

Office of School Board Attorney  
Walter J. Harvey, School Board Attorney

**SUBJECT:                   REQUEST FOR AUTHORIZATION TO ENGAGE OUTSIDE  
LEGAL COUNSEL FOR WORKERS' COMPENSATION  
MATTERS WITH JONES, HURLEY & HAND, P.A.**

**COMMITTEE:               SCHOOL SUPPORT AND ACCOUNTABILITY**

**LINK TO STRATEGIC  
FRAMEWORK:               FINANCIAL EFFICIENCY/STABILITY**

In light of the recent retirement of one of the District's outside counsel handling workers' compensation cases, and in order to ensure for the continued and efficient representation of the District in these matters, the School Board Attorney requests that the School Board authorize the Board's Attorney to enter into a contract for workers' compensation legal services with the law firm of Jones, Hurley & Hand, P.A. If approved by the Board, the firm of Jones, Hurley & Hand, P.A., will represent and defend the School Board in legal proceedings at both the trial and appellate levels and provide workers' compensation legal counsel and advice as may be required.

Jones, Hurley & Hand, P.A. is an insurance defense law firm established in 1984 with offices in Hollywood, Tampa, and Orlando, Florida. The firm's primary focus is providing legal representation to insurance companies and self-insured employers. The firm also represents various public entities throughout the State of Florida in the area of workers' compensation law. The firm is peer review rated AV by Martindale-Hubbell, the highest rating possible. Jones, Hurley & Hand, P.A. will be compensated at the current blended rate of \$120.00 per hour for partners and associates.

**RECOMMENDED:**       That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, authorize the School Board Attorney to enter into a contract with the law firm of Jones, Hurley & Hand, P.A., to represent The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida in workers' compensation cases. Jones, Hurley & Hand, P.A. will be compensated at a blended rate of \$120.00 per hour for both partners and associates.