



# Public Defender

## COUNTY OF TULARE

### AGENDA ITEM

#### BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

LARRY MICARI  
District One

PETE VANDER POEL  
District Two

AMY SHUKLIAN  
District Three

EDDIE VALERO  
District Four

DENNIS TOWNSEND  
District Five

**AGENDA DATE:** June 29, 2021

Public Hearing Required	N/A
Scheduled Public Hearing w/Clerk	N/A
Published Notice Required	N/A
Advertised Published Notice	N/A
Meet & Confer Required	N/A
Budget Transfer (Aud 308) attached	N/A
Personnel Resolution attached	N/A
Agreement(s) attached	Yes

CONTACT PERSON: Erin Brooks PHONE: 559-636-4500

**SUBJECT:** Approve an amendment to Agreement No. 28748 with Thomson Reuters

**REQUEST(S):**  
That the Board of Supervisors:

1. Approve an amendment to Agreement No. 28748 with Thomson Reuters for the upgraded subscription of West Proflex subscription services, increasing the agreement amount by \$23,754 from \$147,442 to an amount not to exceed \$171,196 effective July 1, 2021 through July 31, 2023.
2. Authorize the Chairman of the Board to sign two (2) copies of the amendment.

#### **SUMMARY:**

On July 17, 2018, your Board approved Agreement No. 28748 with Thomson Reuters. The Public Defender's Office is requesting to amend Agreement No. 28748 to upgrade West Proflex subscription through Thomson Reuters. The amendment will not alter the existing term period of the contract from July 31, 2018, through July 31, 2023; however, the West Proflex subscription upgrade, in addition to the current level of services, will go into effect from July 1, 2021, through July 31, 2023.

The West Proflex subscription has modified the services and accesses to the agreement. Thomson Reuters currently offers expanded complete access to a comprehensive collection of online legal information, with a search engine designed specifically for the law. Resources include, but are not limited to, cases, statutes and regulations, secondary sources, practice areas, briefs, trial court documents, public records, and expert materials. Access to West Proflex will allow Public Defender staff to perform online legal research quickly and efficiently in order to effectively provide services to the public.

**SUBJECT:** Approve an amendment to Agreement No. 28748 with Thomson Reuters  
**DATE:** June 29, 2021

With expanding this law research resource, the Public Defender's Office will continue to access testimony and transcripts involving experts that the prosecution is using or experts that the office may potentially hire. This information is invaluable in trial and witness preparation. The Public Defender's Office will also have access to trial and appellate briefs that provide the office with the latest case law and arguments from around the state. These briefs will substantially augment the in-house brief bank and are expected to enhance productivity. In addition, it will help streamline projects and assists in litigation management for all attorneys by providing tools to provide the highest quality legal services possible.

**FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING:**

The request to amend Agreement No. 28748 with Thomson Reuters will increase the agreement amount by \$23,754 from \$147,442 to an amount not to exceed \$171,196. The \$23,754 for the upgraded services will be spread over Fiscal Year 2021/2022 and 2022/2023, with \$11,817 budgeted in each respective fiscal year. The upgraded services will be covered by Indigent Defense Grant Program revenue from the Board of State and Community Corrections. There is no additional net County cost to the General Fund.

**LINKAGE TO THE COUNTY OF TULARE STRATEGIC BUSINESS PLAN:**

The County's five-year strategic plan includes an organizational performance initiative to continually improve organizational effectiveness and fiscal stability. The approval of this contract would help fulfill this initiative by ensuring all pertinent legal resources on areas of law are available to the Public Defender Office to meet the needs of its clients.

**ADMINISTRATIVE SIGN-OFF:**

/s/Erin Brooks

Erin Brooks  
Public Defender

Cc: County Administrative Office

Attachments: Amendment