



CONSOLIDATION JOINT STATUS UPDATE REPORT **COOK COUNTY CLERK & COOK COUNTY RECORDER OF DEEDS**

July 2019 for the period of 4/1/19 to 6/30/19

I. INTRODUCTION

Since the last report of April 2019, the Cook County Clerk's Office ("Clerk's Office") and the Cook County Recorder's Office ("Recorder's Office") has continued to collaborate on the goals and objectives of the Consolidation efforts. To that end, the Cook County's President's Office has been brought into the fold, the law firm of Ancel Glink, P.C. (hereafter "Ancel Glink") has been brought on board for technical legal support, and Working Groups have met to identify issues, possible solutions, and develop written recommendations for consolidation implementation.

II. PRESIDENT'S OFFICE PARTICIPATION

In order to ensure that the consolidation efforts comport with County operations, the President's office has been invited to participate in the Collaboration. The President's Chief of Staff, Lanetta Haynes-Turner is now part of the Joint Committee. Also, each Working Group will include a representative from the President's office.

III. WORKING GROUPS

Four categories of Working Groups have been created: 1) Information Technology; 2) Human Resources; 3) Finance; and 4) Administration/Operations.

Working Group members have been identified and have either met or are in the process of meeting. Working Group members shall develop recommendations for consolidation implementation that are based on the



identification of specific issues and the analysis of these issues. The recommendations shall also be accompanied by detailed data or other supporting information/authority so that the Joint Committee can thoroughly, pragmatically, and effectively appreciate the recommendations. The objectives and strategies articulated above are meant to provide guidance and establish standards that will drive the implementation of specific recommendations.

Upon the submission of recommendations, the Joint Committee will prepare a Consolidated Recommended Implementation Plan. The Joint Committee will also identify public stakeholders and reach out to these stakeholders in an effort to obtain additional input and perspective in crafting the Consolidated Recommendation Implementation Plan. Following any meaningful public input, the Joint Committee may incorporate additional suggestions and create the Final Consolidation Implementation Plan. This Plan may create phases for implementation, culminating in full integration by the December 1, 2020 deadline.

IV. APPOINTMENT OF ANCEL GLINK AS SPECIAL ASSISTANT STATE'S ATTORNEYS

By agreement of the Recorder and the Clerk, the law firm of Ancel Glink has been brought on to provide legal technical support for the Consolidation efforts. As a well-regarded governmental services practice, the Recorder and the Clerk has worked with the Cook County State's Attorney's Office for the appointment of Ancel Glink as special assistant state's attorneys.

Specifically, Ancel Glink is expected to provide:

- Review and draft agreements, ordinances, resolutions, and other legal documents related to consolidation issues.
- Draft, negotiate, and review intergovernmental agreements, construction contracts, development agreements, and other government contracts that may be impacted by the consolidation.



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- Prepare or amend policies to comply with and implement federal and state laws due to consolidation.
- Advise on labor and employment matters, as well as possibly participate in collective bargaining negotiations.

V. NEXT STEPS

The Joint Committee expects to obtain initial reports from Working Groups that will identify possible areas of consolidation and problems requiring special attention or possible review from Ancel Glink.