

From: [Jason Bearden](#)
To: [Angel Colonnese](#); [Robin Toth](#)
Subject: Fw: Financial Request
Date: Tuesday, September 22, 2026 4:22:50 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)

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Here are the financial request for the CAO request. Please know if you have any questions.
Thank you!

Best,

Jason Bearden

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From: Pamela DAgostino <pamela.dagostino@mymanatee.org>
Sent: Tuesday, 15 September 2026 17:05:30
To: Jason Bearden <jason.bearden@mymanatee.org>
Cc: Tal Siddique <Tal@mymanatee.org>; Amanda Ballard <amanda.ballard@mymanatee.org>; Mike Rahn <mike.rahn@mymanatee.org>; Robert McCann <DrBob.McCann@mymanatee.org>; George Kruse <george.kruse@mymanatee.org>
Subject: RE: Financial Request

This email is being sent to all Commissioners. For that reason, please refrain from replying to all as doing so may constitute a violation of the Sunshine Law. Please reply only to me or call if you have any questions or would like to further discuss this matter.

Good Evening Commissioner:

Thank you for putting your request in writing. I appreciate the additional detail, particularly because the written request is substantially more extensive than the request you made orally during your briefing yesterday. Having the request in writing makes the scope of the requested work much clearer.

After reviewing the request, I am going to respectfully decline to

undertake the requested detailed accounting at this time. The request would require a substantial amount of staff time to research, compile, review, reconcile, and organize information from multiple sources. Based upon the scope of the information requested, I anticipate that completing the requested accounting would take well beyond two hours of CAO staff time.

As you know, the general rule of thumb that the CAO has followed, and has historically followed, is that requests for services made to the CAO by the County Administrator or his staff, or by an individual Board member, outside of the formal RLS process and absent direction from the Board, should generally be limited to matters that can reasonably be addressed within approximately two hours of CAO staff time. This practice is intended to ensure that the CAO's limited resources remain available for the legal matters and services for which the Board and County government require assistance and to avoid one-off projects of substantial scope being undertaken without Board direction.

Accordingly, given the scope of this particular request, I respectfully request that you bring the matter before the Board at a public meeting for discussion and consideration. If a majority of the Board determines that compiling this information is an appropriate use of the CAO's limited resources, we will certainly undertake the project and work to compile the requested information.

I do want to make clear, however, that if the Board directs the CAO to undertake this project, my current assessment is that it would likely require at least eight weeks to complete. That estimate is necessarily preliminary and may change once the scope and volume of the underlying records are determined. Given the amount of staff time that would be required, undertaking this project would also necessarily mean that other legal matters and requests for legal services may experience delays.

I have copied your fellow Board members on this correspondence so they are aware of the request you have made upon me and my response regarding same in preparation for any future public discussion.

Sincerely,

Pamela J. D'Agostino
County Attorney
Manatee County Government
Office of the County Attorney
1112 Manatee Avenue West, Suite 969
Bradenton, Florida 34205
pamela.dagostino@mymanatee.org
Phone: 941-745-3750
Fax: 941-749-3089



From: Jason Bearden <jason.bearden@mymanatee.org>
Sent: Tuesday, September 15, 2026 2:43 PM
To: Pamela DAgostino <pamela.dagostino@mymanatee.org>
Subject: Financial Request

Dear County Attorney Pamela D'Agostino,

I am requesting a detailed accounting of the County's legal expenses, attorney fees, settlements, insurance claims, and related costs **from the date you assumed the position of CAO through the present.**

The purpose of this request is to provide a clear understanding of the financial impact of County litigation and claims, including what has been paid by insurance versus County taxpayers.

Please provide the following information, preferably broken down by individual case or claim:

1. Legal Fees and Attorney Hours

- Total amount paid to outside/third-party attorneys and law firms.
- Name of the law firm and case associated with each expense.
- Total attorney hours billed and applicable billing rates.
- Total hours spent by County attorneys and legal staff, if tracked.
- Any additional legal expenses, including expert witnesses, consultants, court costs,

mediation, or other litigation expenses.

2. Settlements and Judgments

For each case that was settled or resulted in a judgment, please provide:

- Case name and/or case number.
- Date the case was filed and date it was resolved.
- Original amount claimed or demanded, if available.
- Final settlement or judgment amount.
- Attorney fees and other related costs.
- Total amount paid by the County.
- Total amount paid by insurance.
- Any deductible or self-insured retention paid by the County.
- Any other reimbursement or recovery received.
- Where applicable, the date and authority under which the settlement was approved.

Please provide the **total amount spent on all settlements and judgments** during this period.

3. Insurance vs. County Funds

For each applicable case, please clearly identify:

Total settlement/judgment: \$_____

Insurance paid: \$_____

County paid: \$_____

Deductible/self-insured retention: \$_____

Thank you for your attention on this matter.

Best,

Jason Bearden

County Commissioner At-Large

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