

# Outside Counsel Management

- Running RFPs
- Managing Quality and Scoring Outside Counsel
- Value Based Pricing and Alternative Fee Arrangements





#### **Good Outside Counsel Management**

- Benefits both the law department and its most trusted law firm partners
- Maximizes value of every dollar spent, rather than simply reducing the number of dollars spent
- Is supported by 'just enough' technology (sophisticated enough, but simple to use/implement)
- Involves a simple layer of intelligence and analytics at every stage of the lifecycle
- Focuses on repeatability of process as much as it does on the results it produces

# Ways to Manage Outside Counsel

- Tiers of firms and risks
- Firms in low-cost locations
- Make v. buy, or ALSPs
- Preferred provider panels and matter-specific RFPs
- Quality assurance program
- Convergence program
- Alternative fee arrangements, including Value Based
   Pricing



# Why Implement Convergence Programs?

- Reduced number of firms to manage
- Reduced spend
- More substantial relationships with chosen firms, with OC behaving more like trusted business partners
- Additional benefits (secondments, trainings, technology, KM, subscriptions)

### Running a Successful RFP

Project Overview

Timeline

**Proposal Comparison** 

**Cost Proposals** 

#### Sample Timeline

Project Overview

#### Market Research

- Complete Benchmarking Data
  - Benefits of RFP (e.g. cost reduction, process simplification)

#### Define Requirements

- In Progress
- Company Goals
- Final "Must Haves"
  - Survey Tool

#### Release RFP

- Scheduled (21 Jul)
- Finalize Vendor List
- Finalize Docs
  - 3-Way NDA
  - Announcement Letter
  - RFP Questions
  - Proposal Scoring

Vendor List

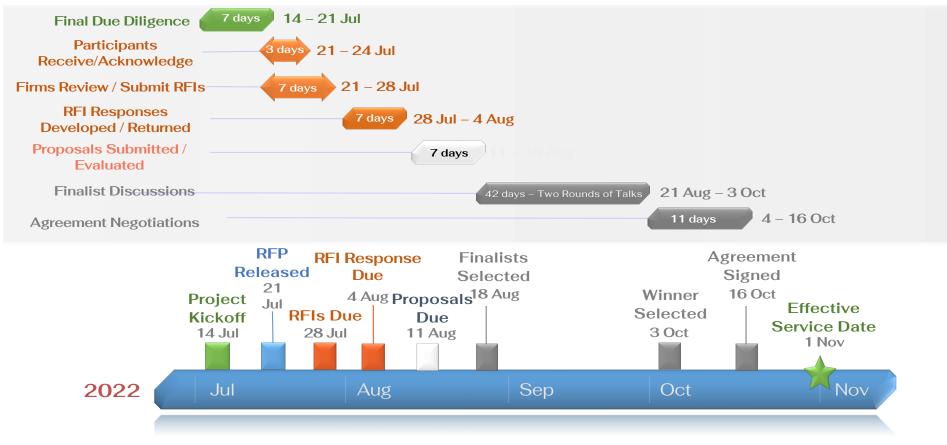
#### Analyze Proposals

- Scheduled (11 Aug)
- Select Top 3 Finalists
- Finalist Discussions / Presentations

#### Award Business

- Scheduled (16 Oct)
- Negotiate MSA
- Scheduled Comms
- Go-Live of 1 Nov

# Sample Timeline



### **Proposal Comparison**

Topic	Vendor 1	Vendor 2
Organizational Structure / Presence	<ul><li>Global footprint</li><li>X Employees</li><li>Smaller resource pool</li></ul>	<ul> <li>Global footprint</li> <li>X employees</li> <li>Name recognition inspires immediate confidence</li> </ul>
Clients and References	• # & type of clients	• # & type of clients
Security	Description of security protocols	Description of security protocols
Capacity and Quality Management	Description of services	Description of services
Technology	Description of technology used for services	Description of technology used for services

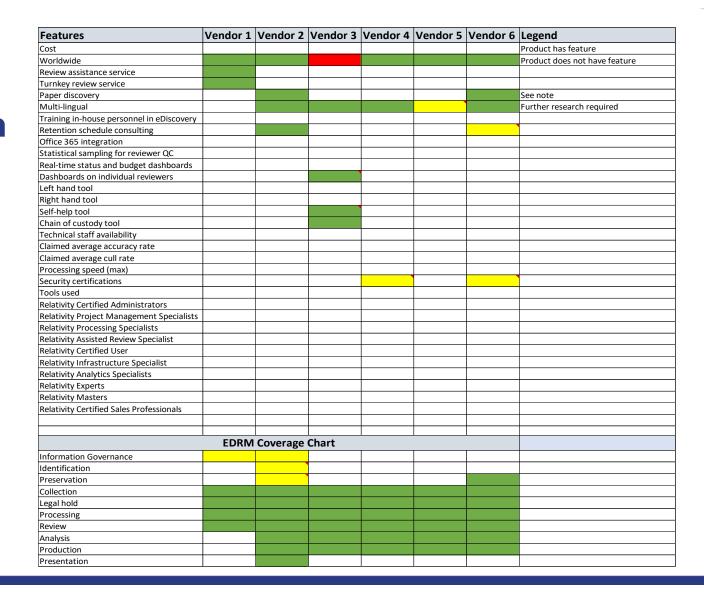
### **Proposal Comparison**

Topic	Vendor 1	Vendor 2
Program Management, Reporting, Implementation	Description	• Description
Disaster Recovery	Description	Description
Foreign Language Data Services	Description	• Description
Document Review Project Management	• Description	• Description
Finalist Demo / Scenario Review Impressions	Description	Description

# **Cost Proposals**

Topic	Vendor 1	Vendor 2
Data Collection and Acquisition	Description	• Description
Foreign Language Translation	• Description	Description
Document Review	Description	Description
Cull Rate	• Description	• Description
Implementation Offer	• Description	Description
General Thoughts	• Description	Description

# Sample Proposal Evaluation Sheet







# **Getting Monitoring Right**

Lots of programs aim for visibility, but the right **type** of visibility is important to strengthen trust / relationships



#### The Judicial Approach

- One-side driven
- Specific to only a few metrics that highlight lack of firm efficiency
- Matter spend focused



VS

#### The Partnership Approach

- Both-side driven / accessible
- Transparency into various metrics beyond just firm efficiency
- Matter outcome focused

# What Exactly Is a QBR?

Quarterly Business Review!
What does success mean? Define it!

#### **Practical Advice**

- It takes lots of time and resources to put together a QBR deck
- Start small and with your most important partnership
- Legal Ops provides the majority of the metrics despite inviting collaboration
- QBRs are not just a meeting
- Take time to brainstorm, together

### In-House Survey of Outside Counsel

How well did OC demonstrate subject matter expertise?

How well did OC demonstrate knowledge of our business and goals?

How responsive was OC?

How well did OC project manage?

How accurate was OC on budgeting and fees? Did they follow Outside Counsel Guidelines?

How innovative/creative was OC

- On their delivery?
- On their fee arrangements?
- On technology?

Did OC meet our diversity guidelines?

How proactive was OC to complete matter work?

How aggressive was OC to resolve the matter?

How well did OC communicate their guidance?

How well OC gain our trust based on guidance?

How well did they gain our trust based on their interactions?

How good was the quality of work?

How well did they achieve the outcome?

# Outside Counsel Survey of In-House Counsel

What did you do for the company last year?

- What was your total spend last year?
- What went well, what didn't work well and how can we help?

Is in-house counsel engaging your firm at the right moment/time?

How do you think the matter was handled (project managed) in-house?

How clear does in-house counsel convey the scope, instructions and goals?

How responsive was our in-house counsel to your needs?

How knowledgeable was our in-house counsel teams managing the work?

How well did in-house counsel provide access to the necessary stakeholders?

How well did in-house counsel communicate financial/budget requirements and constraints?

How well did in-house counsel manage the invoice payment process?

How well did in-house counsel communicate gaps and issues throughout the course of the matter?

How likely is your firm to pursue supporting the company in the future?

How comfortable are you with the pricing models and rates that have been agreed to?

# Sample Outside Counsel Scorecard

Firm Name	Feedback by	What matters did the firm handle last year?	Fees/Administration	Scale 1-5	Quality of work/Substantive Knowledge	Scale 1-5	Availability/Communicatio	Scale 1-5	Additional Feedback	OC AVERAG E
			How accurate was OC on		How well did OC demonstrate					
			budgeting and fees?		subject matter expertise?		How responsive was OC?			
					How well did OC demonstrate		How well did OC			
			How satisfied are you with		knowledge of our business and		communicate their			
			OC's hourly rates?		goals?		guidance?			
			How reliable was this firm							
			on uploading invoices		How well did OC project		How well did OC gain your			
			timely?		manage?		trust based on guidance?			
							How well did they gain our			
					How innovative/creative was		trust based on their			
					OC in their delivery?		interactions?			
					How proactive was OC to					
					complete matter work?					
					Overall, how was the quality of					
					work?					
					How satisfied are you with the					
					outcome?					
			SCORE	0		0		0		
			%	0%		0%		0%		0%

# Sample In-House Counsel Scorecard

										ОС
		What matters did you		Scale	Quality of work/Substantive	Scale	Availability/Communicatio	Scale	Additional	AVERAG
Firm Name	Feedback by	handle last year?	Fees/Administration	1-5	Knowledge	1-5	n	1-5	Feedback	E
			How well did in-house							
			counsel communicate							
			financial/budget				How well does in-house			
			requirements and		How well does in-house		counsel engage your firm			
			constraints?		counsel project manage?		timely?			
			How well did in-house		How knowledgeable were our		How clear does in-house			
			counsel manage the invoice		in-house counsel teams		counsel convey the scope,			
			payment process?		managing the work?		instructions and goals?			
			How comfortable are you in		managing the work:		mstructions and goals:			
			the pricing models and				How responsive was in-			
			rates that have been agreed		How satisfied are you with the		house counsel to your			
			to?		outcome?		needs?			
			How receptive was the firm							
			to discussing/implementing AFAs							
							How well did in-house			
					How likely is your firm to		counsel provide access to			
					pursue supporting our		the necessary			
					company in the future?		stakeholders?			
							How well did in-house			
					Is diversity important to your		counsel communicate gaps			
					firm? Please fill out attached		and issues throughout the			
					diversity form.		course of the matter?			
			SCORE	0		0		0		
			%	0%		0%		0%		0%

#### Criteria

#### Accessibility

- 1=Unresponsive
- 2=Responds after 3-4 days
- 3=Responds after 2 days
- 4=Responds within 24 hours
- 5=Responds same day

#### **Ease of Doing Business**

- 1=Unprofessional; difficult to work with
- 2=Gets job done, but creates unnecessary work and pulls in multiple points of contact
- 3=Mostly meets expectations on teamwork, professionalism and project management, and mostly acts as single point of contact
- 4=Meets expectations on teamwork, professionalism, project management and always acts as single point of contact 5=Exceeds expectations on teamwork, professionalism, project management and always acts as single point of contact

#### Substantive expertise

- 1=Poor Subject Matter Competency
- 2=Fair Subject Matter Competency
- 3=Average Subject Matter Competency
- 4=Good Subject Matter Competency
- 5=Excellent Subject Matter Competency

#### Results

- 1=Did not achieve planned litigation/advice results
- 2=Mostly meets expectation on planned litigation/advice results
- 3=Meets expectation on planned litigation/advice results
- 4=Exceeds expectation on planned litigation/advice results
- 5=Exceptional results on planned litigation/advice

#### **Budget performance**

- 1=Hours expended per project scope was unreasonably more than what quoted
- 2=Hours expended per project scope was more than what quoted
- 3=Hours expended per project scope was a little more than what was quoted
- 4=Hours expended per project scope was more or less equal to what was quoted
- 5=Hours expended per project scope was much less than what was quoted

# Value Based Pricing (VBP) Agenda

- Hourly Fees Here to Stay?
- Price vs. Value
- Buyer Value Perception
- Corp Legal Department Value Drivers
- What is Value Based Pricing?
- Value Based Pricing for Legal Matters
- Typical VBP Arrangements for Legal Matters
- Structures and Metrics

# Let's Start with Hourly Fees

#### Advantages

- Familiarity
- Rate Transparency
- Subjectivity not required
- Itemized History
- Don't need to define value or success
- Billing process established
- Works regardless of volume or service rendered

#### Disadvantages

- No fee predictability
- Client carries all risk (cost, bad outcome)
- Fee may not match benefit
- Penalizes the efficient/productive attorney
- Discourages efficiency
- Discourages attorney/client communications
- Promotes duplication of effort
- Firm not compensated for high risk/value services
- Creates conflicts between interests of the attorney and client
- Causes clients to focus on hourly rates
- Time consuming billing process and review
- Inherent lack of trust
- Focus is "cost" vs. "value"

#### Price vs. Value

- What is a "Price"?
- Price is one of the only factors that is adjustable
- Price types: Interactive, dynamic, fixed
- Pricing segmentation by value point
- Value: A fair return in services for price paid.

- Economic value vs. perceived value: Perceived value is different for each individual based on individual needs, goals, objectives, business
  - Price is what you pay,value is what you get
  - Focus should be on value,
     not on price or effort

# What Do Corp Legal Depts Value?

#### Specific Skill Sets

- Expertise
- Wisdom
- Responsiveness
- Management Ability
- Ability to bring people together
- Ability to find and implement solutions
- Risk reduction
- Availability
- Communications

- Exclusivity
- Dependability
- Predictability
- Integrity
- Reliability
- Stability
- Efficiency
- Prestige
- Service delivery
- Results

# **Top Value Drivers**

- Efficiency (Cost-effective delivery, communications, etc.)
- Predictability
- Value Received (Benefit Cost (Price))
- Results

# What is Value-Based Pricing?

- Based on the Value of a Specific Task or Matter
- Pay Less for Effort and more for Results
  - Sharing of Risk
- Promotes Law Firm Efficiency
- Increases In-House Productivity
- Enhances Budget Predictability
- Lowers Total Legal Spend
- Applicable to all Practice Areas

#### **VBP Structures and Metrics**

- Task Based
- Tier or Category Based
- Scope Based
- Unit Price Metrics
- Measuring Success
  - Value communications retainer work
  - Value of ending matter early
  - Previous work comparison matter or phase
  - Productivity increases



# Typical VBP Arrangements for Legal Matters

- Fixed Fee
  - Assumptions and Scoping
- Success Fee
  - Definition of Success
- Contingent Fee
- Retainer Fee
- Value Adjusted Fee
- Hybrids

### **VBP Summary**

- Applicable to all Practice Areas
- Effort does not always Equate to Value
- Change the Conversation
  - Focus on Value, not on Price or Effort
- Better Budget Predictability and Smoothing
- Reduced Outside Spend
- Improved Process Efficiency
- Improved In-House Productivity
- Enhances Convergence Programs
- The Future of Hourly Rates and the Legal Industry

# Thank you!

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Take Legal to the Next Level

