



**Outside Counsel
CITY OF AUSTIN
RECOMMENDATION FOR COUNCIL ACTION**

**AGENDA ITEM NO.: 12
AGENDA DATE: Thu 06/24/2004
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SUBJECT: Authorize negotiation and execution of an outside counsel contract with COLE & POWELL, P.C., Austin, TX, to provide legal counsel to the City defendants in *Velma Pickens, et. al. v. City of Austin et. al.*, in an amount not to exceed \$100,000.

AMOUNT & SOURCE OF FUNDING: Funding is available in the Fiscal Year 2003-2004 Approved Operating Budget of the Liability Reserve Fund.

FISCAL NOTE: There is no unanticipated fiscal impact. A fiscal note is not required.

**REQUESTING Law
DEPARTMENT:**

**DIRECTOR'S
AUTHORIZATION: Dana Johnson**

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT: David Smith, City Attorney / 974-2268; Dana Johnson, Acting Division Chief / 974-2171

PRIOR COUNCIL ACTION: N/A

BOARD AND COMMISSION ACTION: N/A

Council is requested to approve outside counsel fees and expenses up to \$100,000 for the services of Cole and Powell, P.C., for matters related to the above-referenced lawsuit, a federal suit alleging civil rights violations and other causes of action stemming from the June 2002 shooting of Sophia King. Payment authority of up to \$100,000 is necessary to pay anticipated fees through the end of the fiscal year.