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OFFICE OF THE  
COUNTY COUNCIL

MEMO TO: Members of the Council

F R O M: Alice L. Lee, Council Chair



SUBJECT: **DESIGNATION OF SPECIAL COUNSEL IN RESPONSE TO  
RESOLUTION 24-86** (PAF 24-086)

On April 19, 2024, the Council adopted Resolution 24-86, "AUTHORIZING THE EMPLOYMENT OF SPECIAL COUNSEL TO REPRESENT THE COUNTY OF MAUI, THE MAUI COUNTY COUNCIL, AND OTHER COUNTY OFFICIALS AND ENTITIES IN LEGAL CHALLENGES TO THE COUNTY'S APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS TO BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS."

On the same day, I initiated the Office of the Council Services' established procedures under the Hawaii Public Procurement Code and the Maui County Charter to vet candidates for special counsel.

The Honolulu law firm of Kobayashi Sugita and Goda LLP, known as KSG, has been hired as special counsel, as documented in Purchase Order 24-617, dated April 24, 2024. KSG partner Lex R. Smith will provide the bulk of legal services under the contract. I consulted with Mr. Smith by video conference on Monday, and I have asked him to be in the Council Chamber today to advise the Government Relations, Ethics, and Transparency Committee.

If you have any questions, please contact Legislative Attorney Richard E. Mitchell at ext. 7662.

paf:dmr:24-098e

cc: Lex R. Smith, Esq.  
Danny Ray Blackburn  
Director of Council Services David Raatz  
Deputy Director of Council Services Richelle Kawasaki  
Support Supervisor Marlene Rebugio  
GREAT-11(42) file