

(1) SHALL EXECUTE AN AFFIDAVIT UNDER OATH THAT THE PERSON WILL NOT ACCEPT APPOINTMENT TO, OR BE A CANDIDATE FOR, ANY STATE OR LOCAL OFFICE, WHETHER APPOINTIVE OR ELECTIVE, DURING THAT PERSON'S SERVICE AS SPECIAL COUNSEL AND FOR A 3-YEAR PERIOD AFTER THE PERSON LAST SERVES AS SPECIAL COUNSEL; AND

(2) MAY NOT BE A STATE EMPLOYEE OR A STATE PUBLIC OFFICIAL BEFORE APPOINTMENT.

(C) THE SPECIAL COUNSEL SHALL RECEIVE THE SALARY AS ALLOWED BY THE STATE BUDGET.

9-2704.

(A) (1) THE SPECIAL COUNSEL MAY APPOINT AND EMPLOY THE PROFESSIONAL, INVESTIGATIVE, AND CLERICAL STAFF AS ALLOWED BY THE STATE BUDGET.

(2) THE SPECIAL COUNSEL MAY RETAIN CONSULTANTS AND EXPERTS INCLUDING ECONOMISTS, COST OF CAPITAL EXPERTS, ENGINEERS, AND LAWYERS.

(B) (1) TO THE EXTENT PRACTICABLE, THE SPECIAL COUNSEL SHALL UTILIZE THE SERVICES AND PERSONNEL OF THE OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL, THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION, THE TECHNICAL STAFF OF THE COMMISSION, THE OFFICE OF PEOPLE'S COUNSEL, AND OTHER STATE AND LOCAL AGENCIES.

(2) THE OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL, THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION, THE TECHNICAL STAFF OF THE COMMISSION, THE OFFICE OF PEOPLE'S COUNSEL, AND OTHER STATE AND LOCAL AGENCIES SHALL COOPERATE WITH THE OFFICE OF SPECIAL COUNSEL.

(C) WITH RESPECT TO ENTERING INTO CONTRACTS FOR THE PROCUREMENT OF SUPPLIES AND SERVICES AND OBTAINING SUPPLIES AND SERVICES, THE OFFICE OF SPECIAL COUNSEL IS NOT SUBJECT TO THE PROVISIONS OF DIVISION II OF THE STATE FINANCE AND PROCUREMENT ARTICLE.

(D) (1) IN CONSULTATION WITH THE LEGISLATIVE POLICY COMMITTEE, THE GOVERNOR MAY TRANSFER ALL FUNDS THAT THE SPECIAL COUNSEL REQUIRES FOR THE INVESTIGATION UNDER THIS SUBTITLE FROM OTHER AGENCY FUNDS AS THE GOVERNOR CONSIDERS APPROPRIATE IN ACCORDANCE WITH § 7-209(E)(2)(IV) OF THE STATE FINANCE AND PROCUREMENT ARTICLE.

(2) THE PARTIES TO THE PROPOSED MERGER INVESTIGATED UNDER THIS SUBTITLE SHALL REIMBURSE THE STATE FOR THE EXPENSES OF THE INVESTIGATION OF THE MERGER.

9-2705.

(A) THE SPECIAL COUNSEL HAS THE DUTIES, POWERS, AND RESPONSIBILITIES SET FORTH IN THIS SECTION.