

1 RESOLUTION NO. 2025-230

2
3 SPONSOR Executive Shapiro

4
5 DATE August 18, 2025 COMMITTEE Rules

6
7 **A Resolution confirming the award by the Board of Control of Change Order No. 1 to a**
8 **professional service agreement with Roetzel & Andress, LPA, in an amount not to exceed**
9 **\$125,000.00 (for a cumulative increase of 100.00%), for a total amount not to exceed**
10 **\$250,000.00, toward the costs of continued legal representation and services on behalf of**
11 **the County, in the matter of Antonio Williamson v. Sheriff Kandy Fatheree, et al., for the**
12 **Executive and the Sheriff, and declaring an emergency.**

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14 WHEREAS, this lawsuit, Antonio Williamson v. Sheriff Kandy Fatheree, et al, Case No.
15 5-21-cv-00565-JRA, before Judge John R. Adams in the United States District Court, Northern
16 District of Ohio (the “Lawsuit”), arises out of an incident concerning former Lieutenant Antonio
17 Williamson that is alleged to have occurred on March 19, 2017 and the subsequent criminal
18 prosecution of Mr. Williamson, State of Ohio v. Antonio Williamson, Case No. CV-2017-03-
19 1047, before Judge Mary Margaret Rowlands in the County of Summit Court of Common Pleas;
20 and

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22 WHEREAS, Mr. Williamson brought suit against the County alleging among other
23 counts, malicious and selective prosecution, civil rights violations, and discrimination; and

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25 WHEREAS, due to multiple allegations made against both the County and former and
26 current members of the Sheriff’s Office, the Executive retained legal counsel with Mazanec,
27 Raskin & Ryder Co., L.P.A. and Roetzel & Andress, LPA to provide legal representation and
28 services on behalf of the County in the Lawsuit; and

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30 WHEREAS, this Council previously adopted Resolution No. 2021-247 which confirmed
31 the award by the Board of Control of professional service agreements with Mazanec, Raskin &
32 Ryder Co., L.P.A., in an amount not to exceed \$75,000.00, and Roetzel & Andress, LPA, in an
33 amount not to exceed \$75,000.00, for a total amount not to exceed \$150,000.00, toward the costs
34 of legal representation and services on behalf of the County in the Lawsuit; and

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36 WHEREAS, due to the criminal matter not being resolved until May of 2023 and the
37 voluminous and sometimes contentious nature of the discovery involved in the civil matter, the
38 Executive and Sheriff desired to re-engage Roetzel & Andress, LPA in the defense of this matter;
39 and

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41 WHEREAS, this Council subsequently adopted Resolution No. 2024-315, which
42 confirmed the award by the Board of Control of a professional service agreement with Roetzel &
43 Andress, LPA, in an amount not to exceed \$125,000.00, toward the costs of legal representation
44 and services on behalf of the County in the Lawsuit; and

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46 WHEREAS, due to continued discovery disputes now being placed before Judge Adams
47 and upcoming motion practice, the Executive and Sheriff wish to continue to engage Roetzel &
48 Andress, LPA in the defense of this matter; and

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4 WHEREAS, the Board of Control, at its meeting held August 13, 2025, awarded Change
5 Order No. 1 to a professional service agreement with Roetzel & Andress, LPA, in an amount not
6 to exceed \$125,000.00 (for a cumulative increase of 100.00%), for a total amount not to exceed
7 \$250,000.00, toward the costs of continued legal representation and services on behalf of the
8 County, in the Lawsuit, subject to confirmation by this Council; and
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10 WHEREAS, this Council finds and determines, after reviewing all pertinent information,
11 that the aforementioned change order to a professional service agreement with Roetzel &
12 Andress, LPA is necessary and in the best interest of the County of Summit;
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14 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the County of Summit, State
15 of Ohio, that:
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17 SECTION 1

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19 The award by the Board of Control of Change Order No. 1 to a professional service
20 agreements with Roetzel & Andress, LPA, in an amount not to exceed \$125,000.00 (for a
21 cumulative increase of 100.00%), for a total amount not to exceed \$250,000.00, toward the costs
22 of legal representation and services on behalf of the County, in the matter of Antonio Williamson
23 v. Sheriff Kandy Fatheree, et al., Case No. 5-21-cv-00565-JRA, before Judge John R. Adams in
24 the United States District Court, Northern District of Ohio (the "Lawsuit") is hereby confirmed,
25 and the Executive is hereby authorized to execute said change order and any other necessary
26 related documents.
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28 SECTION 2

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30 This Resolution is hereby declared an emergency in the interest of the health, safety and
31 welfare of the residents of the County of Summit and for the further purpose of immediately
32 obtaining continued legal representation and services by legal counsel in the Lawsuit.
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34 SECTION 3

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36 Provided this Resolution receives the affirmative vote of eight members, it shall take
37 effect immediately upon its adoption and approval by the Executive; otherwise, it shall take
38 effect and be in force at the earliest time provided by law.
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40 SECTION 4

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42 It is found and determined that all formal actions of this Council concerning and relating
43 to the adoption of this Resolution were adopted in an open meeting of this Council, and that all
44 deliberations of this Council and of any of its committees that resulted in such formal action,
45 were in meetings open to the public, in compliance with all legal requirements, including Section
46 121.22 of the Ohio Revised Code.
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2 PAGE THREE

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5 INTRODUCED August 18, 2025

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7 ADOPTED _____

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11 CLERK OF COUNCIL

PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL

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13 APPROVED _____

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17 EXECUTIVE

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19 ENACTED EFFECTIVE _____