



## Legislation Text

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File #: 0877-2026, Version: 1

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### **BACKGROUND**

This ordinance authorizes the Franklin County Municipal Court Administrative and Presiding Judge to enter into contract with Ohio Bar Liability Insurance Company (OBLIC), and authorize the expenditure of up to \$7,000.00 from the Municipal Court General Fund. This policy will cover municipal court magistrates and staff attorneys for liability claims due to errors and omissions. This will also allow for any additions and deletions of staff that may be necessary during the contract period. The purchase of said insurance is authorized by the following section of the Ohio Revised Code:

Section 1901.38 | Liability coverage for municipal court judges and employees.

Effective: May 6, 1992

The legislative authority may procure insurance covering the judges of the municipal court and the employees of the municipal court, including but not limited to any deputy clerks, the bailiff of the municipal court and any deputy bailiffs, the assignment commissioner, and probation department personnel, in one or more policies, against liability arising from the duties of their office or employment, including liability on account of errors or omissions unknowingly made by them and for which they may be held liable.

The policy or policies of insurance shall be in an amount of not less than fifty thousand dollars. The premiums shall be paid from monies appropriated by the legislative authority from funds available for that purpose.

Ohio Bar Liability Insurance Company Federal Tax ID is 31-0947214.

**Emergency Legislation** is requested so that the premiums can be paid and the policy does not get cancelled.

**FISCAL IMPACT:** Funds are available within the 2026 General Fund budget.

To authorize and direct the Administrative and Presiding Judge of the Franklin County Municipal Court to enter into contract with OBLIC; to authorize the expenditure of up to \$7,000.00 to provide professional liability insurance for magistrates and staff attorneys, and to declare an emergency. (\$7,000.00)

**WHEREAS**, the Court has determined that it is in its best interest to enter into contract with OBLIC to insure our magistrates and staff attorneys; and

**WHEREAS**, this will also allow for any additions and deletions of staff that may be necessary during the contract period.

**WHEREAS**, \$7,000.00 is needed to provide for services; and

**WHEREAS**, an emergency exists in the usual daily operation of the city, in that it is immediately necessary to enter into contract and authorize the expenditure for professional liability insurance of magistrates and staff attorneys from OBLIC, all for the immediate preservation of the public health, peace, property, safety, and welfare; Now, Therefore,

**BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF COLUMBUS:**

**SECTION 1.** That the Administrative and Presiding Judge of the Franklin County Municipal Court be and is hereby authorized to enter into contract with OBLIC for the purchase of professional liability insurance covering magistrates and staff attorneys.

**SECTION 2.** That the expenditure of \$7,000.00 or as much thereof as may be necessary is hereby authorized from the Franklin County Municipal Court Judges funds.

**SECTION 3.** That the funds necessary to carry out the purpose of this ordinance are hereby deemed appropriated, and the City Auditor shall establish such accounting codes as necessary.

**SECTION 4.** That for the reasons stated in the preamble hereto, which is hereby made a part hereof, this ordinance is declared to be an emergency measure and shall take effect and be in force from and after its passage and approval by the Mayor, or ten days after passage if the Mayor neither approves nor vetoes the same.