

**From the Town of Huntington General Bylaws**  
**Adopted at the 2015 Annual Town Meeting**

**Section 54    **Selectboard****

**Section 54-A   **Authorization to Act in Matters of Interest to the Town****

The Selectboard is authorized on behalf of the Town to prosecute and defend matters in which the Town has an interest, or to appear in favor or opposed to matters involving the Town's interest and employ counsel.

**Section 54-B   **Authorization for Shared/Joint Legal Representation****

The purpose of this bylaw is to allow the Town from time to time to have its regular counsel or specially retained counsel also represent the Town, communities, public entities or others in matters in which the Town has a direct or substantial interest without violating G.L. c. 268A, Section 17(a) and (c) or any related successor law. Such dual or common representation allows the Town to pool resources for a common purpose, develop mutual interests, and preserve scarce municipal funds. Pursuant to this bylaw, the official duties of the Town Counsel or Special Counsel include, but are not limited to, advising and representing the Town, communities, public entities, or others in: (i) administrative and judicial proceedings in which the Town is also a party or wishes to be a party; and (ii) other matters in which the Town has a direct or substantial interest, provided that in each instance, such dual or common representation would not cause a violation of rules governing attorney conduct. Counsel shall discharge such duties only when requested in writing by the Town. Prior to making such a request, the Selectboard shall determine whether the interests of the Town would be advanced by such dual or common representation and shall evaluate if actual or potential conflicts of interest exist. If any conflicts are identified, they shall be described in the written request. Counsel shall then make its own determination whether such dual or common representation would not cause a violation of rules governing attorney conduct. The Selectboard shall monitor such matters approved to ensure that the dual or common representation continues to advance the interests of the Town. This bylaw shall be administered by the appointing authority for legal counsel.

(ATM 6/1/2015)