



ANTHONY G. BROWN, MARYLAND ATTORNEY GENERAL

STATEMENT

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Media Contacts:
press@oag.state.md.us
410-576-7009

Attorney General Brown's Statement on Maryland Board of Public Works Approval for Assistant Counsel for Potential Key Bridge Collapse Litigation

BALTIMORE, MD (May 15, 2024) – Attorney General Anthony Brown announced the Maryland Board of Public Works (BPW) this morning approved his request for a “contingent fee contract” for five law firms that will work as his Assistant Counsel in the state’s litigation against the parties responsible for the collapse of the Francis Scott Key Bridge. Earlier this week, the Attorney General received the same approval from the Maryland Transportation Authority (MDTA) Board.

“I have a team of amazing attorneys who represent the people of Maryland and the almost two dozen affected state agencies. Ever since the tragedy of March 26, they have been working tirelessly to protect Marylanders and the interests of the State,” explained Attorney General Brown. “We are adding to that people power and now have five law firms that we have selected to serve as Assistant Counsel. The firms have deep expertise in maritime disasters, tort litigation, insurance recovery, and dispute resolution. I want Marylanders to know that we are standing up a team that puts us in the strongest position possible on the legal front.”

The five firms include Kelley Drye & Warren, Liskow and Lewis, Partridge LLC, The Lanier Firm, and, serving as local counsel, the Maryland firm of Downs Ward Bender Herzog & Kintigh. The firms were all selected through an open and competitive process,

“Again, I want to reiterate my thanks to Willcox & Savage,” said Attorney General Brown. “Willcox & Savage is a maritime law firm that serves as our Assistant Counsel on a separate legal matter. In the days that followed the bridge collapse, their attorneys stepped in immediately to help, while we moved forward with our competitive selection process. Thanks to Wilcox & Savage, my office was able to dig in from ‘Day 1’. The approvals by the Board of Public Works and the Maryland Transportation Authority Board, allow us to proceed with these additional resources without missing valuable time.”

The contingent fee arrangement means that outside counsel will be paid from any damages recovered by the state.

###

<https://www.marylandattorneygeneral.gov/press/2023/051524s.pdf>