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September 10, 2020

Victoria Newton
Executive Secretary
Executive Council
State Capitol
L O C A L

Re: Retention of Special Counsel

Dear Victoria:

Our office requests authorization pursuant to Iowa Code section 13.7 to retain special counsel to provide specialized legal services to University of Iowa Health Care (UIHC) with respect to claims, suits and other proceedings related to the provision of health care services by UIHC employees.

Effective July 1, 2020, the Iowa Department of Justice (the Department), the Iowa Board of Regents (BOR), and UIHC entered into a Limited Self-insurance and 28E Agreement to establish a mutually beneficial framework for the defense and resolution of tort claims and suits arising from the provision of health care services by UIHC employees. As part of this Agreement, UIHC has agreed to be responsible for the costs of defense for claims covered by the Agreement. The Department lacks the specialized resources to continue to provide these legal services. UIHC also requires counsel to represent its employees in proceedings related to professional regulatory matters. To provide these legal services, UIHC has recommended the Finley Law Firm, 699 Walnut Street, Suite 1700, Des Moines, Iowa 50309 (Finley). The lead attorneys will be Stacie Codr and Jack Hilmes Fees will be in accordance with a separate engagement letter and fee schedule between UIHC and Finley. Fees and costs will be paid directly by UIHC.

Accordingly, our office recommends the Finley Law Firm be approved as Special Counsel.

Sincerely,

JEFFREY S. THOMPSON
Solicitor General