

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

**SUBJECT:**                    **AUTHORIZATION TO RETAIN OUTSIDE COUNSEL IN THE CASE OF SKANSKA USA BUILDING, INC. v. SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA, CIRCUIT COURT CASE NO. 10-18691 CA08 [ASSOCIATED WITH SCHOOL BOARD PROJECT NO. A01013 MIAMI CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL] AND ANY FUTURE LAWSUITS PERTAINING TO SKANSKA USA BUILDING AND THE SCHOOL BOARD**

**COMMITTEE:**                **FACILITIES AND CONSTRUCTION REFORM**

**LINK TO DISTRICT STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK:**            **SCHOOL/DISTRICT LEADERSHIP**

On March 25, 2010, the School Board was served with another lawsuit involving Skanska USA Building ("Skanska"), the Construction Manager At-Risk firm for the capital construction project at Miami Central Senior High School (Project No. A01013). This lawsuit alleges, among other things, the School Board's breach of the contract documents involving Phase III of the project.

This agenda item recommends that the Board retain Mr. Dan Vega, Esquire, and his law firm, Vezina, Lawrence & Piscitelli, P.A. to represent the Board in this lawsuit and any future lawsuits that may be forthcoming from Skanska involving the construction projects for which they are currently providing services for the School Board (Miami Central Phase I, II and III, Holmes Elementary, and Miami High School).

**RECOMMENDED:** That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida retain the law firm of Vezina, Lawrence & Piscitelli, P.A. to represent the School Board in the matter of *Skanska USA Building, Inc. v. School Board of Miami-Dade County*, Florida, Circuit Court Case No. 10-18691 CA 08, and any future claims and lawsuits involving Skanska USA Building, Inc. against the School Board. Shareholders from the firm of Vezina, Lawrence & Piscitelli will be compensated at the discounted rate of \$295.00 per hour; associates will be compensated at \$225.00 per hour, and paralegals from the firm will be paid an hourly fee of \$100.00.