

From: Joseph, Dotie [mailto:Dotie.Joseph@citynmb.com]
Sent: Tuesday, March 29, 2016 5:39 PM
To: Benedict P. Kuehne <ben.kuehne@kuehnelaw.com>
Cc: Smith, Jose <Jose.Smith@citynmb.com>
Subject: RE: Representation of Council Member Frantz Pierre

Ben:

I have forwarded your correspondence to the City Attorney.

The City *may but is not required* to pay for the legal fees of elected officials only in certain defined circumstances. For example, as you aware, legal fees may be reimbursed if the City Council determines that the alleged misconduct arises out of, or in connection with, the performance of official duties and while serving a public purpose.

So that our office may evaluate your request, please set forth the basis for your assertion that Councilman Pierre “is entitled to have his legal defense provided by the City.” Specifically, please provide any supporting documents and state any relevant facts upon which you rely to support your contention that the City, rather than the Councilman, should be responsible for paying the legal fees you charge the official to represent him for the pending ethics investigation prior to the conclusion of the investigation exonerating Councilman Pierre from the alleged wrongdoing.

Once we receive this information, our office will assess same and provide our analysis to the City Council so that they can render a decision based upon such factual evidence as the governing body may require.

Regards,

Dotie Joseph
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