

**DETERMINATION AND FINDINGS  
FOR  
SOLE SOURCE PROCUREMENT**

1. **Authorization**<sup>i</sup>

- DC Law: 34-804
- DC Law: 34-801
- 15 DCMR: §3700

2. **Minimum Need:**

The Office of the People's Counsel (OPC) proposes to procure the services of Goldblatt Martin Pozen LLC (GMP) to provide legal advice and consultation services related to personnel, employment and other related issues to assist and facilitate legal and efficiency for the agency. In addition, the Contractor will assist the OPC in its interactions with the District's Office of the Attorney General and other District administrative agencies on legal and government ethic matters.

3. **Estimated Fair and Reasonable Price:**

\$46,200

4. **Facts That Justify a Sole Source Procurement:**

- A. The Office of the People's Counsel is an independent agency of the District of Columbia government. By law, it is the advocate for consumers of natural gas, electric and telephone services in the District. District of Columbia law designates the Office as a party to all utility-related proceedings before the Public Service Commission. The Office also represents the interests of District ratepayers before federal regulatory agencies. The Office is authorized to investigate the operation and valuation of utility companies independently of any pending proceedings.
- B. Goldblatt Martin Pozen LLC is a District of Columbia Certified Business Enterprise law firm providing legal advice and representation.
- C. OPC has utilized GMP for legal advice and consultation services related to personnel, employment and other related issues in the past and GMP is currently providing legal consultation and advice services to OPC in connection with current matters. Utilization of GMP's services are required to ensure the efficient continuation of those matters.

D. It is for the reasons outlined herein that it is recommended that a sole source contract be awarded to Mindfinders, Inc.

5. **Certification by the Office of the People’s Counsel:**

I hereby certify that the above facts are accurate and complete.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Cherry Bell  
Contracting Officer

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

**DETERMINATION**

Based on the above findings and in accordance with the District of Columbia procurement regulations: *DC Law: 34-804*; *DC Law: 34-801*; and *15 DCMR §3700*, I hereby determine that the award of a sole source contract for the services described herein is in the best interest of the Office of the People’s Counsel.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Eric Scott, Esq.  
Chief Operating Officer

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

<sup>i</sup> Procurement authority is vested in the Commission pursuant to § 13 (c) (2) of the Residential Real Property Seller Disclosure, Funeral Service Date Chang, and Public Service Commission Independent Procurement authority Act of 1998 (D.C. Law 12-263). The Commission is statutorily exempt from the D.C. procurement rules as set forth in D.C. Official Code §1-1181 et seq.

DC Law: 34-804, herby established within the Public Service Commission of the District of Columbia, has established by DC Law: 34-801, an office to be known as the “Office of the People’s Counsel”. The office shall be a party, as of right, in any investigation, valuation, revaluation, or proceeding of any by nature by the Public Service Commission of or concerning a public utility operating in the District of Columbia.

15 DCMR §3700: Public Utilities and Cable Television- Public Service Commission Rules of Practice and Procedure.