. <input type="checkbox"/> Work related subcontract less than \$25,000. <input type="checkbox"/> Interlocal Agreement (between Governments). <input type="checkbox"/> Public Works - Local Agency/Federally Funded FHWA.			
Contract Amount:(sum of original contract amount and any prior amendments): \$ <u>89,076</u>	Council approval required for; all property leases, contracts or bid awards exceeding \$40,000 , and professional service contract amendments that have an increase greater than \$10,000 or 10% of contract amount, whichever is greater, except when: 1. Exercising an option contained in a contract previously approved by the council. 2. Contract is for design, construction, r-o-w acquisition, prof. services, or other capital costs approved by council in a capital budget appropriation ordinance. 3. Bid or award is for supplies. 4. Equipment is included in Exhibit "B" of the Budget Ordinance. 5. Contract is for manufacturer's technical support and hardware maintenance of electronic systems and/or technical support and software maintenance from the developer of proprietary software currently used by Whatcom County.		
This Amendment Amount: \$ <u>75,000</u>			
Total Amended Amount: \$ <u>164,076</u>			
Summary of Scope:			
Legal representation for matters relating to labor relations, including collective bargaining and contract negotiations so that the County can meet its bargaining obligations under RCW 41.56.			
Term of Contract: <u>1/1/24</u>	Expiration Date: <u>12/31/26</u>		
Contract Routing: 1. Prepared by: <u>Melissa Keeley</u> Date: <u>12/1/25</u> 2. Attorney signoff: <u>Jesse Corkern by email</u> Date: <u>12/2/25</u> 3. AS Finance reviewed: <u>Andrew Tan by email</u> Date: <u>12/2/25</u> 4. IT reviewed (if IT related): <u>n/a</u> Date: <u>12/17/25</u> 5. Contractor signed: _____ Date: _____ 6. Executive contract review: <u>JL</u> Date: <u>12/17/2025</u> 7. Council approved, if necessary: <u>Approved AB2025-880</u> Date: <u>12/9/25</u> 8. Executive signed: <u>SS</u> Date: <u>12/17/2025</u> 9. Original to Council: _____ Date: _____			

**WHATCOM COUNTY
ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES**



HUMAN RESOURCES
County Courthouse
311 Grand Avenue, Suite #107
Bellingham, WA 98225-4038
(360) 778-5300
hr@co.whatcom.wa.us

Melissa Keeley
Director

MEMORANDUM

TO: Satpal Sidhu, County Executive *MK*

FROM: Melissa Keeley, Human Resources Director

DATE: December 1, 2025

SUBJECT: Contract Amendment between Whatcom County and Summit Law Group

Enclosed is a Contract Amendment between Whatcom County and Summit Law Group for your review and signature.

Background and Purpose

Summit Law provides Human Resources with legal representation on matters relating to labor relations, including collective bargaining and contract negotiations. The purpose of this contract amendment is to increase the annual authority from \$89,076 to a not to exceed amount of \$164,0176 to meet our bargaining obligations for 2025. The County aggressively scheduled 47 bargaining sessions with eight union groups to promote the likelihood of achieving successor agreements by the end of 2025. We have tentative agreements with some groups, but have more bargaining work to do with others.

Funding Amount and Source

A supplemental budget request for \$75,000 was introduced on November 18, 2025 (AB2025-816). In 2026, the contract will revert to the original not to exceed amount of \$89,076.

Please contact me at extension 5305, if you have any questions or concerns regarding the terms of this agreement.

Whatcom County Contract No.

2023 12006-1

Amendment No. 1
Whatcom County Contract No. 202312006
Between Whatcom County and Summit Law Group

THIS AMENDMENT is to the Contract between Whatcom County and Summit Law Group, for the purpose of providing professional legal services in matters relating to labor relations and professional labor negotiator services. The parties agree to the following:

1. COMPENSATION. This amendment increases the annual amount for 2025 only to a not to exceed amount of \$164,076. It also provides for additional attorney capacity through the term December 31, 2026, not to exceed an hourly rate of \$415/hour.

Unless specifically amended by this agreement, all other terms and conditions of the original contract shall remain in full force and effect.

This amendment takes effect: November 1, 2025, regardless of the date of signature.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties have executed this Agreement this 9th day of December, 2025.

Each signatory below to this Contract warrants that they are the authorized agent of the respective party; and that they have the authority to enter into the contract and to bind the party thereto.

CONTRACTOR:

Summit Law Group


 John Henry, Summit Law Group

Address:
 315 5th Avenue S Unit 100
 Seattle, WA 98104

WHATCOM COUNTY:

Recommended for Approval:

Melissa Keeley 12/2/25
 Human Resources Director Date

Approved as to form:

Jesse Corkern by email 12/2/25/c
 Prosecuting Attorney Date

Approved:

Accepted for Whatcom County:

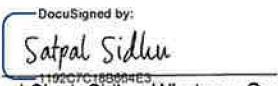
By: 
 Satpal Singh Sidhu, Whatcom County Executive

EXHIBIT "B"
(COMPENSATION)

The annual amount for 2025 shall not exceed a total of \$164,076. In 2026 the annual not to exceed amount shall revert to the original contract amount of \$89,076. To meet the County's needs, additional attorneys may be assigned to assist with grievance arbitration and other labor relations matters, at an hourly rate not to exceed \$415.