



CITY OF NEW BEDFORD

JONATHAN F. MITCHELL, MAYOR

September 7, 2017

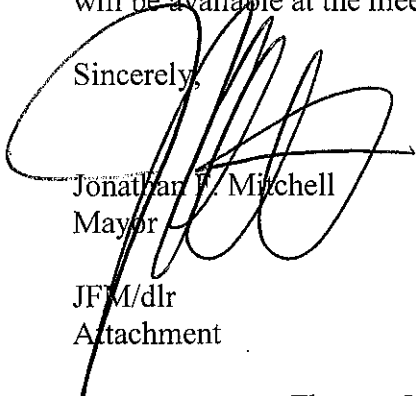
City Council President Joseph P. Lopes
Honorable Members of the City Council
133 William Street
New Bedford, MA 02740

Dear Council President Lopes and Honorable Members of the City Council:

I would like to resubmit a one year **Waiver of Residency** for Attorney Thomas J. Mathieu, Associate City Solicitor with the Office of the City Solicitor, who resides in Raynham, MA.

I have attached correspondence to support the reason for this request. Attorney Mathieu will be available at the meeting to answer any questions.

Sincerely,



Jonathan F. Mitchell
Mayor

JFM/dlr
Attachment

cc: Attorney Thomas J. Mathieu
City Solicitor's Office
Personnel



City of New Bedford

OFFICE OF THE CITY SOLICITOR

200 William Street, Room 203
New Bedford, MA 02740-6163

MIKAELA A. McDERMOTT
City Solicitor

JANE MEDEIROS FRIEDMAN
First Assistant City Solicitor

ERIC JAIKES
KREG R. ESPINOLA
Assistant City Solicitors

SHANNON C. SHREVE
ERIC C. COHEN
JOHN E. FLOR
THOMAS J. MATHIEU
ELIZABETH TREADUP PIO
Associate City Solicitors

August 30, 2017

Mayor Jon Mitchell
133 William Street
New Bedford, MA 02740

Re: Attorney Thomas Mathieu Residency Waiver

Dear Mayor Mitchell:

I write to request that you resubmit an annual residency waiver for Attorney Thomas Mathieu for the City Council's consideration at its September 14, 2017 meeting.

Attorney Mathieu began working for the Solicitor's Office in July 2013 and is the city's primary real estate attorney. He is a true real estate expert, having practiced real estate law for 32 years, and he is integrally involved in nearly all of the real estate matters handled by the Solicitor's Office.

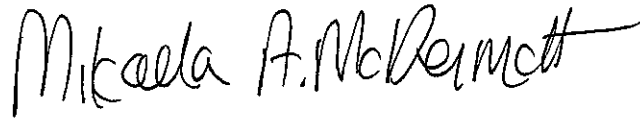
In addition to his substantive real estate expertise, Attorney Mathieu has deep roots in and knowledge of New Bedford. He has operated a law practice in New Bedford for his entire legal career and is part owner of a corporation that has owned his office building in New Bedford for 45 years. He has longstanding relationships with many individuals in city government and in the New Bedford community.

On July 20, 2017, the City Council rejected a renewed annual residency waiver for Attorney Mathieu. As a result, the Solicitor's Office laid Attorney Mathieu off on August 1, 2017, when his previous residency waiver expired. Following Attorney Mathieu's layoff, the Solicitor's Office retained his services as a consultant on a limited basis to ensure that certain time-sensitive real estate matters continued to be addressed. Hiring Attorney Mathieu or any other attorney on a consultant basis is significantly more expensive than hiring an attorney as an employee.

It is our hope that the City Council will reconsider and approve Attorney Mathieu's residency waiver so that the Solicitor's Office can rehire him. It is highly unlikely that the city would be

able to find another attorney whose real estate expertise and commitment to New Bedford matches that of Attorney Mathieu. The loss of Attorney Mathieu's services would be severely detrimental not just to the Solicitor's Office, but to the city as a whole.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Mikaela A. McDermott". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending from the end of the name.

Mikaela A. McDermott
City Solicitor

cc: Attorney Thomas Mathieu