

RESOLUTION NO. 14-448

**A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE RENEWAL OF A  
CONTRACT FOR LEGAL SERVICES WITH GERMER PLLC  
BY THE CITY OF PORT ARTHUR SECTION 4A ECONOMIC  
DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION**

WHEREAS, the City Council for the City of Port Arthur per Resolution No. 05-117 approved the City of Port Arthur Section 4A Economic Development Corporation ("PAEDC") to enter into a contract with Germer PLLC for professional legal services; and

WHEREAS, PAEDC has continued to utilize the legal services of Germer PLLC; and

WHEREAS, the contract renewal with Germer PLLC for November 1, 2014 through October 31, 2015 as denoted in **Exhibit "A"** was approved by the PAEDC Board of Directors at their September 9, 2014 regular Board meeting.

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE  
CITY OF PORT ARTHUR, TEXAS:**

**Section 1.** That the facts and opinions in the preamble are true and correct.

**Section 2.** That the City Council approves the renewal of a contract with Germer PLLC by the PAEDC so long as their hourly rates do not exceed the rates as denoted in **Exhibit "A"**.

**Section 3.** That a copy of the caption of this Resolution be spread upon the Minutes of the City Council.

**READ, ADOPTED AND APPROVED** on this 29<sup>th</sup> day of Sept. A.D., 2014,  
at a Meeting of the City Council of the City of Port Arthur, Texas, by the following vote:

AYES:

Mayor Prince; Mayor Pro Tem Freeman

Councilmembers Scott, Hamilton, Mosely, Lewis,  
Williamson and Frank.

NOES: None.

Deloris Prince  
Deloris "Bobbie" Prince, Mayor

**ATTEST:**

Sherri Bellard  
Sherri Bellard, City Secretary

**APPROVED:**

Floyd Batiste  
Floyd Batiste, PAEDC CEO

**APPROVED AS TO FORM:**

Guy N. Goodson  
Guy N. Goodson, PAEDC Attorney

**APPROVED AS TO FORM:**

Valecia R. Tizeno  
Valecia R. Tizeno, City Attorney

# **EXHIBIT "A"**

**CONTRACT FOR RETENTION OF  
GUY N. GOODSON AND KATE K. LEVERETT OF GERMER PLLC  
AS LEGAL COUNSEL FOR THE  
CITY OF PORT ARTHUR SECTION 4A ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION**

This Contract provides the terms for the retention of Guy N. Goodson and Kate K. Leverett of the law firm of Germer PLLC (formerly Germer Gertz, L.L.P.) ("Germer") as legal counsel for the EDC in regard to the providing of professional legal representation for the period beginning November 1, 2014 through October 31, 2015.

**SCOPE OF SERVICES:** Germer would provide primary legal representation to the Board of Directors of the EDC and collaborate with its Chief Executive Officer and staff and coordinate matters as directed with the City Attorney of Port Arthur. Germer will perform the following duties as directed by the EDC acting by and through its Board of Directors and through its Chief Executive Officer as the duly authorized staff liaison with Germer:

1. Provide preliminary and final verification that incentive applications are eligible to receive 4A funds through the EDC.
2. Draft or review incentive agreements, contracts, collateral security agreements or other documents and advise the Chief Executive Officer, his staff and the Board relative to Board-approved economic incentive agreements.
3. Assist, as directed, in closing Board-approved economic incentive agreements, and approve and execute, as appropriate, all economic incentive agreements and EDC contracts, collateral security agreements or other documents.
4. Assist, as directed, with EDC Chief Executive Officer and staff on economic incentive agreement modifications and document amendments.
5. Assist, as directed, in any legal action or legal proceedings relative to economic incentive agreements.
6. Guy Goodson shall act as the EDC Attorney and shall, unless it is an emergency, attend EDC meetings. Germer may also provide legal representation through a partner or associate experienced in representation of public entities including economic development corporations to assist Guy Goodson in the performance of legal representation for EDC.

Attend, as requested by the EDC Board or the EDC Chief Executive Officer, Board meetings as to any of the foregoing services, and to meet, as directed, with economic incentive applicants or their legal counsel and/or consultants.

Germer recognizes that certain legal services of the EDC may be directed to and handled by the offices of the City Attorney for the City of Port Arthur.

**FEES:** For and in consideration of serving as legal counsel for the EDC, Germer shall charge a fee based upon the actual time spent in conjunction with the matters described above. The hourly rate of the attorneys of Germer who will work on this file is as follows:

Guy N. Goodson	\$200.00 per hour
Kate K. Leverett	\$150.00 per hour
Partners	\$200.00 per hour
Associates	\$150.00 per hour

EXPENSES: Germer will incur expenses in handling legal representation for the EDC, with any such expenses being those for which Germer actually advances funds. "Actual expenses" include, but are not limited to, copying expenses, telephone charges, messenger fees, mail and telefacsimile charges, filing fees, printing charges, travel expenses and other expenses necessary to the proper representation of the EDC in a diligent manner. Expenses may be billed directly by Germer to the provider of services, in which event, the provider would bill directly the EDC and the EDC should then make direct payment to the provider of such services.

BILLING: Germer will provide monthly statements to the EDC which provide an itemized statement of legal service charges and expenses. Time shall be recorded for conferences with the EDC, its duly authorized officers, directors and employees; legal research; factual investigations; preparation of correspondence, agreements documents and instruments as directed; reviewing regulatory requirements that might be necessary in order to handle the economic initiatives in which the EDC might become involved; reading and analyzing correspondence and legal documents; travel to and from meetings and proceedings involving this matter; telephone conversations with representatives of the EDC and others in connection with this matter.

MISCELLANEOUS: Prior to the use of any attorneys at Germer other than Guy N. Goodson or Kate Leverett for services under this engagement with the EDC, Germer will obtain the approval of the Board of Directors and the City. Germer further acknowledges and agrees that the EDC may undertake the use of other attorneys for legal representation as may be determined in the best interest of the Board of Directors.

Pursuant to the request of the Board of Directors, this engagement letter is presented for the engagement by the EDC of Guy N. Goodson and Kate K. Leverett of Germer PLLC for a period of November 1, 2014, through October 31, 2015. The undersigned acknowledges that notwithstanding the term of this engagement, this engagement is subject to the Port Arthur City Charter as to professional service agreements and further can be terminated upon the receipt of thirty (30) days prior written notice. Upon the expiration of this engagement and in the event that the EDC has not secured other legal services, services may continue on a thirty (30) day by thirty (30) day basis until a written notice of termination, from either EDC or the undersigned has been received.

If the preceding terms for the engagement of legal counsel for the EDC meets with your approval, please execute this contract and return at your earliest convenience.

**GERMER PLLC**

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Guy N. Goodson

**CITY OF PORT ARTHUR SECTION 4A  
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION**

**SIGNED AND AGREED TO** on the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2014.

\_\_\_\_\_  
President

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Secretary

\_\_\_\_\_  
Witness

\_\_\_\_\_  
Witness