

WAIVER OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

The Pinellas County Board of County Commissioners, have been duly informed of the matters relating to Banker Lopez Gassler P.A.’s representation of Pinellas County in the lawsuit bearing case number 25-005638-CI pending in Pinellas County, Florida, as well as representation of the County, Constitutional Officers, and other Appointing Authorities in the Risk Finance Program as outside counsel. Theodore Wagenblast, Esq., and Mark Edward Hungate, Esq. of Banker Lopez Gassler has noted that a potential conflict of interest exists due to the firm’s representation of various co-defendants in the following cases:

*Illya Ceceil Jackson v. Pinellas County Board of Commissioners, **Steven Troy Yarborough**, and State Farm Mutual Automobile Insurance Company, a Foreign Profit Corporation 25-006115-CI.*

*Benoit Melanson and Melanie Cyr, as parents and natural guardians of J.M., a minor v. RS&H Inc., Kamminga & Roodvoets, Inc., Pinellas County, **Pinellas County School Board**, Julia Jere Alicia Bristol, and Antoinette Tomekia Bristol 25-004076-CI. (Counsel for Banker Lopez will be withdrawing from representation of the School Board.)*

*Claudia Baker v. **City of Clearwater**, Pinellas County, Florida Department of Transportation, and Pinellas Auto Service, Inc. 26-000285-CI.*

Despite the potential conflict of interest, Theodore Wagenblast, Esq., and Mark Edward Hungate, Esq. of Banker Lopez Gassler states that (i) counsel reasonably believes that Banker Lopez Gassler P.A. will be able to provide competent and diligent representation of each affected client; (ii) that the representation is not prohibited by law, and (iii) that the representation does not involve the assertion of a position adverse to another client in the same proceeding.

After having had the opportunity to consult with independent counsel regarding this matter, Pinellas County does hereby provide informed consent to the continued retention of Banker Lopez Gassler P.A. as its defense counsel in the case bearing the case number 25-005638-CI and as outside counsel for worker’s compensation and waives any real, apparent, or potential conflict(s) of interest which may arise in Banker Lopez Gassler P.A.’s defense of Pinellas County in the above referenced lawsuit or worker’s compensation claims.

In the event that Pinellas County’s position regarding this waiver of conflict of interest changes in the future, then they will notify Banker Lopez Gassler P.A. of the same in writing.

Dated this _____ day of _____, 2026.

Pinellas County

By: _____
Dave Eggers, Chair
Pinellas County Board of County Commissioners

APPROVED AS TO FORM
By: Christy Donovan Pemberton
Office of the County Attorney