Agenda Item #:

PALM BEACH COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY

Meeting Date:

September 28, 2010

[] Consent

[] Regular

[X] Public Hearing

Department

Submitted By:

COUNTY ATTORNEY'S OFFICE

Submitted For:

PALM BEACH COUNTY OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL

I. EXECUTIVE BRIEF

Motion and Title: Staff recommends motion to: Adopt an ordinance of the Board of County Commissioners of Palm Beach County, Florida, amending the Palm Beach County Office of Inspector General Ordinance, Palm Beach County Code Chapter 2, Article XII (Ord. 2009-049), as follows: Amending Section 2-423 Functions, Authority and Powers; amending 2-425 Contract; amending 2-427 Procedure for Finalization of Reports and Recommendations; amending 2-429 Financial Support and Budgeting; providing for repeal of laws in conflict; providing for severability; providing for inclusion in the Code of Laws and Ordinances; providing for effective date.

Summary: The Board of County Commissioners adopted a new Code of Ethics, and established an independent Commission on Ethics and an independent Inspector General on December 15, 2009, as part of a series of ethics reforms. Last month, the Board of County Commissioners approved a change in the manner of assessing the .25% fee on County contracting/purchasing activity to fund the Office of Inspector General from a charge on each bill payable to a single charge on gross contract/purchasing amounts. This Ordinance introduces amendments to provide for that change and also includes several clarifications proposed by the Inspector General. Countywide (LB)

Background and Policy Issues: The proposed change in assessing the .25% fee will not reduce the amount of funds available to the Office of Inspector General for its operations, and will speed and simplify collection and transfer of those funds. If approved by the Board of County Commissioners, this change will take effect on October 1, 2010. The amendments also include several changes requested by the Inspector General, including clarifications to the investigative procedures of the Office and clarification of the postemployment limitations of the Inspector General.

Attachments: 1. Ordinance am	ending PBC Office of Inspector General	
Recommended by:	Sheryl G. Steckler, Inspector General	9/13/10 Date
Approved by:	N/A	

II. FISCAL IMPACT ANALYSIS

A.	Five Year Summary	y of Fiscal II	mpact:			
	Fiscal Years	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Oper Exter Prog	tal Expenditures ating Costs rnal Revenues ram Income (County nd Match (County))				
NE.	T FISCAL IMPACT		-	-		
	DDITIONAL FTE SITIONS (Cumulative	e)		-		
Is Ite	m Included in Curre	nt Budget?	Yes_	No	_	
Budg	et Account No.:	Fund	Departmen	t Unit_	Object_	
		Reporting C	ategory	_		
В.	Recommended Sou	arces of Fur	nds/Summar	y of Fiscal Im	pact:	
C.	Departmental Fisca	I Review: _				
		III. <u>REVI</u>	EW COMME	NTS		
A.	OFMB Fiscal and/o	r Contract D	evelopment	and Control	Comments:	
В.	OFMB Legal Sufficiency:	alimbo S	Cont	ract Develop	nent and Colones 9/16/10	91)5/10 ntrol
	Assistant Count	y Attorney				
C.	Other Department R	Review:				
	Department D	Director				

THIS SUMMARY IS NOT TO BE USED AS A BASIS FOR PAYMENT.

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ORDINANCE OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY **COMMISSIONERS OF** COUNTY, **PALM BEACH** FLORIDA, AMENDING THE PALM BEACH COUNTY OFFICE OF **INSPECTOR GENERAL** ORDINANCE, **CHAPTER** PALM BEACH COUNTY CODE ARTICLE XII (ORD. 2009-049) AS FOLLOWS: AMENDING SECTION 2-423 FUNCTIONS, AUTHORITY POWERS; AND **AMENDING** 2-425 CONTRACT; AMENDING 2-427 PROCEDURE FOR FINALIZATION OF REPORTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS; AMENDING 2-429 FINANCIAL SUPPORT AND BUDGETING; PROVIDING FOR REPEAL OF LAWS IN CONFLICT; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING FOR INCLUSION IN THE CODE OF LAWS AND ORDINANCES; PROVIDING FOR EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners of Palm Beach County, pursuant to its authority under Florida Constitution, Article VIII, Section 1(g), Section 125.01, Florida Statutes, the Palm Beach County Charter, adopted the Palm Beach County Office of Inspector General

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners and the Inspector General have reviewed said Ordinance and recommend the changes set forth in this amending ordinance; and

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners hereby determines that the amendments set forth herein advance the purposes and intent of the Palm Beach County Office of Inspector General Ordinance; and

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners has conducted a duly noticed public hearing to consider these amendments as required by law.

NOW, THEREFORE, be it ordained by the Board of County Commissioners of Palm Beach County, Florida, that:

Part 1. Sec. 2-423. Functions, authority and powers, is hereby amended as follows:

* * *

(4) The costs of reviews, audits, inspections and investigations by the inspector general shall be defrayed by imposition of a fee which shall be funded at minimum in an amount equal to one quarter of one percent (0.25%) of the contracts entered into by the County price, as may be

37	adjusted as necessary (hereinafter "IG contract fee" "minimum funding percentage"). The IG
38	contract fee minimum funding percentage shall not apply to the following contracts:
39	a. Contracts for legal services;
40	b. Auditing contracts;
41	c. Contracts under one thousand dollars (\$1,000.00), except for decentralized purchase orders as
42	set forth in the county purchasing ordinance, section 2-51(f)(1)(1);
43	d. Federal, state and local government-funded grants;
44	e. Interlocal agreements;
45	f. Revenue-generating contracts; and
46	g. Purchases made pursuant to the State of Florida Department of Revenue approved Sales Tax
47	Recovery Program.
48	Notwithstanding the foregoing, the board may authorize the inclusion of the IG contract fee in
49	apply the minimum funding percentage to any contract to ensure the Inspector General receives
50	sufficient funding to perform the functions and duties set forth in this ordinance. Nothing
51	contained in this subsection shall in any way limit the powers of the inspector general provided
52	for in this article to perform audits, inspections, reviews and investigations on all county
53	contracts including, but not limited to, those contracts specifically exempted from the minimum
54	funding percentage IG contract fee.
55	(5) Where the inspector general suspects a possible violation of any state, federal or local law,
56	or rule, regulation or policy, he or she shall notify the appropriate civil, criminal or
57	administrative agencies, including the county commission on ethics. In the case of a possible
58	violation of a rule, regulation or policy governing a county employee, the inspector general shall
59	also notify the county administrator and the head of the department for which the employee
60	works. After referring the matter to the appropriate entity for fact finding, the inspector general
61	may assist the entity in conducting the investigation.
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63	(8) The inspector general may exercise any of the powers contained in this article upon his or

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(8) The inspector general may exercise any of the powers contained in this article upon his or her own initiative.

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(10) It is anticipated that municipalities, special districts, and other public officials and entities will recognize and desire to benefit from the services of the county office of inspector general. The inspector general may negotiate agreements or memoranda of understanding with other public entities which would authorize the inspector general to exercise any and all authority, functions and powers set forth in this article for the benefit of such public entity. The memorandum of understanding or agreement shall include a provision for fees to be paid to the inspector general from the public entity in exchange for such benefits. Such fee shall be based on a rate established by the inspector general and shall include, but not be limited to, the minimum funding percentage IG contract fee. Any such agreement or memorandum of understanding is subject to final approval of the board, but such approval shall not be unreasonably withheld. For the purposes of the removal procedure set forth in section 2-430, a "funding entity" shall mean a public entity that has entered into an agreement or memorandum of understanding to receive services of the inspector general, and has provided funding in exchange for such services equal to at least twenty-five (25) percent of the total annual budget of the inspector general for the county's fiscal year immediately preceding the fiscal year in which the removal procedure takes place.

Part 2. Sec. 2-425. Contract, is hereby amended as follows:

The commission on ethics with the assistance of the county attorney shall negotiate a contract of employment with the inspector general substantially consistent with the terms included in contracts of other contractual employees of the county. The inspector general shall be paid at a rate commensurate with public officials of like experience and expertise. Before any contract shall become effective, the contract must be approved by a majority of the board present at a regularly scheduled board meeting. The contract will cover the entire four-year term subject to the removal provisions in section 2-430. The contract will include a provision requiring the selection committee to provide notice of its decision to renew or not to renew the contract at least six (6) months prior to the termination of the contract. The contract shall provide that the inspector general may not represent a political party or be on any executive committee thereof, or seek public office during his or her term of service, and shall not seek public office or employment with any public entity subject to the jurisdiction of the Inspector General of for four (4) years thereafter. That limitation does not include seeking selection as inspector general for a subsequent term. The contract shall further provide that the inspector general may not be a lobbyist, as defined in section 2-352 of this Code, for two (2) years after term of service.

make findings as to the person or entity being reviewed or inspected, is hereby amended as follows:

The inspector general shall publish and deliver finalized reports and recommendations to

Part 3. Sec. 2-427. Procedure for finalization of reports and recommendations which

the board and to the county commission on ethics. Notwithstanding any other provision of this article, whenever the inspector general determines that it is appropriate to publish and deliver a report or recommendation which contains findings as to the person or entity being reported on or who is the subject of the recommendation, the inspector general shall provide the affected person or entity a copy of the <u>findings report or recommendation</u>. Such person or entity shall have fifteen (15) working days to submit a written explanation or rebuttal of the findings before the report or recommendation is finalized. Such timely submitted written explanation or rebuttal shall be attached to the finalized report or recommendation. The requirements of this subsection shall not apply <u>in matters subject to the State of Florida's Whistle-blower's Act, or</u> when the inspector general, in conjunction with the state attorney or U.S. Attorney, determines that supplying the affected person or entity with such report will jeopardize a pending criminal investigation.

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Part 4. Sec. 2-429. Financial support and budgeting, is hereby amended as follows:

Pursuant to its annual budget process, the county shall provide sufficient financial support for the inspector general's office to fulfill its duties as set forth in this article. In order to ensure adequate funding for the prompt establishment of the inspector general pending implementation, the board of county commissioners hereby approves an amount equal to three hundred twenty thousand dollars (\$320,000) to fund all inspector general operations for the remainder of the 2009-2010 fiscal year. The inspector general shall timely deliver to the board of county commissioners a budget request including a reasonable estimate of operating and capital expenditures, and shall include revenues, including, but not limited to, projected minimum funding percentage IG contract fee revenues to be collected from the county and any other participating local governments and public agencies. The inspector general's budget request shall not be implemented until approved by the board of county commissioners. The inspector general shall establish a fiscal year which coincides with that of the county. Nothing

contained herein shall be construed to prohibit the inspector general from transmitting to the county commission supplemental budget requests which, if approved by the commission, shall constitute amendments to the county budget. Part 5. Repeal of Laws in Conflict. All local laws and ordinances in conflict with any provisions of this Ordinance are hereby repealed to the extent of such conflict. The Palm Beach County Code of Ethics adopted by Resolution 94-693 as amended by Resolution 2003-0962, is hereby repealed in its entirety. Part 6. Severability. If any section, paragraph, sentence, clause, phrase, or word of this Ordinance is for any reason held by the Court to be unconstitutional, inoperative, or void, such holding shall not affect the remainder of this Ordinance. Part 7. Inclusion in the Code of Laws and Ordinances. The provisions of this Ordinance shall become and be made a part of the Code of Laws and Ordinances of Palm Beach County, Florida. The sections of this Ordinance may be renumbered or re-lettered to accomplish such, and the word "ordinance" may be changed to "section," "article," or other appropriate word. Part 8. Effective Date. The provisions of this Ordinance shall become effective October 1, 2010. APPROVED AND ADOPTED by the Board of County Commissioners of Palm Beach County, Florida, on this the ____ day of _____, 2010. SHARON R. BOCK PALM BEACH COUNTY, FLORIDA, BY ITS CLERK & COMPTROLLER BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS By: Deputy Clerk Chairman (SEAL) APPROVED AS TO FORM AND LEGAL SUFFICIENCY Filed with the Department of State on the ____ day of _____, 2010.

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