#### BARNSTABLE COUNTY ASSEMBLY OF DELEGATES

In the Year Nineteen Hundred and Ninety Seven

#### Ordinance 97-9

To amend the Barnstable County Administrative Code to change Section 2.4 (c) "Special Counsel, Coordination of Legal Services" as follows:

# Barnstable County hereby ordains:

To amend Section 2.4 of the Barnstable County Administrative Code to read as follows:

### Section 2.4 Office of Legal Services

#### (a) Legal Services Generally

The Board of County Commissioners shall coordinate and administer legal services for all County departments, offices and agencies and may appoint a General Counsel for the County for a definite term of office to be established by the Board of County Commissioners. Retention of General or Special Counsel by a department head or employee is prohibited unless authorized by the Board of County Commissioners or County Administrator.

#### (b) General Counsel

The County Counsel shall perform such duties as may be required and directed by the Board of County Commissioners to meet the general legal service needs of the County including the prosecution, defense or compromise of claims, actions and proceeding to which the County is a party. The General Counsel shall prosecute actions and proceedings by direction of the Board of County Commissioners. The General Counsel shall have such other powers, duties and responsibilities as may be provided by County Ordinance or this Administrative Code.

## (c) Special Counsel, Coordination of Legal Services

It is understood that Barnstable County departments, offices and agencies may have different and unique needs for legal services and, thus, appropriations for special legal services or special counsel are expected. Nothing in this section shall limit the authority of the Board of County Commissioners to employ special counsel. In special circumstances, the Board of County Commissioners may also authorize department heads to employ special counsel. Department heads shall provide the Board of County Commissioners with estimated costs for legal services and with detailed summaries on a quarterly basis of the use and costs of legal services.

# (d) Counsel for the Assembly of Delegates

Nothing in this section shall limit the authority of the Assembly of Delegates from utilizing the services of County Counsel or from employing separate counsel.

Adopted on October 1, 1997 by the Assembly of Delegates.

Julia C. Taylor Speaker

Approved by the Board of County Commissioners, Oct. 8, 1997

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