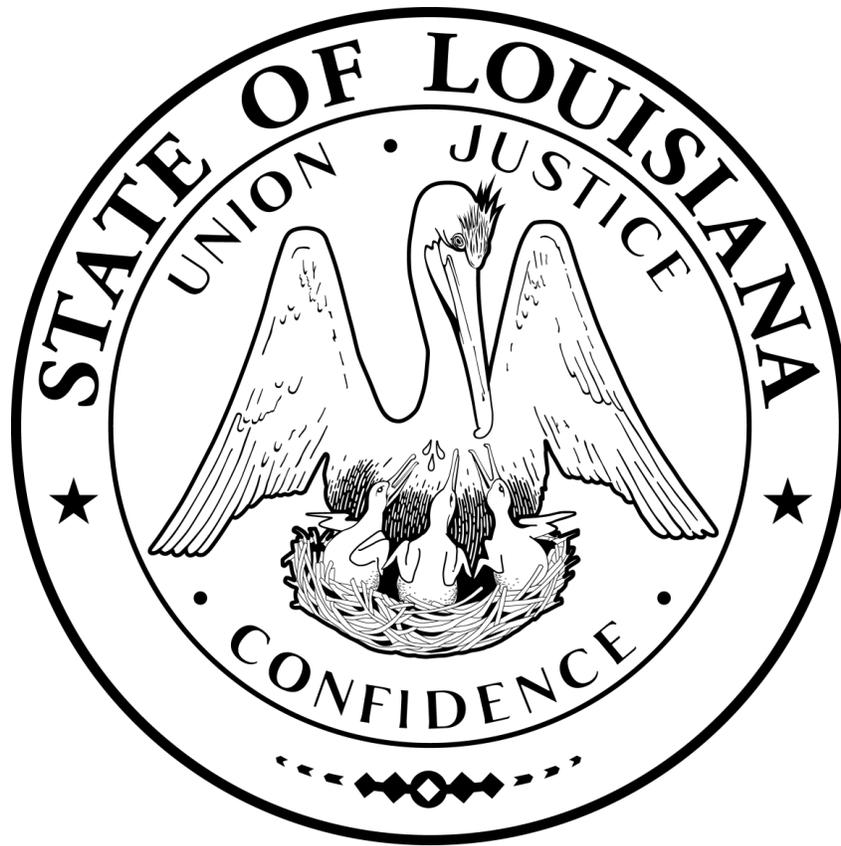


**OFFICE OF
STATE INSPECTOR GENERAL**

Criminal Investigation Division



**Greater New Orleans Expressway
Commission/Walter Reed**

Stephen B. Street Jr., Inspector General

OIG CASE NUMBER 14-0048-I

Date Released: April 10, 2017

JOHN BEL EDWARDS
GOVERNOR



STEPHEN B. STREET, JR.
STATE INSPECTOR GENERAL

State of Louisiana
Office of the Governor
Office of State Inspector General

April 10, 2017

Honorable John Bel Edwards
Governor of the State of Louisiana
P.O. Box 94994
Baton Rouge, LA 70804-9004

*Re: Greater New Orleans Expressway Commission/Walter Reed
OIG Case Number 14-0048-I*

Dear Governor Edwards:

This report details our investigation into payments made by attorneys under contract with the Greater New Orleans Expressway Commission (GNOEC) to Walter Reed, former District Attorney for the 22nd Judicial District (St. Tammany and Washington Parishes).

Copies of the report have been provided to the Jefferson Parish District Attorney's Office, the United States Attorney for the Eastern District of Louisiana, and the Louisiana Attorney General's Criminal Division. The District Attorney's Office for the 22nd Judicial District was recused from this matter via order signed and filed June 25, 2015.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Stephen B. Street, Jr.", followed by the initials "CIG".

Stephen B. Street, Jr., CIG
Louisiana State Inspector General

SS/ss
Attachment



State of Louisiana
Office of the Governor
Office of State Inspector General

REPORT OVERVIEW

Case Number: 14-0048-I
Report Date: April 10, 2017

SUMMARY

The Office of State Inspector General (OIG) began an investigation after learning from multiple sources, including the New Orleans Metropolitan Crime Commission, that Walter Reed, District Attorney for the 22nd Judicial District (St. Tammany and Washington Parishes) had reported income from the Greater New Orleans Expressway Commission (“Causeway Commission”) on Personal Financial Disclosure forms filed with the Louisiana Ethics Administration Program. The Causeway Commission is a “covered agency” under the Louisiana Inspector General Statute. (La. R.S. 49:220.21 et seq.)

The Causeway Commission has no record of any payment to Reed and the general manager of the Causeway Commission told OIG investigators that he knows of no legal or other services provided to the Causeway Commission by Reed for which he would have been paid.

The investigation determined that the amounts that Reed listed on the Board of Ethics disclosure reports were not paid to him by the Causeway Commission, but were paid to Reed by J. William Becknell II. Becknell is an attorney whose firm was employed as contract counsel by the Causeway Commission. Records show that Reed was paid more than \$52,000 by Becknell between June, 2008 and May, 2014.

Examination of billing invoices submitted by the Becknell law firm to the Causeway Commission and checks issued by the Becknell firm to Reed show that the firm paid Reed 30% of the fees it received from the Causeway Commission over a three year period. This percentage was later reduced to 20% over a subsequent two year period. Invoices show no entries for legal work or other services performed by Walter Reed for which the Becknell firm would have been entitled to payment by the Causeway Commission.

Becknell admitted to the Causeway Commission general manager that he paid Reed a percentage of his Causeway Commission billings despite the fact that Reed did no work for the Causeway Commission.

OIG found no evidence of improper or illegal activity by any commissioners or the current management of the Causeway Commission. Upon learning of Becknell’s payments to Reed in spite of Reed’s doing no work, the Causeway Commission terminated Becknell’s contract and cooperated fully with OIG’s investigation.



State of Louisiana
Office of the Governor
Office of State Inspector General

NARRATIVE

The Office of State Inspector General (OIG) began an investigation after learning from multiple sources that Personal Financial Disclosure Reports filed with the Louisiana Board of Ethics by Walter Reed, District Attorney for the 22nd Judicial District (St. Tammany and Washington Parishes), as required by La. R.S. 42:1124.2, showed that Reed reported income from the Greater New Orleans Expressway Commission (“Causeway Commission”) for calendar years 2008, 2009, 2010 and 2011. The Causeway Commission is a “covered agency” under the Inspector General Statute. (La. R.S. 49:220.21 et seq.)

The Causeway Commission, which cooperated fully with OIG’s inquiry, has no record of any payment to Reed and the general manager of the Causeway Commission told OIG investigators that he knows of no legal or other services provided to the Causeway Commission by Reed for which he would have been paid. According to current counsel for the Causeway Commission, Reed has never been engaged as counsel and the Causeway Commission is unaware of any billings or records relating to legal services or other work performed by Reed.

Investigation determined that the amounts that Reed listed on the Board of Ethics disclosure reports were not paid to him by the Causeway Commission but were paid to Reed by J. William Becknell II, an attorney, and/or “The Becknell Law Firm” during years when the Becknell law firm was employed as contract counsel by the Causeway Commission. Records show that Reed was paid more than \$52,000 by Becknell between June, 2008 and May, 2014. (Reed also filed the disclosure report for 2013 and included no entry for the Causeway Commission or the Becknell law firm. All reports were submitted by Reed’s CPA, Ronald Garrity. According to the Board of Ethics, Reed has not filed a report for 2014 and has been assessed a late fee of \$2,500.00 and ordered to file the report.)

Examination of billing invoices submitted by the Becknell law firm to the Causeway Commission and checks issued by the Becknell firm to Reed show that during 2008,

2009, 2010 and 2011 the firm paid Reed 30% of the fees it received from the Causeway Commission. In 2013 and 2014, the Becknell firm paid Reed 20% of the fees it received from the Causeway Commission. No checks were written in 2012. Invoices show no entries for legal work or other services performed by Walter Reed for which the Becknell firm would have been entitled to payment by the Causeway Commission. In several instances, the calculation of Reed's portion is shown on the face of the copies of invoices obtained by OIG.

IRS Form 1099 was issued to Walter Reed by The Becknell Law Firm, APLC in the amounts shown below:

2008	\$ 2,642.26
2009	\$13,559.05
2010	\$10,434.61
2011	\$ 9,789.16
2013	\$ 9,297.87
2014	\$ 6,324.25

Walter Reed was admitted to practice law in Louisiana in 1978. He served as the elected District Attorney for the 22nd Judicial District from January, 1985 through December, 2014. On April 23, 2015, Reed was indicted on multiple felony charges in *United States v. Walter Reed et al.*, #15-100, Eastern District of Louisiana. On May 2, 2016, a federal court jury found Reed guilty of multiple felony counts. On April 5, 2017, Reed was sentenced to 48 months in federal prison, followed by 2 years of supervised release, by U.S. District Judge Eldon Fallon. The court previously granted Reed's request to remain out on bond pending appeal to the United States Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals.¹ Reed was suspended from the practice of law by order of the Louisiana Supreme Court dated June 3, 2016.

The Greater New Orleans Expressway Commission was established in 1954 by articles of incorporation between the parishes of Jefferson and St. Tammany and is responsible for operating and maintaining the 24-mile dual span bridge-Expressway, and requisite approaches, across Lake Pontchartrain connecting the two parishes. It is composed of five members, three of whom are appointed by the Governor, including one member from each of the two parishes for a term of two years. The third member appointed by the Governor is for a one-year term alternately from

¹ The federal indictment and subsequent convictions of Reed were on offenses unrelated to the matter which OIG investigated. In order to avoid prejudicing the federal criminal proceedings, OIG allowed the criminal trial and sentencing to conclude before issuing the present report. In addition to the prison sentence, Reed was ordered to pay restitution in the amount of \$572,000 and fined \$15,000. He was also ordered to pay \$40,000 to the IRS.

Jefferson and St. Tammany. Of the remaining two members, one member is appointed from Jefferson Parish by the Jefferson Parish Council and one member is appointed from St. Tammany Parish by the St. Tammany Parish Council for two-year terms.

The Causeway Commission employs a general manager who is responsible for managing everyday operations. Carlton Dufrechou has served as general manager since September, 2009 when he succeeded Robert Lambert upon the latter's retirement. Causeway Commission offices are located at 3939 N. Causeway Boulevard in Metairie.

For decades the Causeway Commission retained an attorney as general counsel to handle all legal work. The last attorney to serve in that capacity was Stephen Caire whose services terminated in October, 1994. At that time, an unofficial division of legal work began between the Causeway Commission's "Northshore Counsel" and "Southshore Counsel." From November, 1994 through March, 2001 those positions were held by Patrick K. "Keith" Daigle and William W. Hall respectively.

Stephen Mogabgab, an assistant district attorney in Walter Reed's office, was Northshore Counsel from April, 2001 until his death on October 29, 2007.

Burgess McCranie served as Southshore Counsel from April, 2001 until June, 2014.

After Mr. Mogabgab's death, the Causeway Commission entered into an agreement with J. William Becknell II to provide legal services. (Causeway Commission records show that the Becknell law firm was paid approximately \$10,000 in fees for a limited amount of legal work performed for the Causeway Commission during the three year period of 2005 through 2007.)

Billing records show that the Becknell firm's representation of the Causeway Commission began on or about January 1, 2008 as the earliest entries on invoices for payment submitted by the law firm are dated "1/3/2008." A contract was later executed for the period of March 1, 2009 through February 28, 2012. Robert J. Lambert, General Manager, signed on behalf of the Causeway Commission and J. William Becknell II signed on behalf of "The Becknell Law Firm."

The invoices provided by the Becknell firm included detailed descriptions of the legal work performed and identified five attorneys, by initials only, who performed work for the Causeway Commission during the period under investigation. Those attorneys, and the hourly rate applicable to each, are as follows:

JWB	J. William Becknell II	\$175
ALB	Allison L. Becknell	\$150
MJP	Michael J. Power	\$175
BGM	Brian G. Meissner	\$175
JWB3	John William Becknell III	\$150

Records obtained by the OIG show that during the period under investigation the Becknell firm regularly issued checks payable to Walter Reed beginning on or about June 27, 2008. On that date two checks - #3013 and #3015 – were drawn on the Becknell law firm Client Trust Fund-IOLTA account in the amounts of \$615.75 and \$57.38 respectively. During the six-year period under investigation, 56 checks written on that account were issued by the Becknell firm to Reed, each reflecting a portion of the legal fees paid to the firm by the Causeway Commission. All checks were signed by J. William Becknell II or Allison L. Becknell. The final check - #2724 – was dated May 5, 2014 and made payable to Walter Reed in the amount of \$2,769.00. Again, no invoice shows a single entry for legal work or other service performed by Reed.

Three examples to illustrate:

- (1) Invoice #314 includes three entries for work performed during April, 2008 by ALB and JW B and bills for \$191.25 in fees. The Becknell firm issued check #3015 to Reed in the amount of \$57.38 which is exactly 30% of the fees billed.
- (2) Invoice #339 includes detailed entries for work performed during May, 2008 by ALB and JW B and bills for \$1,458.75 in fees. The Becknell firm issued check #3020 to Reed in the amount of \$437.63, exactly 30% of the fees billed.
- (3) Invoice #430 includes detailed entries for work performed during August, 2008 by ALB and JW B and bills for \$2,366.25 in fees. The Becknell firm issued check #3034 to Reed in the amount of \$709.88, again exactly 30% of the fees billed.

Our investigation found that on May 13, 2014 the Causeway Commission General Manager, Carlton Dufrechou, learned that Walter Reed had reported income from the Causeway Commission on the Personal Financial Disclosure Reports that he filed with the Board of Ethics. Dufrechou was unaware of any payments to Reed or of any work done for the Causeway Commission by Reed. Dufrechou confirmed with the Causeway Commission’s Finance Director and Chief of Staff that no checks

were written by the Causeway Commission to Reed. Dufrechou contacted his contract counsel by phone and in separate conversations both McCranie and Becknell denied paying Reed. Becknell asked “why do you ask?”

On May 21, 2014, Dufrechou and Michael Lorino, then-Commission Chairman (now St. Tammany Parish Councilman), held separate meetings with McCranie and Becknell.

McCranie again stated that he had not paid Reed and that Reed had done no work for the Causeway Commission. He said that Reed believed that he had the authority to hire the attorneys for the Causeway Commission. McCranie disclosed that Reed was “Of Counsel” at the McCranie law firm, a fact not previously known to Dufrechou. (According to news reports, the McCranie firm announced in June, 2005 that Reed would join the firm in a “ceremonial” position. *Times-Picayune*, 11/26/14.)

Becknell admitted paying Reed a percentage of his Causeway Commission billings and said that he issued IRS Form 1099 each year to Reed. He said that Reed did no work for the Causeway Commission but they would occasionally meet and discuss the Causeway Commission. Becknell described a lunch meeting at a restaurant called Trey Yuen that was attended by Reed and Robert Lambert, at which he was told by Lambert “if you want this job, you need to talk to Walter.”

Becknell told Dufrechou and Lorino “this is the way it was always done.” Lorino asked Becknell directly if Reed did any work for the money he was paid and Becknell replied “No.” Becknell was terminated by the Causeway Commission on the same date.

Burgess McCranie was interviewed by OIG on June 4, 2015. He said that he was hired by the Causeway Commission in April, 2001 and signed a one-year contract. Robert Lambert was General Manager at the time. He said that there was a fairly clear Northshore/Southshore distinction between the Causeway Commission’s two attorneys and he believes that Stephen Mogabgab, who he had never met, was already in place as the Northshore attorney. He said that he never paid Reed any compensation of any kind and Reed did no work for the Commission or for him in his position as Southshore attorney. He said that he sold his interest in his law firm around the time he reached age 65. McCranie said that there was no “Of Counsel” arrangement with Reed while he was still a part of the law firm. McCranie formed the McCranie, Sistrunk firm in 1991 with several attorneys who left the McGlinchey firm.

Robert Lambert, former Causeway Commission general manager, was interviewed by OIG investigators on October 27, 2016. He said that he recalls being present when Becknell and Reed were introduced to each other and it appeared to him that they did not know each other. Lambert said he had no role in the selection of counsel and that Reed played no part in the selection.

J. William Becknell II has been licensed to practice law in Louisiana since 1976 and, according to the Louisiana State Bar Association (lsba.org), currently maintains an office at 3445 N. Causeway Boulevard in Metairie. Through his attorney, Kyle Schonekas, he has declined our request for an interview.

Becknell was interviewed by FBI agents on June 6, 2014 and admitted paying Reed 30% of the Causeway Commission fees until the amount was later reduced to 20%. Becknell said that Reed's assistance consisted of consulting and meeting with Becknell. He said that Robert Lambert knew about this arrangement but the new general manager (Dufrechou) did not.

Allison Becknell was admitted to practice law in Louisiana in April, 2006. LSBA records show her at the same address as her father. Through her attorney, Stephen London, she has declined our request for an interview.

John William Becknell III was admitted to practice law in Louisiana in October, 2012. LSBA records show him at the same address as his father.

Michael J. Power was admitted to practice law in Louisiana in 1973 and currently serves as Parish Attorney for Jefferson Parish. Through his attorney, Stephen London, he has declined our request for an interview.

Brian G. Meissner was admitted to practice law in Louisiana in 1975 and, according to LSBA records, currently maintains an office at 434 N. Columbia Street, Suite 206, in Covington. Through his attorney, Stephen London, he has declined our request for an interview.

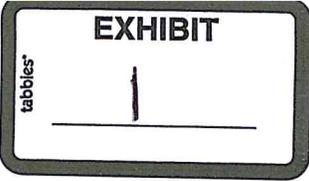
OIG found no evidence of improper or illegal activity by any commissioners or the current management of the Causeway Commission. Upon learning of Becknell's payments to Reed in spite of Reed's doing no work, the Causeway Commission terminated Becknell's contract and cooperated fully with OIG's investigation.

Copies of this report have been provided to the Jefferson Parish District Attorney's Office, the United States Attorney for the Eastern District of Louisiana, and to the Louisiana Attorney General's Criminal Division. The St. Tammany Parish District Attorney's Office was recused from this matter via order signed and filed June 25, 2015.

EXHIBITS

- 1) Becknell Law Firm Invoice #314 dated May 1, 2008 and Check No. 3015 payable to Walter Reed
- 2) Becknell Law Firm Invoice #339 dated June 2, 2008 and Check No. 3020 payable to Walter Reed
- 3) Becknell Law Firm Invoice #430 and Check No. 3034 dated October 23, 2008 payable to Walter Reed
- 4) Becknell Law Firm Invoice #1220 dated June 1, 2011 and Check No. 3412 payable to Walter Reed
- 5) Becknell Law Firm Invoice #1142 dated February 1, 2011 and Check No. 3391 payable to Walter Reed
- 6) Spreadsheet with Examples of Payments to Walter Reed

EXHIBITS



**THE BECKNELL LAW FIRM
A PROFESSIONAL LAW CORPORATION**

3445 N. Causeway Blvd.
Suite 736
Metairie, LA 70002
504-833-7325

Greater New Orleans Expressway Commission
c/o Robert Lambert
P.O. Box 7656
Metairie, LA 70010

5/1/2008

Account #G0017-5 Danos ...

Invoice # 314

		Hours	Hourly Rate	Atty	Total
4/4/2008	Receipt and Review of insurance company file	0.5	150.00	ALB	75.00
4/10/2008	Update litigation file status	0.25	150.00	ALB	37.50
4/22/2008	Discussion with Gair Oldenburg-attorney for Danos regarding lawsuit filed; correspondence to Mr. Oldenburg regarding documentation requested regarding claim by Danos	0.45	175.00	JWB	78.75

For Professional Services Rendered: \$191.25

Costs:

Copies: \$1.00

1.00

1.00

Walter Reed - 191.25 X 309

<i>JWB =</i>	<i>134.87</i>	<i>—</i>	<i>Gen - 133.87</i>
<i>Walter Reed -</i>	<i>57.38</i>		<i>Costs - 1.00</i>
	<u><i>192.25</i></u>		<u><u><i>134.87</i></u></u>

Tax I.D. The Becknell Law Firm, A Professional Law Corporation

Total Balance Due: \$192.25

(No Carbon Paper Required)
Tear Along Perforation

THE BECKNELL LAW FIRM
A PROFESSIONAL LAW FIRM

CLIENT TRUST FUND-IOLTA
3445 N CAUSEWAY BLVD, SUITE 736 504-833-7925
METAIRIE LA 70002

3015



14-345/630

TO THE ORDER OF

PAY Fifty dollar and 38/100
Wilton Beck

DATE

06-27-08

DOLLARS \$

57.38

Colin J. Becknell

THE BECKNELL LAW FIRM

DETACH AND RETAIN THIS STATEMENT
IF NOT CORRECT PLEASE NOTIFY US FROM THE ITEMS DESCRIBED BELOW.
NO RECEIPT DESIRED.

DELUXE FORM WVC-3 V-2

DATE	DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT
06-27-08	GNOEC - Darn - fee	\$57.38

EXHIBIT

tabbles

2

THE BECKNELL LAW FIRM
A PROFESSIONAL LAW CORPORATION

3445 N. Causeway Blvd.
Suite 736
Metairie, LA 70002
504-833-7325

Greater New Orleans Expressway Commission
c/o Robert Lambert
P.O. Box 7656
Metairie, LA 70010

*Booked in Q.B.
7-25-08
Check # 33055*

6/2/2008

Account #	G0017 GNOEC	General	Project				
Invoice #	339			Hours	Hourly Rate	Atty	Total
5/1/2008	Discussion with Robert Lambert regarding legislative bills; Receipt and Review correspondence from GNOEC regarding legislative hearing			0.45	175.00	JWB	78.75
5/2/2008	Receipt and Review correspondence for GNOEC regarding resolution by Jefferson Chamber of Commerce; Receipt and Review correspondence regarding fiber optic contract			0.45	175.00	JWB	78.75
5/6/2008	Correspondence to Byron LeBlanc regarding confidentiality agreement			0.2	175.00	JWB	35.00
5/7/2008	Discussion with Robert Lambert regarding proposals for optic fiber use and files from Steve Mogabgab's office; Discussion with Mogabgab's office regarding same; Correspondence to Bill Murhammer regarding Shaw Group; Correspondence to Robert Lambert regarding Ethics Opinion			1.45	175.00	JWB	253.75
5/8/2008	Discussion with Robert Lambert regarding ethics opinion; Discussion with Bill Murhammer regarding Shaw			0.45	175.00	JWB	78.75
5/9/2008	Review files from Steve Mogabgab' at GNOEC office; Discussion with Robert Lambert and Chief Locaino regarding public records request regarding police procedures			3.35	175.00	JWB	586.25
5/12/2008	Discussion with Councilman John Young regarding meeting; Discussion with Robert Lambert regarding same			0.45	175.00	JWB	78.75
5/13/2008	Attend Causeway Commission meeting			1.5	150.00	ALB	225.00
5/16/2008	Receipt and Review correspondence and House Bill introduced regarding GNOEC			0.25	175.00	JWB	43.75

Tax I.D. [redacted] The Becknell Law Firm, A Professional Law Corporation

Total Balance Due: \$1,458.75

PLEASE MAKE CHECK PAYABLE TO THE BECKNELL LAW FIRM. PAYABLE UPON RECEIPT.

*Walter Reed - 437.63
JWB - 1021.12
1458.75*

**THE BECKNELL LAW FIRM
A PROFESSIONAL LAW CORP.**

CLIENT TRUST FUND-IOLTA
3445 N CAUSEWAY BLVD. SUITE 736 504-833-7325
METAIRIE LA 70002

3020



14-345/650

DATE 8-3-08

PAY Four hundred thirty seven & 63/100 DOLLARS \$ 437.63/100

TO
THE
ORDER
OF

WALTER REED

William Becknell

Security Features Included. Details on back.

THE BECKNELL LAW FIRM

DETACH AND RETAIN THIS STATEMENT
THE ATTACHED CHECK IS IN PAYMENT OF ITEMS DESCRIBED BELOW.
IF NOT CORRECT PLEASE NOTIFY US PROMPTLY. NO RECEIPT DESIRED.

DELUXE - FORM WVC-3 V-2

DATE	DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT
8-3-08	FEES - GNDEC - MAY GENERAL INV # 339	\$437.63

V-2



THE BECKNELL LAW FIRM
A PROFESSIONAL LAW CORPORATION

3445 N. Causeway Blvd.
Suite 736
Metairie, LA 70002
504-833-7325

Bill To

Greater New Orleans Expressway Commission
c/o Robert Lambert
P.O. Box 7656
Metairie, LA 70010

*Payment Received/Booked
10-20-08
* Dep. in trust*

Account # G0017 GNOEC

General

Invoice # 430

		Hours	Hourly Rate	Atty	Total
8/1/2008	Receipt and Review correspondence and documentation regarding amounts due Gootee service; Discussion with Gootee Service regarding amounts due; Correspondence to GNOEC regarding Gootee Services	0.55	175.00	JWB	96.25
8/6/2008	Receipt and Review correspondence regarding memorandum pertaining to engineers; Discussion with GNOEC office regarding memorandum	0.25	175.00	JWB	43.75
8/7/2008	Discussion with Krebs, LaSalle regarding engineering services memorandum	0.35	175.00	JWB	61.25
8/9/2008	Research regarding GNOEC policies and procedures for selecting architects and engineers; Begin drafting memorandum in connection with same	3.5	150.00	ALB	525.00
8/12/2008	Continue drafting memorandum	1	150.00	ALB	150.00
8/13/2008	Receipt and Review correspondence from Krebs LaSalle regarding hiring procedures; Correspondence to Jean Champagne regarding documents received for memorandum	0.35	175.00	JWB	61.25
8/13/2008	Continue drafting memorandum	0.5	150.00	ALB	75.00

*Walter Reed - 709.88
Becknell Law Firm - 1656.37 - fees
2366.25*

Tax I.D. [redacted] The Becknell Law Firm, A Professional Law Corporation

Total Balance Due:

PLEASE MAKE CHECK PAYABLE TO THE BECKNELL LAW FIRM. PAYABLE UPON RECEIPT.

**THE BECKNELL LAW FIRM
A PROFESSIONAL LAW CORPORATION**

3445 N. Causeway Blvd.
Suite 736
Metairie, LA 70002
504-833-7325

Bill To

Greater New Orleans Expressway Commission
c/o Robert Lambert
P.O. Box 7656
Metairie, LA 70010

Account # G0017 GNOEC

General

Invoice # 430

		Hours	Hourly Rate	Atty	Total
8/14/2008	Review additional documents and draft revisions to memorandum regarding hiring procedures; Correspondence to Krebs, LaSalle regarding hiring procedures; Discussion with Krebs LaSalle regarding procedure; Correspondence to Cary Bourgeois regarding review of draft memorandum; Receipt and Review comments from Cary Bourgeois regarding procedures; Correspondence to Cary Bourgeois regarding same	2.15	175.00	JWB	376.25
8/14/2008	Revise memorandum	0.5	150.00	ALB	75.00
8/15/2008	Receipt and Review comments from Jean Champagne regarding procedures	0.25	175.00	JWB	43.75
8/20/2008	Draft revisions to memorandum regarding hiring procedures for engineers; Correspondence to GNOEC regarding draft memorandum for review by Robert Lambert; Receipt and Review correspondence from GNOEC regarding same; Discussion with Cheryl Lambert regarding draft memorandum	1.1	175.00	JWB	192.50
8/22/2008	Research Louisiana law regarding sales tax on toll tags	1	150.00	ALB	150.00
8/26/2008	Conference with Jean Champagne regarding documentation regarding procedures for hiring architects and engineers; Discussion with Robert Lambert regarding comments regarding draft memorandum regarding same	1.2	175.00	JWB	210.00
8/29/2008	Discussion with Robert Lambert regarding revisions to memorandum; Conference with Robert Lambert regarding procedures for professional services	1.75	175.00	JWB	306.25

Tax I.D. The Becknell Law Firm, A Professional Law Corporation

Total Balance Due: \$2,366.25

PLEASE MAKE CHECK PAYABLE TO THE BECKNELL LAW FIRM. PAYABLE UPON RECEIPT.

copy 2223
(No Carbon Paper Required)
Tear Along Perforation

3034

THE BECKNELL LAW FIRM
A PROFESSIONAL LAW CORP.
CLIENT TRUST FUND-IOLTA
3445 N CAUSEWAY BLVD. SUITE 736 504 -833-7325
METAIRIE LA 70002

OMNI BANK
2501 BUCALAKE DRIVE
METAIRIE, LA 70002

14-345/650

PAY Seven Hundred Nine and 88/100 DATE 10-23-08 DOLLARS \$ 709.88

TO
THE
ORDER
OF

Walter Reed

Allyson L. Becknell

THE BECKNELL LAW FIRM

DETACH AND RETAIN THIS STATEMENT
THE ATTACHED CHECK IS IN PAYMENT OF ITEMS DESCRIBED BELOW.
IF NOT CORRECT PLEASE NOTIFY US PROMPTLY. NO RECEIPT DESIRED.

DELUXE - FORM WVC-3 V-2

DATE	DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT
10-23-08	GNOEC fees	\$709.88

V-2

GNOEC general

Power \$951.57

Reed \$842.63

Becknell \$1023.95

\$2818.15

\$1014.55

\$9.40 cost

\$1023.95

THE BECKNELL LAW FIRM
A PROFESSIONAL LAW CORPORATION

3445 N. Causeway Blvd.
Suite 736
Metairie, LA 70002
504-833-7325

	Invoice #
6/1/2011	1220

~~Total Packet: \$2,818.15~~

~~MJP: \$951.57~~

~~JWB: \$1,866.58~~
Fees \$1,866.58
Cost \$9.40

Greater New Orleans Expressway Commission
c/o Cheryl Lambert
P.O. Box 7656
Metairie, LA 70010

Account #
G0017 GNOEC General

	Hours	Hourly Rate	Atty	Total
5/2/2011 Correspondence to John Bergeron regarding GNOEC resolution authorizing the issuance of RFP for fiber optic lines; Receipt and Review correspondence from John Bergeron, American Tower Corporation, regarding same	0.35	175.00	JWB	61.25
5/2/2011 Discussion with J. Hebert of Marine Technology regarding GNOEC authority to terminate fiber optic line at maintenance building	0.25	175.00	MJP	43.75
5/3/2011 Receipt and Review correspondence from Carlton Dufrechou regarding fiber optic resolution and RFP; Receipt and Review correspondence from GNOEC regarding GNOEC meeting	0.3	175.00	JWB	52.50
5/3/2011 Attend monthly GNOEC meeting; Meeting with Cary Bourgeois regarding RFP for fiber optics	1.5	175.00	ALB	262.50
5/6/2011 Receipt and Review correspondence from Carlton Dufrechou regarding letter received from attorney to file complaint regarding Oscar Carazo; Correspondence to Carlton Dufrechou regarding threatened litigation by attorney for Mr. Carazo; Receipt and Review correspondence regarding interview with Mr. Carazo by police department	0.65	175.00	JWB	113.75

Tax I.D. [redacted] The Becknell Law Firm, A Professional Law Corporation

Total Balance Due:

PLEASE MAKE CHECK PAYABLE TO THE BECKNELL LAW FIRM. PAYABLE UPON RECEIPT.

EXHIBIT
4

**THE BECKNELL LAW FIRM
A PROFESSIONAL LAW CORPORATION**

3445 N. Causeway Blvd.
Suite 736
Metairie, LA 70002
504-833-7325

	Invoice #
6/1/2011	1220

Greater New Orleans Expressway Commission c/o Cheryl Lambert P.O. Box 7656 Metairie, LA 70010
--

Account #
G0017 GNOEC General

		Hours	Hourly Rate	Atty	Total
5/9/2011	Receipt and Review correspondence from Carl Lemoine regarding complaint filed by Mr. Carazo; Receipt and Review correspondence from Carlton Dufrechou regarding possible interview of Mr. Carazo regarding complaint; Correspondence to Carlton Dufrechou regarding interview; Receipt and Review correspondence from Carl Lemoine regarding contact by attorney for Mr. Carazo; Receipt and Review correspondence from Carlton Dufrechou regarding same; Receipt and Review correspondence from Carl Lemoine regarding proposed interview	1.15	175.00	JWB	201.25
5/10/2011	Correspondence to Carl Lemoine and Carlton Dufrechou regarding interview	0.15	175.00	JWB	26.25
5/16/2011	Review previous RFPs issued by GNOEC	0.4	175.00	JWB	70.00
5/17/2011	Continue draft of RFP	1.75	175.00	MJP	306.25
5/18/2011	Receipt and Review correspondence and mutual nondisclosure agreement from Verizon Wireless	0.25	175.00	JWB	43.75
5/22/2011	Receipt and Review correspondence from Cary Bourgeois regarding completion of RFP for fiber optic lines; Correspondence to Cary Bourgeois regarding status of request for proposals	0.35	175.00	JWB	61.25

Tax I.D. # [redacted] the Becknell Law Firm, A Professional Law Corporation

Total Balance Due:

PLEASE MAKE CHECK PAYABLE TO THE BECKNELL LAW FIRM. PAYABLE UPON RECEIPT.

**THE BECKNELL LAW FIRM
A PROFESSIONAL LAW CORPORATION**

3445 N. Causeway Blvd.
Suite 736
Metairie, LA 70002
504-833-7325

	Invoice #
6/1/2011	1220

Greater New Orleans Expressway Commission c/o Cheryl Lambert P.O. Box 7656 Metairie, LA 70010
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Account #
G0017 GNOEC General

		Hours	Hourly Rate	Atty	Total
5/24/2011	Receipt and Review correspondence from Cary Bourgeois regarding conference to review RFP; Correspondence to Cary Bourgeois regarding conference; Receipt and Review correspondence from Carlton Dufrechou regarding timing for distribution of RFP prior to GNOEC Commission meeting; Correspondence to Carlton Dufrechou regarding completion of RFP and advertising; Receipt and Review correspondence from Carlton Dufrechou regarding same	0.6	175.00	JWB	105.00
5/24/2011	Complete review and revisions of front-end documents for RFP	1.1	175.00	MJP	192.50
5/25/2011	Work on front-end documents; Prepare for meeting with Cary Bourgeois with GEC	0.5	175.00	MUP	87.50
5/26/2011	Conference with Cary Bourgeois regarding preparation of RFP for fiber optic proposals	2	175.00	JWB	350.00
5/26/2011	Conference with Cary Bourgeois regarding RFP and deadlines	2	175.00	MJP	350.00

Tax I.D.  the Becknell Law Firm, A Professional Law Corporation

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Metairie, LA 70002
504-833-7325

	Invoice #
6/1/2011	1220

Greater New Orleans Expressway Commission c/o Cheryl Lambert P.O. Box 7656 Metairie, LA 70010
--

Account #
G0017 GNOEC General

		Hours	Hourly Rate	Atty	Total
5/27/2011	Receipt and Review correspondence from GNOEC regarding preparation of budget and summary of pending or threaten litigation and claims; Receipt and Review correspondence from Carlton Dufrechou regarding issuance of RFP; Correspondence to Cheryl Lambert regarding response to request for information for budget; Correspondence to Carlton Dufrechou regarding completion of RFP	0.75	175.00	JWB	131.25
5/31/2011	Revisions to draft of RFP	2	175.00	MJP	350.00

FOR PROFESSIONAL SERVICES
RENDERED: \$2,650.50

COSTS:
Copies: \$9.40
TOTAL COSTS: \$9.40

Tax I.D.  The Becknell Law Firm, A Professional Law Corporation

Total Balance Due: \$2,818.15

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THE BECKNELL LAW FIRM
A PROFESSIONAL LAW CORP.
CLIENT TRUST FUND-IOLTA
3445 N CAUSEWAY BLVD. SUITE 736 504 -833-7325
METAIRIE LA 70002

3412



14-345/650

DATE 7-8-11

PAY Eight hundred forty two & $\frac{63}{100}$ DOLLARS \$ 842.63

TO
THE
ORDER
OF

WALTER REED

[Signature]

THE BECKNELL LAW FIRM

DETACH AND RETAIN THIS STATEMENT
THE ATTACHED CHECK IS IN PAYMENT OF ITEMS DESCRIBED BELOW.
IF NOT CORRECT PLEASE NOTIFY US PROMPTLY. NO RECEIPT DESIRED.

DELUXE - FORM WVC-3 V-2

DATE	DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT
7-8-11	FEES	\$842.63

V-2

EXHIBIT
tabbies
5

*Becknell
check
expert
05.13.11*

**THE BECKNELL LAW FIRM
A PROFESSIONAL LAW CORPORATION**

3445 N. Causeway Blvd.
Suite 736
Metairie, LA 70002
504-833-7325

	Invoice #
2/1/2011	1142

Entire Packet

Greater New Orleans Expressway Commission
c/o Cheryl Lambert
P.O. Box 7656
Metairie, LA 70010

Power - \$2067.20
Meisner - \$9016.88
Reed - \$5139.75
Becknell - \$1074.15

Fees \$908.67
Costs \$165.48

\$17,297.98

Account #	G0017-3 Marquette
	<i>\$1074.15</i>

		Hours	Hourly Rate	Atty	Total
1/5/2011	Work regarding discovery and scheduling order for court	0.5	175.00	BGM	87.50
1/6/2011	Receipt and Respond to client's correspondence regarding tax identification number for Safety Quest	0.25	175.00	MJP	43.75
1/10/2011	Discussion with plaintiff's attorney regarding due date for exchange of expert reports; Correspondence to plaintiff's attorney regarding discovery responses/extension of due dates	0.5	175.00	MJP	87.50
1/11/2011	Review additional discovery and filing cut-offs; Draft Motion for Additional Time and Witness List	1.5	175.00	MJP	262.50
1/11/2011	Conference regarding Economist reports and discovery; Review Motion to Extend Time to Provide Expert Reports; Filing GNOEC Preliminary Witness List	1.5	175.00	BGM	262.50
1/12/2011	Draft letter to plaintiff's attorney regarding extension and forward witness list and expert report on bridge design; Revisions to Motion	3.25	175.00	MJP	568.75
1/17/2011	Discussion with Dr. Kenneth Boudreaux, expert witness; Correspondence to plaintiff's attorney setting Rule 10.1 telephone conference	0.75	175.00	MJP	131.25
1/20/2011	Rule 10.1 telephone conference with plaintiff's attorney regarding discovery responses; Discuss settlement possibility	0.7	175.00	MJP	122.50

Tax I.D. [redacted] The Becknell Law Firm, A Professional Law Corporation

Total Balance Due:

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**THE BECKNELL LAW FIRM
A PROFESSIONAL LAW CORPORATION**

3445 N. Causeway Blvd.
Suite 736
Metairie, LA 70002
504-833-7325

	Invoice #
2/1/2011	1142

Greater New Orleans Expressway Commission c/o Cheryl Lambert P.O. Box 7656 Metairie, LA 70010
--

Account #
G0017-3 Marquette

		Hours	Hourly Rate	Atty	Total
1/20/2011	Correspondence to plaintiff's attorney to memorialize informal extension for expert report and discovery responses	0.25	175.00	MJP	43.75
1/20/2011	Legal Research on Public Liability Limitations law for Motion in Limine	4	175.00	BGM	700.00
1/24/2011	Legal Research on Snearl v. Mercer case involving bridge railings and liability as to GNOEC	2.7	175.00	BGM	472.50
1/26/2011	Discussion with plaintiff's attorney regarding motion for additional time for expert reports	0.25	175.00	MJP	43.75
1/27/2011	Correspondence to court confirming Motion for additional time is moot	0.25	175.00	MJP	43.75
1/27/2011	Analyze Randolph Rice report regarding economic losses; Review tax information regarding spousal support research on general damage issues for wife and major children	3.4	175.00	BGM	595.00
1/31/2011	File letter in court regarding Motion to Compel Production of Plaintiff's Expert Reports	0.25	175.00	MJP	43.75

FOR PROFESSIONAL SERVICES
RENDERED: \$3,508.75

COSTS:

Copies: \$9.40

9.40

9.40

Tax I.D. [redacted] the Becknell Law Firm, A Professional Law Corporation

Total Balance Due:

PLEASE MAKE CHECK PAYABLE TO THE BECKNELL LAW FIRM. PAYABLE UPON RECEIPT.

**THE BECKNELL LAW FIRM
A PROFESSIONAL LAW CORPORATION**

3445 N. Causeway Blvd.
Suite 736
Metairie, LA 70002
504-833-7325

	Invoice #
2/1/2011	1142

Greater New Orleans Expressway Commission
c/o Cheryl Lambert
P.O. Box 7656
Metairie, LA 70010

Account #
G0017-3 Marquette

	Hours	Hourly Rate	Atty	Total
Postage: \$3.08		3.08		3.08
Faxes: \$2.00		2.00		2.00
TOTAL COSTS: \$14.48				

Tax I.D. [REDACTED] The Becknell Law Firm, A Professional Law Corporation

Total Balance Due: \$3,523.23

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THE BECKNELL LAW FIRM
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CLIENT TRUST FUND-IOLTA
3445 N CAUSEWAY BLVD. SUITE 736 504 -833-7325
METAIRIE LA 70002

3391



14-345/650

DATE 5-13-11

PAY Five thousand one hundred thirty nine & 75/100 DOLLARS \$ 5139.75

TO
THE
ORDER
OF

WALTER REED

J. William Becknell

THE BECKNELL LAW FIRM

DETACH AND RETAIN THIS STATEMENT
THE ATTACHED CHECK IS IN PAYMENT OF ITEMS DESCRIBED BELOW.
IF NOT CORRECT PLEASE NOTIFY US PROMPTLY. NO RECEIPT DESIRED.

DELUXE - FORM WVC-3 V-2

DATE	DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT
5-13-11	FEES	\$5139.75

V-2

DATE	INVOICE NUMBERS	INVOICE TOTAL	EXCLUSIONS	TOTAL LESS EXCLUSIONS	REED	PERCENTAGE	CHECK NUMBER	REASON FOR EXCLUSION
5/1/2008	314	192.55	1.00	191.55	57.39	30%	3015	Costs
6/2/2008	339	1,458.75	-	1,458.75	437.63	30%	3020	
8/31/2008	430	2,366.25	-	2,366.25	709.88	30%	3034	
11/30/2008	454, 496, 532	8,616.83	31.83	8,585.00	2,575.50	30%	3055	Costs
12/31/2008	523	902.50	-	902.50	270.75	30%	3063	
5/7/2009	650	1,076.25	-	1,076.25	322.87	30%	3128	
1/3/2011	1119	4,808.32	13.32	4,795.00	1,438.50	30%	3373	Costs
2/1/2011	1142	17,297.98	165.48	17,132.50	5,139.75	30%	3391	Costs
6/3/2013	1484, 1492, 1498	2,917.50		2,917.50	583.50	20%	2670	
8/1/2013	1491, 1500, 1506, 1525, 1527	4,236.00	1.00	4,235.00	847.00	20%	2673	Costs
8/1/2013	1490 & 1510	5,515.99	12.24	5,503.75	1,100.75	20%	2681	Costs
9/2/2013	1523	2,268.75		2,268.75	453.75	20%	2699	
11/1/2013	1545, 2033, 2024, 2025, 2034	5,287.50		5,287.50	1,057.50	20%	2723	
2/3/2014	2073, 2074, 2076, 2079, 2085, 2088	8,692.81	39.06	8,653.75	1,730.75	20%	2767	Costs
2/28/2014	2078, 2087, 2096,	13,970.42	125.42	13,845.00	2,769.00	20%	2774	Costs

EXHIBIT

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Eleven copies of this public document were published in this first printing at a cost of \$59.68. The total cost of all printings of this document, including reprints is \$59.68. This document was published by the Office of State Inspector General, State of Louisiana, Post Office Box 94095, Baton Rouge, LA 70804-9095 to report its findings under authority of LSA-R.S. 39:7-8. This material was printed in accordance with the standards for printing by state agencies established pursuant to LSA - R.S. 43:31.

A copy of this report has been made available for public inspection at the Office of State Inspector General and is posted on the Office of State Inspector General's website at www.oig.louisiana.gov. Reference should be made to Case No. 14-0048-I. If you need any assistance relative to this report, please contact Stephen B. Street, Jr., State Inspector General at (225) 342-4262.

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- Complete complaint form on web site at www.oig.louisiana.gov
- Write to Office of State Inspector General, P. O. Box 94095, Baton Rouge, LA 70804-9095
- Call the Office of State Inspector General at (225) 342-4262