

Local Law Filing

(Use this form to file a local law with the Secretary of State.)

Text of law should be given as amended. Do not include matter being eliminated and do not use italics or underlining to indicate new matter.

☒ County ☐ City ☐ Town ☐ Village
(Select one:)

of Westchester

Local Law No. 17 of the year 2023

A LOCAL LAW amending Section 158.11 of the Laws of Westchester County with respect to instituting actions and settlement authority.

Be it enacted by the County Board of the
(Name of Legislative Body)

☒ County ☐ City ☐ Town ☐ Village
(Select one:)

of Westchester

as follows:

SECTION 1.

Subdivision 3 of Section 158.11 of the Laws of Westchester County is hereby amended to read as follows:

(3) The County Attorney shall not have the power to institute any proceedings on behalf of the county, or any of its officers, unless directed to do so by the County Board or an officer, board, commission or body having power or authority under statute to direct the starting of any such action or proceeding, except a proceeding for a money judgment only where the amount involved does not exceed twenty-five thousand dollars (\$25,000.00) exclusive of interest and costs, or except as provided in subsection 4. hereof. Where a money judgment is comprised of multiple fines, penalties, or other judgments, the County Attorney is authorized to commence an action to collect such judgment where the aggregate judgment exceeds twenty-five thousand dollars, so long as no individual component judgment exceeds twenty-five thousand dollars.

SECTION 2.

Subdivision 5 of Section 158.11 of the Laws of Westchester County is hereby amended to read as follows:

Except as otherwise provided in this subdivision, the county attorney shall not be empowered to compromise, settle or adjust any rights, claims, demands or causes of action in favor of or against the County of Westchester without the previous authority of the county board or of the board, body, commission or office authorized or empowered by statute to direct or consent to such compromise, settlement or adjustment. He shall not permit, offer or confess judgment against the county or accept any offer or judgment in favor of the county for less than the amount claimed by the county, unless previously duly authorized to do so by the County Board. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the County Attorney shall be empowered to compromise, settle, (If additional space is needed, attach pages the same size as this sheet, and number each.)

or adjust rights, claims, demands or causes of action against the county for an amount not to exceed twenty-five thousand dollars (\$25,000.00) exclusive of interest and costs without the need for authorization from the County Board or of any other board, body, commission or office. In addition, the County Attorney with the approval of the County Board of Acquisition and Contract may compromise, settle or adjust rights, claims, demands or causes of action against the county for which the County is authorized to make payment out of its self-insurance reserve fund pursuant to New York State General Municipal Law § 6-n or any other insurance program of the County's, for an amount not to exceed one hundred-and-fifty thousand dollars (\$150,000.00) exclusive of interests and costs. In addition, the County Attorney, with the approval of the County Board of Acquisition and Contract, may compromise, settle, or adjust liens in favor of the County under Section 29 of the New York State Workers' Compensation Law. In no event shall any inhibition contained in this section operate to limit or abridge the discretion of the County Attorney in regard to the proper conduct of the trial or appeal of any proceedings or action at law, or to deprive said County Attorney of the powers or privileges ordinarily exercised in the course of litigation by attorneys at law when acting for private clients.

SECTION 3.

Subdivision 3(c) of Section 297.31 of the Laws of Westchester County is hereby repealed and replaced with a new subdivision 3(c) to read as follows:

c. Where an employee is represented by the County Attorney, any proposed settlement which may be subject to indemnification by the county shall be subject to the requirements for approval contained in Section 158.11(5) of the Laws of Westchester County.

SECTION 4. Effective date.

This Local Law shall take effect in 60 days.

(Complete the certification in the paragraph that applies to the filing of this local law and strike out that which is not applicable.)

1. (Final adoption by local legislative body only.)

I hereby certify that the local law annexed hereto, designated as local law No. _____ of 20____ of the (County)(City)(Town)(Village) of _____ was duly passed by the _____ on _____ 20____, in accordance with the applicable provisions of law.

(Name of Legislative Body)

2. (Passage by local legislative body with approval, no disapproval or repassage after disapproval by the Elective Chief Executive Officer*.)

I hereby certify that the local law annexed hereto, designated as local law No. _____ 17 _____ of 2023____ of the (County)(City)(Town)(Village) of _____ Westchester _____ was duly passed by the

Board of Legislators _____ on November 13, 2023____, and was (approved)(not approved)

(Name of Legislative Body)

(repassed after disapproval) by the _____ County Executive _____ and was deemed duly adopted (Elective Chief Executive Officer*)

on November 15, 20 23, in accordance with the applicable provisions of law.

3. (Final adoption by referendum.)

I hereby certify that the local law annexed hereto, designated as local law No. _____ of 20____ of the (County)(City)(Town)(Village) of _____ was duly passed by the _____ on _____ 20____, and was (approved)(not approved)

(Name of Legislative Body)

(repassed after disapproval) by the _____ on _____ 20____. (Elective Chief Executive Officer*)

Such local law was submitted to the people by reason of a (mandatory)(permissive) referendum, and received the affirmative vote of a majority of the qualified electors voting thereon at the (general)(special)(annual) election held on _____ 20____, in accordance with the applicable provisions of law.

4. (Subject to permissive referendum and final adoption because no valid petition was filed requesting referendum.)

I hereby certify that the local law annexed hereto, designated as local law No. _____ of 20____ of the (County)(City)(Town)(Village) of _____ was duly passed by the _____ on _____ 20____, and was (approved)(not approved)

(Name of Legislative Body)

(repassed after disapproval) by the _____ on _____ 20____. Such local (Elective Chief Executive Officer*)

law was subject to permissive referendum and no valid petition requesting such referendum was filed as of _____ 20____, in accordance with the applicable provisions of law.

* Elective Chief Executive Officer means or includes the chief executive officer of a county elected on a county-wide basis or, if there be none, the chairperson of the county legislative body, the mayor of a city or village, or the supervisor of a town where such officer is vested with the power to approve or veto local laws or ordinances.

5. (City local law concerning Charter revision proposed by petition.)

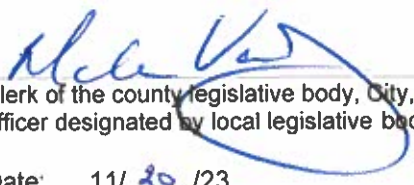
I hereby certify that the local law annexed hereto, designated as local law No. _____ of 20____ of the City of _____ having been submitted to referendum pursuant to the provisions of section (36)(37) of the Municipal Home Rule Law, and having received the affirmative vote of a majority of the qualified electors of such city voting thereon at the (special)(general) election held on _____ 20____, became operative.

6. (County local law concerning adoption of Charter.)

I hereby certify that the local law annexed hereto, designated as local law No. _____ of 20____ of the County of _____ State of New York, having been submitted to the electors at the General Election of November _____ 20____, pursuant to subdivisions 5 and 7 of section 33 of the Municipal Home Rule Law, and having received the affirmative vote of a majority of the qualified electors of the cities of said county as a unit and a majority of the qualified electors of the towns of said county considered as a unit voting at said general election, became operative.

(If any other authorized form of final adoption has been followed, please provide an appropriate certification.)

I further certify that I have compared the preceding local law with the original on file in this office and that the same is a correct transcript therefrom and of the whole of such original local law, and was finally adopted in the manner indicated in paragraph, _____ 2 _____ above.


Clerk of the county legislative body, City, Town or Village Clerk or
officer designated by local legislative body

Date: 11/ 20 /23

(Seal)