

**TOWNSHIP OF FRANKLIN
R-206-16**

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING PLATT & RISO, P.C. TO REPRESENT THE
INTERESTS OF FRANKLIN TOWNSHIP IN PENDING LITIGATION**

WHEREAS, on or about October 17, 2016, a certain lawsuit was filed in the Superior Court of New Jersey, on behalf of Plaintiffs, Gloucester County Democratic Executive Committee of Franklin Township and Rene' Pistilli-Leopardi against the Township of Franklin (hereinafter "Legal Proceeding"); and

WHEREAS, Plaintiffs are seeking injunctive relief in the Legal Proceeding and are also seeking damages, attorney's fees and costs, and such other relief as the Court may deem appropriate; and

WHEREAS, John Eastlack, Esquire, the Township Solicitor for the Township of Franklin ("Township"), has advised that he has a conflict of interest and, therefore, that he cannot represent the Township in the Legal Proceeding; and

WHEREAS, there exists a need for the retention of counsel having expertise in election law for the purpose of providing Township Committee with legal representation in court as well as advice, reports and services related to the Legal Proceeding; and

WHEREAS, the law firm of Platt & Riso, P.C. has such expertise; and

WHEREAS, funds are or will be available for this purpose;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Township Committee of the Township of Franklin, County of Gloucester and State of New Jersey for the reasons set forth above that the firm of Platt & Riso, P.C. is hereby authorized to enter its appearance and provide a defense on behalf of the Township of Franklin in connection with said Legal Proceeding and to execute any documents necessary in connection therewith; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the services to be rendered pursuant hereto are "professional services" under the provision of the Local Public Contracts Law because of the specialized training, education and experience needed for this position and that this award is made pursuant to a "fair and open process" as provided in N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.4 *et seq.*

ADOPTED at a regular meeting of the Township Committee of the Township of Franklin on October 19, 2016.

Attest:

Township of Franklin

Barbara Freijomil, Clerk

Sheryl Neely, Mayor

CERTIFICATION

I, Barbara Freijomil, Clerk of the Township of Franklin, do hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was presented and duly adopted by the Township Committee at a regular meeting held on October 19, 2016.

Barbara Freijomil, Municipal Clerk