

September 13, 2023

Mayor Shirley Groover Bryant
City of Palmetto
516 8th Ave. W
PO Box 1209
Palmetto, FL 34220

Dear Mayor Bryant:

Thank you very much for your interest in The Southern Group of Florida, Inc. (The Southern Group). We appreciate the opportunity to provide lobbying services to the City of Palmetto in Florida. The Southern Group is committed to providing the highest level of service in furtherance of your goals. This agreement will describe the terms under which that representation will occur.

You have asked that we represent the City of Palmetto before the legislative and executive branches of Florida government. Services will include the following:

1. Review on a continuing basis all existing and proposed State policies, programs, and legislation and identify those issues that may affect the City or its citizens, and regularly inform the City as to the above.
2. Assist the Mayor, City Commission and City Administration on the formation of legislative appropriation requests, and advocate for these projects on the City's behalf with the legislature and the Governor's office of Policy and Budget.
3. Coordinate with City staff on state grant opportunities and advocate on behalf of these requests with state agencies and the Governor's office.
4. Review the legislative policy statements adopted by the Florida League of Cities and the policy statements of other local government lobbying groups for the purpose of identifying issues which may either positively or negatively affect the City.
5. Assist the Mayor, City Commissioners, and City staff in the coordination and development of the City's legislative program.
6. Monitor state legislative committee meetings, state agency hearings and meetings prior to and during the regular and special session(s) at which specific issues delineated within the City's adopted legislative program, as well as other issues which may arise that affect the City.
7. Work with the Office of the Mayor in coordinating with the City Commission, City staff, and the Manatee County legislative delegation in developing special or general legislation in keeping with, or supportive of, the City's adopted legislative program.

8. Develop and evaluate strategy for the support, defeat, or amendment of pending legislation.
9. Testify and lobby before the Legislature, Governor, and Cabinet as necessary on behalf of the City, during the annual legislative session, extended or special sessions, and at legislative committee meetings.
10. Appear and testify before legislative committees as required, to promote and seek passage of legislation affecting the City or its citizens, and specific legislation contained in the City's legislative program.
11. Upon request, coordinate appointments/meetings between the Mayor's Office, City Commission, or other City staff, and appropriate county, state officials and legislators.
12. During the legislative session, maintain daily contact and report on the status of any legislation and issues of concern to the City. Such reports may include personal briefings and information bulletins pertinent to any legislation, rules, or regulations, and other state policies or programs that affect the City and its citizens either directly or indirectly. Such reports should also be specifically tailored to the legislative agenda of the City of Palmetto. A report shall be submitted at the end of each business week detailing legislative action taken during the week, status of legislative 4 issues, and anticipated action during the upcoming week. A final report which summarizes the status of the City's legislative priorities shall be provided within one week of the closing of the session. A more detailed follow-up report on specific legislation affecting the City shall be provided within a reasonable time period, not to exceed 60 days after the close of the session.
13. Provide periodic written reports (at least monthly) during those months that the legislature is not in session, on issues of interest or concern to the City. Such information may include action taken at interim committee meetings, status of studies underway, and advance notice of legislation being proposed.
14. Inform the Mayor, in a timely manner, of potential conflicts that arise between your representation of the City of Palmetto and any other individual or organization centered around an item on the City of Palmetto's legislative priorities.
15. Inform the Mayor and/or City staff of any relevant meetings or events for staff or elected officials to attend pertinent to the City's legislative agenda

The entire team of The Southern Group's lobbyists will be available to advance the City of Palmetto's interests. You may wish to review in detail the qualifications of the team at www.thesoutherngroup.com. However, in order to ensure that your needs are efficiently and fully addressed, I will be the primary contact for this representation. If I should ever be unavailable, I would encourage you to contact Laura Boehmer or Seth McKeel. Our contact information is reflected on the attached sheet.

In exchange for these services, the City of Palmetto has agreed to pay The Southern Group \$3,000 per month, for twelve months, beginning October 1, 2023 to September 30, 2024. The Southern Group will send an invoice on the first of each month for the current month's

Mayor Shirley Groover Bryant

services and payment is due by the end of each month. Our preferred method of payment is via ACH or wire transfer. Otherwise, all payments should be remitted to P.O. Box 10570, Tallahassee, FL 32302. This Agreement is for a period of one (1) year with two (2) additional one (1) year renewals. Either party may terminate this agreement upon receipt of 60 days' written notice. Costs directly attributable to the performance of this work will be billed in addition to the monthly retainer, and these costs may include travel, lobbyist registration fees, and other expenses incurred on behalf of the City of Palmetto. No monthly costs that in the aggregate exceed \$500 will be incurred without your prior approval.

Also, by signing below, you agree that you will complete any forms necessary to comply with lobbyist registration requirements under Florida law that may arise as a result of our representation of the City of Palmetto during the term of this contract or after its termination should reporting periods overlap.

Please be aware that Florida has a lobbying fee disclosure law that requires quarterly disclosure of fees. It should also be noted that The Southern Group has affiliated offices in other states and within the state of Florida. The Southern Group has a policy of declining representation of clients when that representation would immediately create a direct conflict with other clients that The Southern Group currently represents. You have retained The Southern Group for representation in Florida, and we know of no conflicts with our current clients. In order to ensure the candor and trust in our relationship that forms the basis of effective representation, it is the policy of The Southern Group to keep confidential within each office all information about your business interests and strategies.

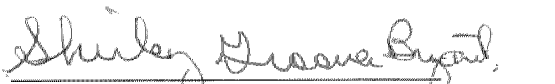
I believe the above reflects our understanding. If it does, please sign this agreement and return with the completed client information, which is enclosed. I appreciate your attention to this matter and look forward to working with you. Please never hesitate to contact me if we can assist the City of Palmetto in any way.

Sincerely,



Mike Moore

Enclosures


For City of Palmetto *mayor*

9/26/23
Date