



COUNTY OF SONOMA

575 ADMINISTRATION
DRIVE, ROOM 102A
SANTA ROSA, CA 95403

SUMMARY REPORT

Agenda Date: 3/25/2025

To: Board of Supervisors

Department or Agency Name(s): Human Resources Department

Staff Name and Phone Number: Janell Crane, 707-565-2885

Vote Requirement: Majority

Supervisory District(s): Countywide

Title:

Waiver of Residency - County Counsel

Recommended Action:

Adopt a Resolution waiving the residency requirement of the incumbent County Counsel, Robert Pittman to reside in Sonoma County.

Executive Summary:

This item waives the residency requirement for incumbent County Counsel, Robert Pittman, for the remainder of his term, through August 23, 2028.

Discussion:

The Sonoma County Counsel's Office is the primary provider of legal services to County departments and over 25 special districts, including the Board of Supervisors, Grand Jury, Agricultural Preservation and Open Space District, Community Development Commission, Sonoma County Water Agency, Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCO), and the Sonoma County Transportation Authority. County Counsel either directly handles or coordinates outside counsel in the defense of all claims filed against the County, and proactively works to minimize risk and assist in policy development and implementation within the legal services area.

California Government Code sections 27640-27648 specify basic terms and conditions of the employment relationship between the County Counsel and California counties. Additionally, Code Section 24001 provides that "...a person is not eligible to an elective county or district office, unless the person is a registered voter of

the county or district in which the duties of the office are to be exercised at the time that nomination papers are issued to the person or, if appointed to the elective office to fill a vacancy, at the time of the appointment of the person.”

County Counsel Pittman was initially appointed on September 22, 2020, for a four-year term, and was reappointed on September 10, 2024, for a new four-year term of September 23, 2024, through September 23, 2028. At the time of each appointment, County Counsel Pitman was a registered voter in Sonoma County.

California Code Section 27641.1 provides that “The residence qualifications for eligibility to a county or district office, required by Section 24001, may be waived by the board of supervisors as to any candidate or applicant for office of county counsel in such county.” Although County Counsel Pittman was a registered voter in Sonoma County at the time of his appointment, the Director of Human Resources requests the Board of Supervisors waive a residency requirement for County Counsel Pitman for the remainder of his term ending September 23, 2028.

Strategic Plan:

N/A

Racial Equity:

Was this item identified as an opportunity to apply the Racial Equity Toolkit?

No

Prior Board Actions:

September 15, 2020 (item 20; 202-0939) - Initial Appointment

September 10, 2024 (item 32; 2024-0047) - Reappointment

FISCAL SUMMARY

Expenditures	FY24-25 Adopted	FY25-26 Projected	FY26-27 Projected
Budgeted Expenses			
Additional Appropriation Requested			
Total Expenditures			
Funding Sources			
General Fund/WA GF			
State/Federal			

Agenda Date: 3/25/2025

Fees/Other			
Use of Fund Balance			
General Fund Contingencies			
Total Sources			

Narrative Explanation of Fiscal Impacts:

N/A

Staffing Impacts:			
Position Title (Payroll Classification)	Monthly Salary Range (A-I Step)	Additions (Number)	Deletions (Number)
N/A			

Narrative Explanation of Staffing Impacts (If Required):

N/A

Attachments:

Resolution

Related Items "On File" with the Clerk of the Board:

N/A