

Law & Major Contracts Meeting Agenda



Committee Chair: David Imamura

800 Michaelian Office Bldg.
148 Martine Avenue, 8th Floor
White Plains, NY 10601
www.westchesterlegislators.com

Monday, March 10, 2025

10:45 AM

Committee Room

Joint with B&A

CALL TO ORDER

Please note: Meetings of the Board of Legislators and its committees are held at the Michaelian Office Building, 148 Martine Avenue, White Plains, New York, 10601, and remotely via the WebEx video conferencing system. Legislators may participate in person or via Webex. Members of the public may attend meetings in person at any of its locations, or view it online on the Westchester County Legislature's website: <https://westchestercountyny.legistar.com/> This website also provides links to materials for all matters to be discussed at a given meeting.

Legislator Emiljana Ulaj will be participating remotely from 520 White Plains Road, Tarrytown, NY 10591.

Legislator Colin Smith will be participating remotely from 1132 Main Street, Suite 1, Peekskill, NY 10566.

Joint with Budget & Appropriations committee.

MINUTES APPROVAL

Monday, February 10, 2025 at 1:00 p.m.

I. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

[2025-70](#) ACT - Charter Revision Commission Legal Counsel - Jones

AN ACT authorizing the County of Westchester to retain, at County expense, Mondaire Jones, Esq., to provide legal counsel and advice to the Westchester County Charter Revision Commission for a term commencing February 25, 2025 and continuing through February 24, 2026.

Guests: Law Dept.: Chief Deputy County Attorney Stacey Dolgin-Kmetz and Assistant Chief Deputy County Attorney Tami Altschiller

II. OTHER BUSINESS

Discussion on the Liberty Lines contract.

Guest: County Executive's Office: Joan McDonald, Director of Operations

III. RECEIVE & FILE

ADJOURNMENT



Kenneth W. Jenkins
County Executive

Office of the County Attorney

John M. Nonna
County Attorney

February 25, 2025

Westchester County Board of Legislators
County of Westchester
800 Michaelian Office Building
148 Martine Avenue
White Plains, New York 10601

Dear Honorable Members of the Board:

Attached for your consideration is an Act which, if approved by your Honorable Board, would authorize the County of Westchester (the "County") to retain, at County expense, Mondaire Jones, Esq. ("Mr. Jones") to provide legal counsel and advice to the Westchester County Charter Revision Commission (the "Commission"), for a term commencing February 25, 2025 and continuing through February 24, 2026.

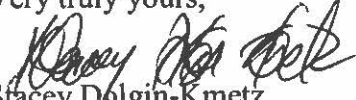
By way of background, Local Law No. 2-2014, duly adopted on or about July 25, 2014, amended the Laws of Westchester County by adding a new Section 194.311 which established the Commission. Pursuant to Section 194.311, the County is required to appoint an independent and non-partisan commission to review and make recommendations to the County Executive and Legislature on amendments, additions or revisions to the Charter and the Laws of Westchester County. In furtherance of Section 194.311, a commission has been appointed and, the Board of Legislators may engage an attorney to provide legal advice and counsel to the Commission.

Mr. Jones earned his bachelor's degree from Stanford University in 2009. After graduating from Stanford, he worked in the U.S. Department of Justice during the Obama presidency. Thereafter, in 2013, he earned his Juris Doctor from Harvard Law School. After law school, Mr. Jones served as a law clerk for Andrew L. Carter Jr. of the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of New York and then worked for the firm Davis, Polk & Wardell. Thereafter, Mr. Jones worked in Westchester County Attorney's office in both the Litigation and the Appeals, Legislation and Opinions Bureaus. Mr. Jones has also served as the U.S. Representative for New York's 17th Congressional district from 2021 through 2023. Mr. Jones has a unique background in government at both the federal and county level. His experience as a member of Congress, in drafting federal and local legislation, and his familiarity with the Laws of Westchester County, will allow him to provide invaluable guidance to the Commission in their review of the operations and laws of the government of Westchester County.

For the services rendered to the County, Mr. Jones, who will serve in an "of counsel" capacity to the County Attorney, will be paid at the rate of \$500.00 per hour, for an amount not to exceed the sum of One Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$100,000.00).

Based upon the foregoing, your Honorable Board's approval of the attached Act is most respectfully requested.

Very truly yours,



Stacey Dolgin-Kmetz
Acting County Attorney

SDK/nn
Attachments

**HONORABLE BOARD OF LEGISLATORS
COUNTY OF WESTCHESTER**

Your Committee is in receipt of a proposed Act transmitted by the County Attorney which, if adopted, would authorize the County of Westchester (the “County”) to retain, at County expense, Mondaire Jones, Esq. (“Mr. Jones”) to provide legal counsel and advice to the Westchester County Charter Revision Commission (the “Commission”), for a term commencing February 25, 2025 and continuing through February 24, 2026.

By way of background, Local Law No. 2-2014, duly adopted on or about July 25, 2014, amended the Laws of Westchester County by adding a new Section 194.311 which established the Commission. Pursuant to Section 194.311, the County is required to appoint an independent and non-partisan commission to review and make recommendations to the County Executive and Legislature on amendments, additions or revisions to the Charter and the Laws of Westchester County. In furtherance of Section 194.311, a commission has been appointed and, the Board of Legislators may engage an attorney to provide legal advice and counsel to the Commission.

The County Attorney has advised your Committee that Mr. Jones earned his bachelor’s degree from Stanford University in 2009. After graduating from Stanford, he worked in the U.S. Department of Justice during the Obama presidency. Thereafter, in 2013, he earned his Juris Doctor from Harvard Law School. After law school, Mr. Jones served as a law clerk for Andrew L. Carter Jr. of the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of New York and then worked for the firm Davis, Polk & Wardell. Thereafter, Mr. Jones worked in Westchester County Attorney’s office in both the Litigation and the Appeals, Legislation and Opinions Bureaus. Mr. Jones has also served as the U.S. Representative for New York’s 17th Congressional district from 2021 through 2023. Mr. Jones has a unique background in government at both the federal and county level. His experience as a member of Congress, in drafting federal and local legislation, and his familiarity

with the Laws of Westchester County, will allow him to provide invaluable guidance to the Commission in their review of the operations and laws of the government of Westchester County.

For the services rendered to the County, Mr. Jones, who will serve in an “of course!” capacity to the County Attorney, will be paid at the rate of \$500.00 per hour, for an amount not to exceed the sum of One Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$100,000.00).

The Planning Department has advised that the proposed retainer agreement does not meet the definition of an action under New York State Environmental Quality Review Act and its implementing regulations 6 NYCRR Part 617. As such, no environmental review is required. Please refer to the memorandum from the Department of Planning dated January 14, 2025, which is on file with the Clerk of the Board of Legislators.

An affirmative vote of a majority of the voting strength of the Board is required for approval of the attached Act. Your Committee recommends approval of the attached Act.

Dated: _____, 2025
White Plains, New York

FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

SUBJECT: Westchester County Charter Revision NO FISCAL IMPACT PROJECTED

OPERATING BUDGET IMPACT

To Be Completed by Submitting Department and Reviewed by Budget

SECTION A - FUND

GENERAL FUND

AIRPORT FUND

SPECIAL DISTRICTS FUND

SECTION B - EXPENSES AND REVENUES

Total Current Year Expense NTE \$100,000.00

Total Current Year Revenue \$ -

Source of Funds (check one): Current Appropriations Transfer of Existing Appropriations

Additional Appropriations

Other (explain)

Identify Accounts: 101_18_1000_4923

Potential Related Operating Budget Expenses: Annual Amount N/A

Describe: An Act authorizing the County of Westchester to retain, at County expense, Mondaire Jones, Esq. to provide legal counsel and advice to the Westchester County Charter Revision Commission for a term commencing February 25, 2025 and continuing through February 24, 2026.

Potential Related Operating Budget Revenues: Annual Amount N/A

Describe: _____

Anticipated Savings to County and/or Impact on Department Operations:

Current Year: N/A

Next Four Years: N/A

Prepared by: Patricia Haggerty

Title: Sr. Budget Analyst

Department: Budget

Date: February 21, 2025

Reviewed By: 
PH
Budget Director

Date: 2/24/25

ACT NO. 2025 - _____

AN ACT authorizing the County of Westchester to retain, at County expense, Mondaire Jones, Esq. to provide legal counsel and advice to the Westchester County Charter Revision Commission for a term commencing February 25, 2025 and continuing through February 24, 2026.

BE IT ENACTED by the County Board of the County of Westchester as follows:

Section 1. The County of Westchester (the “County”) is hereby authorized to retain, at County expense, Mondaire Jones, Esq. to provide legal counsel and advice to the Westchester County Charter Revision Commission (the “Commission”), for a term commencing February 25, 2025 and continuing through February 24, 2026.

§2. For the services rendered to the County, Mr. Jones, who will serve in an “of counsel” capacity to the County Attorney, will be paid at the rate of \$500.00 per hour, for an amount not to exceed the sum of One Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$100,000.00).

§3. This Act shall take effect immediately.