

LEGAL SERVICES

DIVISION OF LEGAL AND RESEARCH SERVICES LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS AGENCY STATE OF ALASKA

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MEMORANDUM

October 22, 2021

SUBJECT: Westlaw Contract Approval

TO: Representative Sara Hannan
Chair, Legislative Council
Attn: Tim Clark

FROM: Megan A. Wallace
Director



This memorandum is a request that Legislative Council approve a five-year contract in the amount of \$226,495.60 (average annual cost of \$45,299.12) with West Publishing Corporation, a Thomson Reuters Business ("West"), to provide online legal research services for 15 attorney accounts and 15 research accounts. The proposed contract period would be from January 1, 2022, through December 31, 2026.

This contract grandfathers the Alaska Legislature into a one percent yearly increase. Our current West contract rate is \$3,085.18/month. The new rate for this contract will be \$3,700.18/month or \$44,402.16/year. With a one percent yearly increase, the yearly rates for the five-year contract period will be as follows:

5-year contract

First Year (2022)	\$44,402.16
1% increase per year	\$44,846.18
1% increase per year	\$45,294.64
1% increase per year	\$45,747.59
1% increase per year	\$46,205.07

Total \$226,495.60¹

With this new contract, we will be converting over to West's new legal research platform "Westlaw Edge," which provides several new features, including:

- New warnings for risk of invalid law;
- Intelligent document analysis;
- Next-generation search;
- Integrated litigation analytics; and

¹ These proposed rates expire if not approved by December 10, 2021.

Representative Sara Hannan

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- Analysis of statutory and regulatory changes.

Our current platform will be discontinued and no longer available for renewal. These research tools are imperative for nonpartisan attorneys and research staff. I strongly recommend that Legislative Council approve this contract.

If you have any questions, please advise.

MAW:mjt

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cc: Jessica Geary

Executive Director