

## WCIND Legal Counsel Solicitation

West Coast Inland Navigation District (WCIND or the District), an independent, multi county special taxing district composed of the Counties of Manatee, Sarasota, Charlotte and Lee, seeks applicants to enter into a 1 year contract to provide private attorney services to the District in accordance with the provisions of Section 287.059, F.S., and Chapter 2-37, F.A.C.. The successful candidate is expected to begin providing attorney services on or about February 1, 2021.

Hourly rates for applicants and their support staff will be limited to rates established in the Standard Fee Schedule in Rule 2-37.010, F.A.C. Hourly rates are negotiable based on experience and qualifications. Expenses incurred for travel will be limited to terms and rates established in Section 112.061, F.S.

Minimum standards for screening applications include the following: either board certification in city, county and local government law; or:

1. The applicant shall have been engaged in practice of law in the State of Florida for a period of 5 years as of the date of filing an application.
2. The applicant shall reside within the District.
3. The applicant must demonstrate substantial involvement in the practice of Florida city, county and local government law during each of the 3 years immediately preceding the date of application. Substantial involvement means the applicant has devoted 40% or more of the applicant's practice to matters in which issues of Florida city, county and local government law are significant factors and in which the applicant has had substantial and direct participation in those issues.
4. Upon request at a later date, the applicant shall submit the names and addresses of 3 other attorneys who are familiar with the applicant's practice, not including attorneys who are currently employed in the applicant's law firm, who can attest to the applicant's reputation for special competence and substantial involvement, as well as the applicant's character, ethics, and reputation for professionalism in the field of city, county and local government law.
5. The applicant must demonstrate that during the 3-year period immediately preceding the date of application, the applicant has received 15 credit hours for attendance at continuing legal education seminars given only for programs that are directly related to Florida city, county and local government law.

The ideal candidate ....

- Graduated from an ABA accredited law school

- Is a member in good standing of the Florida Bar with no disciplinary history
- Computer Literate
- An effective communicator – orally and in writing
- Experienced and knowledgeable in the following areas:
  - Administrative Law
  - Environmental Law
  - TRIM Law
  - Local Government & Municipal Law
  - Contract Review and Public Works Construction
  - Real Estate Law
  - Right of Way Issues
  - State and Federal Permitting Issues
  
- No recurring conflicts of interest between existing clients and WCIND.
- A consummate professional with strong analytical and negotiating abilities, as well as knowledge of current laws and local government issues, who can provide sound legal advice to the District is desired.
- Must be decisive, direct, and remain apolitical.
- Excellent communication and interpersonal skills are necessary, as well as diplomacy and an ability to work well with officials, the court, District staff and the public.

Applications will be screened according to the qualifications outlined above. Screening interviews with the most qualified applicants will be conducted by Justin McBride, WCIND Executive Director, in order to determine a select group of finalist candidates who may be asked to provide references; references will be contacted only after candidate consent. Final interviews will be held in Venice, Florida with the WCIND Board of Commissioners at a date to be determined.

Questions regarding this solicitation may be directed to Mr. Justin McBride, WCIND Executive Director at [Justin@wcind.net](mailto:Justin@wcind.net) or call 942-485-9402.

**Filing Deadline: January 10th, 2021.**