



MIAMI OFFICE

9155 S. Dadeland Blvd., Suite 1604
Miami, FL 33156

☎: 305.421.6304
thesouthern.com

January 26, 2022

Theresa Axford
Superintendent
Monroe County School District
241 Trumbo Road
Key West, FL 33040

Dear Ms. Axford:

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 Monroe County School District 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 Monroe County School District before the Legislative and Executive branches of Florida government on issues related to education policy. The entire team of The Southern Group's lobbyists will be available to advance Monroe County School District's interests. You may wish to review in detail the qualifications of the team at www.thesouthern.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 Sheela VanHoose. Our contact information is reflected on the attached sheet.

In exchange for these services, Monroe County School District has agreed to pay The Southern Group, \$4,500 per month beginning January 26, 2022. The Southern Group will send an invoice on the first of each month for the current month's services and payment is due by the end of each month. For your convenience, payment may be remitted via ACH or wire transfer. If you are interested in either of these payment options, please indicate so on the enclosed client information form and someone from our accounting team will follow up with you. Otherwise, all payments should be remitted to P.O. Box 10570, Tallahassee, FL 32302. This agreement will proceed on a month-to-month basis and may be terminated by either party upon receipt of 30 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 Monroe County School District's behalf. 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 Monroe County School District 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 Monroe County School District in any way.

Sincerely,



Kate DeLoach

Enclosures


For Monroe County School District

1/27/2022
Date