

State of Florida



Public Service Commission

CAPITAL CIRCLE OFFICE CENTER • 2540 SHUMARD OAK BOULEVARD
TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA 32399-0850

-M-E-M-O-R-A-N-D-U-M-

DATE: June 29, 2026

TO: Adam J. Teitzman, Commission Clerk, Office of Commission Clerk

FROM: Brian Lenberg, Public Utility Analyst II, Division of Accounting & Finance

RE: Docket No. 20250108-WS Sunlake Estates Utilities, L.L.C. - Application for staff-assisted rate case in Lake County, by Sunlake Estates Utilities, L.L.C.

Please place the attached email regarding Sunlake Estates Utilities' rate case expense in the docket file mentioned above.

BL/at

Attachment

Brian Lenberg

From: McGinn, Daniel <dmcginn@joneswalker.com>
Sent: Monday, June 29, 2026 1:25 PM
To: Brian Lenberg
Cc: Garret Kelley
Subject: RE: Sunlake Estates - 20250108; Schedule of Rate Case Expense

CAUTION: This email originated from outside your organization. Exercise caution when opening attachments or clicking links, especially from unknown senders.

Good afternoon,

My rates are set by our firm and are generally reviewed annually and any corresponding changes communicated to clients. The increase reflects the timing of such rate changes going into effect. Our firm has a tiered rate structure depending on a number of factors including the client-firm relationship, and the rate provided to the parent company of the utility is at the lowest tier of my hourly rates.

Our rates are set based on the experience, credentials, and demonstrated proficiency of the attorney, as well as the specialized nature of many of the matters that we are involved in. The rates also reflect the resources and support available from the firm. Additionally, the rates are generally informed by and benchmarked against prevailing market rates for comparable legal services in the relevant practice areas provided by similarly situated firms/attorneys based on the firm's research data.

I can't speak to what other firms do to set their rates and whether they're updated throughout the length of the engagement, whether they have other relationships with the utilities and their parents that allow for variable rates in these and other matters, or whether their rates are efficiently set.

If there's anything in particular that I may be able to elaborate on that could assist, please give me a call. I should be at the desk the rest of the day.

Thanks,
-Dan

Daniel J. McGinn | Special Counsel
Jones Walker LLP
D: 850.214.5105
dmcginn@joneswalker.com

From: Brian Lenberg <blenberg@psc.state.fl.us>
Sent: Friday, June 26, 2026 9:08 AM
To: McGinn, Daniel <dmcginn@joneswalker.com>
Cc: Garret Kelley <GKelley@psc.state.fl.us>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] RE: Sunlake Estates - 20250108; Schedule of Rate Case Expense

Good morning Mr. McGinn,

As part of my review, I must ensure that all Utility expenses reflect prudent and reasonable cost recovery.

In the supporting documentation provided, your hourly attorney rate is listed as \$695. In three previous cases, your hourly rate was \$560. Additionally, staff has observed that other attorneys specializing in utility matters have billed at rates that are materially lower than \$695.

Could you please provide justification supporting the current hourly rate, including an explanation for the increase from prior cases and any supporting information or relevant factors that determine your hourly rate?

Monday we will be finalizing our numbers. Please provide your response by the close of business on Monday, June 29th, 2026

Thanks,
Brian

From: McGinn, Daniel <dmcginn@joneswalker.com>
Sent: Tuesday, June 23, 2026 2:10 PM
To: Brian Lenberg <blenberg@psc.state.fl.us>
Cc: Garret Kelley <GKelley@psc.state.fl.us>
Subject: RE: Sunlake Estates - 20250108; Schedule of Rate Case Expense

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Good afternoon,

Please see the attached document with the actual/estimated rate case expense for Sunlake Estate Utilities' SARC, and the invoices from Ms. Swain and I for the relevant time period.

Additionally, please let me know if you'd like me to e-file these with the Clerk as well.

If there are any questions, please let me know. As always, I appreciate your team's patience in these collective matters.

Best,
-Dan

Daniel J. McGinn | Special Counsel
Jones Walker LLP
D: 850.214.5105
dmcginn@joneswalker.com

From: Brian Lenberg <blenberg@psc.state.fl.us>
Sent: Friday, June 12, 2026 10:55 AM
To: McGinn, Daniel <dmcginn@joneswalker.com>
Cc: Garret Kelley <GKelley@psc.state.fl.us>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Sunlake Estates - 20250108; Schedule of Rate Case Expense

Good morning Mr. McGinn,

We are in the process of finalizing Sunlake Estates' revenue requirement. As part of this process, staff is calculating filing fees, noticing costs, travel expenses, and other rate case related expenses.

Please provide any invoices related to the rate case expense for legal and consulting fees, by the close of business **June 23rd, 2026**.

Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns.

Thanks,

Brian Lenberg
Florida Public Service Commission
Public Utility Analyst
Division of Accounting & Finance
Blenberg@PSC.STATE.FL.US
Tel: 850.413-6404