

LAW OFFICES

THEODORE L. MITCHELL

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CABLE MITCHLAW

April 3, 1995

VIA FAX 670/664-4759 & U.S. POSTAL SERVICE

Chair

Pre-Convention Committee

Third Constitutional Convention

Second Floor, Joeten Dandan Commercial Center

Saipan, MP 96950

Dear Chair:

Jeanne H. Rayphand and I will be very pleased to assist the Pre-Convention Committee and the Convention in any way that we can. We are both students of the Commonwealth Constitution and we have been involved in a fair number of cases involving constitutional issues.

In addition, we have both had experience at legislative drafting and in the workings of a legislature. I worked with the State of Yap Constitutional Convention.

Because it is difficult if not impossible to estimate the nature of the work and the amount of time it would take to perform it, it is impossible to estimate the cost in advance. But, we will be pleased to provide our services at a reduced rate.

Our standard rate is \$200 per hour for my time and \$175 for Jeanne's time. For any work that the Committee or the Convention would like us to do, we would reduce those rates to \$100 and \$88 per hour, respectively.

In the pre-convention phase, we will be pleased to consult with the Committee on any organizational or substantive matters. Again, our usefulness will depend on just what agenda the Committee makes for itself.

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Chairman
Pre-Convention Committee
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Page 2

At the Convention, I think we would be the most useful in two ways: (1) Providing the legal work to one or more committees with substantive jurisdiction over issues of judicial organization and jurisdiction; public finance and Article XII. (2) Providing drafting work on proposals (before adoption) to ensure clarity and understandability.

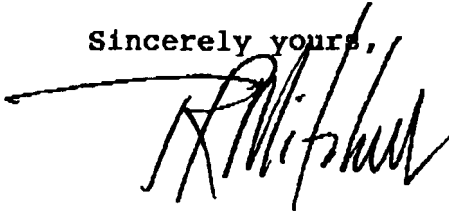
When I make the foregoing proposal, I am assuming that the Convention will have at least a fulltime core legal staff, to be augmented by other, part-time staff.

If I may offer my views on the subject, the Committee and the Convention will have the benefit of the best and most knowledgeable legal counsel it could get here or anywhere if it is able to obtain the services of Howard P. Willens and Deanne Siemer on a fulltime basis. (Mr. Willens and Ms. Siemer do not know that I am making this statement and I do not make it on their behalf.)

Local attorneys can be involved as well (or they can be called to testify at committee hearings) so that the Convention will be able to inform itself about the present state of Commonwealth constitutional law (and its effectiveness), as interpreted by the Commonwealth courts over the past 17 years.

We will be very pleased to submit a more detailed proposal, if the Committee should so desire, after the Committee has been able to work out its own plans for the Convention.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'T. Mitchell', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the left.

THEODORE R. MITCHELL

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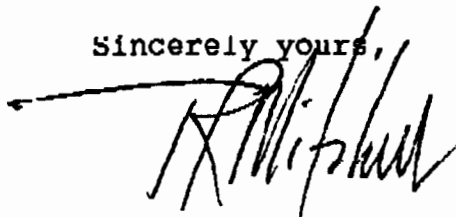
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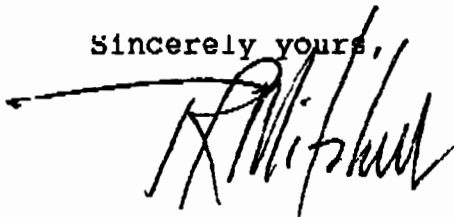
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