

# MARIN GENERAL SERVICES AUTHORITY

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## MEMORANDUM

**DATE:** September 14, 2006  
**TO:** MGSA Board of Directors  
**FROM:** Martin J. Nichols, Executive Officer  
**SUBJECT:** AGENDA ITEM D: TAXICAB PROGRAM DRUG TESTING  
ADMINISTRATION

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Recommended Action: Authorize the Executive Officer to execute an agreement with Norton Medical Group to conduct taxicab driver drug and alcohol testing.

Background:

After reviewing three major companies I am recommending the Norton Medical Group. They have extensive knowledge of the administration of drug and alcohol testing as it relates to California state law and Taxicab Regulation Programs. This company is used by OCTAP in Southern California, as well as City of Los Angeles, City of Hermosa Beach, City of West Hollywood, City of Santa Monica, City of Beverly Hills, and the City of Culver City.

They propose to test all drivers initially for controlled substances and alcohol, then test randomly at a rate of 50% for drugs and 10% for alcohol throughout the year. Any drivers not randomly selected during the year will be tested at the end of 12 mos. They will also deliver workbooks, audio tapes and training exams for each driver in an effort to educate drivers in the hazards of alcohol and drug abuse and how drivers may seek help when needed. These materials are available in English, Spanish and Japanese.

Initial fee per driver is \$90.00

Annual Renewal Fee: \$85.00

Supervisor training is available for \$60.00 per person. I suggest that each company send a representative to this training.

That they recommended company is certified to be in compliance with all state and federal drug and alcohol testing regulations. They provide a "medical review officer" as required by the regulation and thereby, assure compliance with all "chain of evidence" requirements and assure confidentiality.

We anticipate testing about 125 drivers. Our adopted driver permit fee is \$100. The permit is valid for five (5) years. Testing is conducted annually.