



Josh Arneson <jarneson@richmondvt.gov>

Rates

3 messages

Robert Fletcher <RFletcher@firmspf.com>
To: "jarneson@richmondvt.gov" <jarneson@richmondvt.gov>

Tue, Jan 7, 2020 at 3:10 PM

Josh:

When Stitzel Page was engaged by Richmond in July 2016, the arrangement provided Richmond with legal services at rates lower than our standard market rates. At the end of the original term of the arrangement (12/17), Geoff Urbanek and I worked out a modest increase in the rates for the Town. Although our rate arrangement terminated last week, we will charge Richmond the same rates for legal services provided until July 1, 2020.

We have determined that it is necessary for us to increase our general rates as of July 1, 2020 - our last rate adjustment was in 2015. Rates for the Owners of the Firm will increase to \$200 per hour, with generally proportional increases for associate attorneys and paralegal/legal assistants. We believe these rates are consistent with those charged by other firms providing service to municipal clients. But, because we have thirty years' experience devoted to serving the legal needs of municipal clients, we believe our advice is more practical and our service delivery more efficient than other firms, resulting in lower overall costs for our clients.

Because of Richmond's historical rates, we felt that it might be a hardship to increase our rates to the 2020 level without an interim step. Consequently, we propose that our rates for Richmond be as follows from 7/1/2020 through 12/31/2021: Owners' rates of \$190 per hour (our 2019 rate), associates \$175 per hour, and paralegal/legal assistants \$90 per hour. We will continue to "no charge" for Chittenden County travel time (mileage rates will apply) on behalf of the Town. Our intent in raising this now is to afford the Town opportunity to take these changes into account in its current budget discussions.

If there are concerns or questions about the increased rates, or about our services, please let me know. If the Town is amenable to this interim increase, please confirm.

Thanks,

Bob

Robert E. Fletcher, Esq.

Stitzel, Page & Fletcher, P.C.

PO Box 1507

[171 Battery Street](#)[Burlington, VT 05401-1507](#)

Phone 802-660-2555

Fax 802-660-9119

www.firmspf.com

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Josh Arneson <jarneson@richmondvt.gov>
To: Robert Fletcher <RFletcher@firmspf.com>

Wed, Jan 8, 2020 at 10:05 AM

Bob,

Thanks for the update. What are the rates that we are currently paying?

Josh Arneson

Town Manager
Town of Richmond
P.O. Box 285
Richmond, VT 05477
(802) 434-5170

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Robert Fletcher <RFletcher@firmspf.com>
To: Josh Arneson <jarneson@richmondvt.gov>

Wed, Jan 8, 2020 at 10:11 AM

Josh:

Presently, Richmond is paying \$175 for Owners, \$155 for associates and \$60 for legal assistants. These rates will remain in place until July 2020.

Happy to answer any other questions you may have.

Bob

1/8/2020

Town of Richmond VT Mail - Rates

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