

Memorandum



Date: June 10, 2025

To: Chair and Members
Art in Public Places Trust

From: Marialaura Leslie, Director
Department of Cultural Affairs

Subject: Trust Resolution No. APPT 25-34 / Loriel Beltran – Civil and Probate Courthouse / Addendum II

Trust Resolution No. APPT 25-34

RESOLUTION APPROVING ADDENDUM II TO THE PROFESSIONAL ARTIST SERVICES AGREEMENT IN SUBSTANTIALLY THE FORM ATTACHED WITH LORIEL BELTRAN, INC. (LEAD ARTIST LORIEL BELTRAN) IN THE AMOUNT OF \$85,000.00 FOR THE ACQUISITION OF ARTWORK FOR THE NEW CIVIL AND PROBATE COURTHOUSE (FROM MIAMI-DADE COUNTY PEOPLE AND INTERNAL OPERATIONS DEPARTMENT PUBLIC ART FUNDS)

Recommendation

It is recommended that the Art in Public Places Trust approve Addendum II to the Professional Artist Services Agreement in substantially the form attached with Loriel Beltran, Inc. (lead artist Loriel Beltran) in the amount of \$85,000.00 for the acquisition of artwork for the new Civil and Probate Courthouse.

Background

A meeting of the Professional Advisory Committee (PAC) was held on January 25 - 27, 2022 to review design proposals from a group of seventeen (17) artists shortlisted from a national Call to Artists for a combined series of public art opportunities for the Civil and Probate Courthouse, located in Downtown Miami on NW 1st Ave between Flagler St and NW 1st Street. This public/private development will serve the Civil and Probate Divisions of the Eleventh Judicial Circuit of Florida, the Clerk of Courts and other related court partners including administrative services, court-related programs, court support functions, and facility management services. A very special project with great community significance, the new courthouse will functionally replace the existing iconic Miami-Dade County Courthouse which has been in service since the 1920s. The project includes twenty-four (24) floors, forty-six (46) finished jury courtrooms and one (1) additional shell space for an additional four (4) jury courtrooms including fifty-nine (59) secure parking spaces. The courthouse is designed to be a significant landmark.

At this meeting, the PAC unanimously recommended commissioning Miami-based artist Loriel Beltran to pursue his Sunset Lobby concept of painting a site-specific mural featuring a zig-zag pattern of orange and blue above the light shelf area directly across from the single elevator bank on the main floor. The PAC also recommended that the artist pursue his design aesthetic for the Atmospheric Floor concept featuring related color palettes of complementary colors for specific areas of the terrazzo floor. The complementary colors resonate with the concept of achieving balance in justice, and the color effect creates an illusion of radiance.

On February 14, 2023, through approval of Trust Resolution No. APPT 23-09, the Trust authorized a total commission budget of \$465,000.00 for implementation of the artist's two-

pronged proposal and an initial agreement in the amount of \$116,000.00 for design development services of the wall mural and terrazzo floor designs. On October 10, 2023, through approval of Trust Resolution No. APPT 23-63, the Trust authorized Addendum I in the amount of \$349,000.00 for fabrication and installation services of the complete designs. To date, the artist completed the installation of an original epoxy terrazzo floor design in four (4) different courtroom lobbies each with an approximate area of 1800 square feet. Without the use of traditional metal strips, these floors combine a rich mix of complementary and vibrant colors with epoxy and shimmery natural aggregates to create a luminous gradient-like optical illusion.

As new spaces throughout the building receive furnishings, lighting, and equipment for regular operation, APP staff has noted that the initial idea of the artist painting a gradient-like mural above the shelf opposite to the judges' elevator bank at ground floor level may not be as practical nor as prominent as originally proposed. Access to the unreinforced soffit area is limited and a portion of the proposed wall is significantly shorter and narrower than the construction plans showed. As an alternative to this temporary portion of the artist's contract work, the artist is offering, "*Cielito Lindo*," the original work of art that inspired his Atmospheric floor designs featured in the lobbies from floors 17 through 20 and for permanent placement in one of these floors typical lobby walls. With dimensions of 120 inches wide by 98 inches tall, "*Cielito Lindo*" is a large-scale two-dimensional work that employs the artist's signature technique that leverages the material qualities of paint, with a distinctive sculptural quality as thick layers are built up in new and innovative ways. Per the artist's approved project budget, the painted mural has a production value of \$40,000.00, which can be fully allocated to the acquisition of the proposed original work with a negotiated price of \$125,000.00. APP staff confirms that the \$85,000.00 needed to complete the purchase of this work is available in the unencumbered balance of funds in the APP internal program contingency for the Civil and Probate Courthouse project. Lehmann Maupin, the artist's gallery, has furnished qualified documentation to support the discounted price being offered to the Trust.

APP staff recommends the approval of Trust Resolution No. APPT 25-34 authorizing Addendum II to the Professional Artist Services Agreement in substantially the form with Loriel Beltran, Inc. in the amount of \$85,000.00 for acquisition of an artwork for the new Civil and Probate Courthouse project.