

**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING A PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT  
WITH JAMES R. SHAMY, ESQ. TO SERVE AS PUBLIC DEFENDER**

**WHEREAS**, the Township of North Brunswick has a need to acquire a professional to perform the duties as Public Defender for calendar year 2025; and

**WHEREAS**, on September 16, 2024, the Township Council approved Resolution 289-9.24, authorizing the solicitation of Requests for Proposals (RFP) for said professional services; and

**WHEREAS**, services were procured in formal manner in accordance with Local Public Contracts Law N.J.S.A. 40A:11-4.1a et seq., under both a fair and open and competitive process to assure that each person and/or firm is provided an equal opportunity to respond to the RFP; and

**WHEREAS**, on Thursday, November 14, 2024, the Purchasing Agent received, and the Municipal Clerk witnessed, the receipt of no proposals in response to PRO25005; and

**WHEREAS**, on December 2, 2024, pursuant to Resolution 360-12.24, the Township Council approved the re-advertisement for the receipt of proposals for Public Defender services in calendar year 2025; and

**WHEREAS**, on Tuesday, December 31, 2024, the Purchasing Agent received, and the Municipal Clerk witnessed, the receipt of three (3) proposals in response to PRO25005; and

**WHEREAS**, the Evaluation Committee, designated to review proposals and make a recommendation, has completed the review process and included herein their Evaluation Report; and

**WHEREAS**, the Evaluation Committee recommends authorizing a contract with James R. Shamy, ESQ. to serve as Public Defender; and

**WHEREAS**, the response submitted by James R. Shamy, ESQ. (with offices located at 178 Livingston Ave New Brunswick, NJ 08901) has been determined to be responsive under the provisions of the Local Public Contracts Law N.J.S.A. 40A:11-1 et seq. and any provisions of the revised statutes of the State of New Jersey; and

**WHEREAS**, compensation for these services shall be paid at a rate of \$200.00 per session, for regular and special sessions as scheduled by the Court Administrator, \$50.00 per Court Administration approved consultation, and reimbursable expenses in an amount not-to-exceed \$25,000.00 for calendar year 2025; and

**WHEREAS**, the Chief Financial Officer has certified that \$2,000.00 is available for this purpose in trust account D-33-56-850-006-002, \$15,000.00 is available for this purpose in account 5-01-43-495-000-181 for services ending June 30, 2025 and the balance of funds authorized shall be certified upon the appropriation of funds from said account in FY2026.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** on this 21<sup>st</sup> day of January 2025, that the Township Council of the Township of North Brunswick does hereby authorize the Mayor to execute and the Township Clerk to witness an agreement with James R. Shamy, ESQ. to serve as Public Defender, with an authorization not-to-exceed \$25,000.00, for calendar year 2025, in accordance with RFP PRO25005.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** notice of this action shall be published in the Home News & Tribune as required by law within 10 (ten) days after its passage.

**CERTIFICATION**

I, Cavel Gallimore, Chief Financial Officer, certify that \$2,000.00 is available for this purpose in trust account D-33-56-850-006-002, \$15,000.00 is available for this purpose in account 5-01-43-495-000-181 for services ending June 30, 2025 and the balance of funds authorized shall be certified upon the appropriation of funds from said account in FY2026. Contract PRO25005

\_\_\_\_\_  
Cavel Gallimore  
Chief Financial Officer

\_\_\_\_\_  
Justine Progebin  
Business Administrator

\_\_\_\_\_  
Ronald Gordon, Esq.  
Township Attorney  
Approved as to legal form

**RECORDED VOTE:**

<b>COUNCIL MEMBER</b>	<b>YES</b>	<b>NO</b>	<b>ABSTAIN</b>	<b>NOTES</b>
CHEIDID				
HUTCHINSON				
MEHTA				
DAVIS				
SOCIO				
GUADAGNINO				
MAYOR WOMACK				

I hereby certify that the above Resolution was duly adopted by the Township Council of the Township of North Brunswick, County of Middlesex, at its meeting held on February 3, 2025.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Lisa Russo  
Township Clerk



## **TOWNSHIP OF NORTH BRUNSWICK**

710 HERMANN ROAD  
NORTH BRUNSWICK, NJ 08902

Tel.: (732) 247-0922

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### **EVALUATION REPORT**

### **2025 PUBLIC DEFENDER - REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL**

### **JANUARY 8, 2025**

As part of its annual award of professional service agreements in accordance with “Fair and Open” procurement process established in the State of New Jersey pursuant to N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.1 et seq., North Brunswick Township solicited Requests for Proposals (RFP) for Public Defender for calendar year 2025.

On December 2, 2024 the Township Council passed Resolution #360-12.24 authorizing the solicitation of proposals for this service. The process under a formal RFP allows for factors other than price to be taken into consideration when awarding a contract. This process also requires that a committee be established to evaluate proposals in accordance with "weighted" criteria established prior to solicitation of proposals.

Pursuant to N.J.A.C 5:34-4.3, the Township established a three (3) person committee comprised of the following individuals:

Joseph Battaglia	Chief of Police
Brian Hoiberg	Police Captain
Justine Progebin	Business Administrator

Each committee member assessed their own affiliations and financial interest, as well as the affiliations and financial interests of family members, to ensure that there was no conflict with potential vendors. Each member signed a statement attesting to the fact that there was no conflict of interest.

The committee reviewed and discussed the Request for Proposal and alternative evaluation criteria. The committee agreed to the criteria to be evaluated and the numerical weighting to be assigned to each. The established weighting criterion was as follows:

1. Understanding and Prior Experience with the township – 30 points
2. Experience and Qualifications of Individuals – 20 points
3. Overall company history – 30 points
4. Agreement to the Pricing Model – 20 points

There were three (3) proposals received by the December 31, 2024 submission deadline:

Ari Lockspeiser  
28 Price Drive  
Edison, NJ 08817

James R Shamy, Esq.  
178 Livingston Avenue  
New Brunswick, NJ 08901

Onyeani Law Firm, LLC  
76 South Orange Avenue, Suite 200  
South Orange, NJ 07079

The committee members individually reviewed the proposals.

James R Shamy, Esq. received a total score of 291 out of a possible 300. Ari Lockspeiser received a total score of 265 and Onyeani Law Firm received a score of 245. James R Shamy, Esq. previously served as Conflict Public Defender for several years before being awarded the Public Defender contract in mid-2023. Based on his experience, the committee recommends the award of contract PRO25005 to James R Shamy, Esq. for submitting a proposal that is responsive to the Township's needs.

**RECEIPT OF BIDS**

**December 31, 2024**

**Results from the receipt of proposals on Tuesday, December 31, 2024, at 11:00 a.m., by way of virtual**

**<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85046598468?pwd=VGjFfk8CbggkNnPPHgbKqzskKOAFWV.1>**

**Meeting ID: 850 4659 8468**

**Passcode: 277573**

**Present: Samantha Sickles, Purchasing Agent  
Emma Von Thun, Purchasing Agent  
Nellie Sowell, Clerk 3**

**Resolution #360-12.24 adopted on December 2, 2024 by the Township Council authorizing receipt of bids and advertised in the Home News & Tribune as according to law.**

**Ms. Sowell asked for any additional bids.**

**11:00 a.m. Receipt of bids is closed.**

**Services for Calendar Year 2025**

**TOTAL**

**PRO25005 – Public Defender**

Ari Lockspeiser  
28 Price Drive  
Edison, NJ 08817

Set Fees

James R. Shamy, Esq.  
178 Livingston Avenue  
New Brunswick, NJ 08901

Set Fees

ONYEANI LAW FIRM, LLC  
76 South Orange, Suite 200  
South Orange, NJ 07079

Set Fees

**A report will be presented to the Township Council for possible award at the Township Council Meeting being held on January 21, 2025.**

**Lisa Russo  
Municipal Clerk**