



On Fri, Apr 8, 2022 at 1:48

PM Schneier, Ariel

<[Ariel.Schneier@seattle.gov](mailto:Ariel.Schneier@seattle.gov)>

wrote:

ATTORNEY CLIENT  
PRIVILEGED

Dear Commission  
Chairs,

It has come to the City  
Attorney Office's  
attention that the Seattle  
Human Rights  
Commission has voted  
to pursue amicus curiae  
status with the federal  
court overseeing the  
Seattle Consent Decree  
and is considering  
independently obtaining  
pro bono attorney  
services to do so. We  
must advise you that the



services to do so. We must advise you that the Human Rights Commission does not have the authority to undertake either of these two actions.

As a City commission, the SHRC may exercise only the authority granted to it by the City, as enumerated in Chapter 3.14.931 of the Seattle Municipal Code. Furthermore, the SHRC is represented by the City Attorney's Office and per Article XIII, Section 3 of the Seattle City Charter, the City Attorney has exclusive authority over litigation involving the City: "The City Attorney shall have full



the City: "The City Attorney shall have full supervisory control of all the litigation of the City, or in which the City or any of its departments are interested and shall perform such other duties as are or shall be prescribed by ordinance." The City Attorney's office has not delegated to SHRC any authority to join litigation on an amicus basis or engage outside counsel.

We are happy to discuss this further either by email or in a meeting.

Best regards,



Best regards,

<image001.png>

**Ariel**

**Schneier**

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Office

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