


TO: Members
FROM: Kerrie Stillman
Executive Director 
DATE: February 21, 2024
RE: Spending Authorization – pending litigation

With the filing of two lawsuits against the Commission regarding the Form 6, Filing #192080225 (e-filed on February 15, 2024), **Town of Briny Breezes, Florida et al. v. Lukis et al. (Fla. 2nd Circ. Ct.)** and Case 1:24-cv-20604-JAL, **President of Town Council Elizabeth A. Loper, elected official of the Town of Briny Breezes, et al. v. Lukis et. al. (United States District Court Southern District of Florida)**, the Commission will incur legal costs. As with previous litigation, we engaged the Complex Litigation Bureau in the Office of the Attorney General to represent the Commission in these matters. The representation will be paid under a different contract than the one we have in place for the Advocates. Invoices for the litigation will be paid out of the Commission's operating budget.

As you know, my spending authority is limited to \$10,000. I request your authorization to pay the invoices related to the Commission's legal representation in these matters. Should the litigation costs incurred exceed budgeted funds of \$41,001 in FY 2023-2024, I ask that for your authorization to request the use of carryforward funds to pay the additional amount.

In June, my expenditure authorization request for the next fiscal year will include a request related to this litigation for FY 2024-2025.