

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL  
Snohomish County, Washington

MOTION NO. 25-511

AUTHORIZING THE SNOHOMISH COUNTY EXECUTIVE TO SIGN A CONTRACT  
AMENDMENT WITH KAPLAN KIRSCH LLP FOR LEGAL SERVICES REGARDING  
FEDERAL AVIATION LAW AND REGULATION

WHEREAS, Kaplan Kirsch LLP has provided the County with sound legal advice regarding federal aviation and airport law and airline requests for commercial passenger service at the Snohomish County Airport at Paine Field; and

WHEREAS, Peter Kirsch, a principal at Kaplan Kirsch, is nationally known for insightful solutions to issues that involve airports, aviation, the environment, and public land use under federal law firm has been counsel to a wide variety of public agencies and private clients around the country concerning cutting-edge federal aviation law, regulation and compliance issues; and

WHEREAS, by previous motions (21-332, 25-060), the Snohomish County Council approved and authorized the County Executive to sign amendments 1 and 2 to the legal professional services agreements with Kaplan Kirsch; and

WHEREAS, continuing advice from Kaplan Kirsch is critical to informed County decision-making regarding service at Paine Field and other federal aviation and airport law and regulation matters; and

WHEREAS, it is in the best interest of the County to amend the current contract for federal aviation and airport law legal services from Peter Kirsch of Kaplan Kirsch for an additional amount of \$300,000 through December 31, 2027;

NOW, THEREFORE, ON MOTION, the Snohomish County Council authorizes the County Executive to sign Amendment No. 3 to Agreement for Legal Services with Kaplan Kirsch LLP in the form attached hereto.

PASSED this 17th day of December, 2025.

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL  
Snohomish County, Washington

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Council Chair

ATTEST:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Deputy Clerk of the Council

CONSULTANT: Kaplan Kirsch LLP  
CONTACT PERSON: Peter J. Kirsch  
ADDRESS: 1675 Broadway Ste 2300  
Denver, CO 80202  
TELEPHONE/FAX NUMBER: 303-825-7000/303-825-7005  
COUNTY DEPT: Snohomish County Airport  
DEPT. CONTACT PERSON: Joshua Marcy  
TELEPHONE/FAX NUMBER: 425-388-5100/425-388-5108  
PROJECT: On Call Legal Services Re: Aviation  
AMOUNT: Not To Exceed \$450,000  
FUND SOURCE: 410-5216804101  
CONTRACT DURATION: Immediately through discharge  
of professional services

### AMENDMENT NO. 3 AGREEMENT FOR LEGAL SERVICES

This AMENDMENT (the “Amendment”) is made by and between SNOHOMISH COUNTY, a political subdivision of the State of Washington (“County”), and KAPLAN KIRSCH LLP Attorneys at Law (the “Attorney”). In consideration of the mutual benefits and covenants contained herein, the parties agree as follows:

1. Compensation. Section 3.a. of the Agreement is revised to add the following term:
  - a. The total charges for services and other matters provided by the Attorney under this Agreement during the term of this Agreement is increased by \$300,000 (Three Hundred Thousand Dollars) which shall not be exceeded without prior written authorization of the County.
2. Compensation. Section 3.c of the Agreement. Section 3.c., Compensation, of the Agreement is amended to add the following terms: Annually, the parties reserve the right to reasonable adjustments for hourly rates of the attorneys and legal assistants, as set forth on Exhibit A, Compensation, upon written notice, unless otherwise agreed.
3. Associate Counsel and Experts. Section 5 of the Agreement is revised as follows: Peter J. Kirsch may delegate services to partner and associate counsel, including Steve Kaplan, or legal assistants employed by Attorney, or to experts, to assist him in providing legal services under this Agreement in a cost effective manner, provided that associate counsel, legal assistants and experts shall work at the specific direction and subject to the approval of Peter Kirsch.
4. Contacts for Invoices. Section 7 of the Agreement is revised to update current contact information for Airport Director as follows:  
Joshua Marcy, Airport Director  
Snohomish County Airport  
9901 24th Pl W, Suite A  
Everett, WA 98204
5. Notices. Section 19 of the Agreement is revised to update current contact information for Airport Director as follows:

Joshua Marcy, Airport Director  
Snohomish County Airport  
9901 24th Pl W, Suite A  
Everett, WA 98204

6. All other terms and conditions of the Agreement, not inconsistent with this Amendment, shall remain in full force and effect.

SNOHOMISH COUNTY:  
Digitally signed by Fong,  
Michael  
Date: 2025.11.03  
10:11:07 -08'00'

Fong, Michael

County Executive

Dated: \_\_\_\_\_

KAPLAN KIRSCH LLP:



Peter J. Kirsch, Partner

Dated: \_\_\_\_\_

Approved as to form only:  
Digitally signed by Corsi,  
Michelle  
Date: 2025.10.16  
13:08:49 -07'00'

Corsi,  
Michelle

Deputy Prosecuting Attorney

**Exhibit A – Compensation**

Not to exceed average of 5 % per year

2025 rates:

Title	Hourly rate
Sr. Partners	612
Partners	571
Sr. Associates	484
Associates	378
Paralegals/Law Clerks	233

2026 rates:

Title	Hourly rate
Sr. Partners	643
Partners	600
Sr. Associates	508
Associates	397
Paralegals/Law Clerks	245