

Office of the County Executive

Monroe County, New York

Adam J. Bello County Executive

April 4, 2025

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Not to be removed from the Office of the Legislature Of Monroe County

Committee Assignment

PUBLIC SAFETY -L

WAYS & MEANS

To The Honorable Monroe County Legislature 407 County Office Building Rochester, New York 14614

Subject:

Amend Resolution 129 of 2024 to Accept Additional Funding from the New York State Office of Indigent Legal Services for the Offices of the Public Defender, the Conflict Defender and the Assigned Counsel Program for the 2nd Statewide Expansion of the Hurrell-Harring Program

Honorable Legislators:

I recommend that Your Honorable Body amend Resolution 129 of 2024 to accept additional funding from the New York State Office of Indigent Legal Services in the amount of \$2,345,967 for the Office of the Monroe County Public Defender, the Office of the Monroe County Conflict Defender and the Assigned Counsel Program, for the provision of indigent legal services, for the period of April 1, 2024 through March 31, 2027.

The additional award will be used for the Office of the Public Defender to increase funding for specialized services, rent and relocation, computers and furniture along with the creation of one (1) Senior Project Manager and for existing personnel, contractual and specialized services, CLE trainings, rent, supplies, legal research materials, professional licenses, travel, computer and database expenses in the Monroe County Conflict Defender's Office and the Assigned Counsel Program. This additional funding will also fund the Felony Conflict Plan in the Assigned Counsel Program. Over the three (3) year period, the funding amounts for the Office of the Monroe County Public Defender increased from \$26,089,122 to \$27,654,470; the Office of the Monroe County Conflict Defender increased from \$6,681,672 to \$7,082,572; and the Assigned Counsel Program increased from \$6,328,656 to \$6,708,375. This additional funding will bring the grant total to \$41,445,417.

The specific legislative actions required are:

1. Amend Resolution 129 of 2024 to accept an additional \$2,345,967 and to authorize the County Executive, or his designee, to execute a contract and any amendments thereto, with the New York State Office of Indigent Legal Services, for the Office of the Monroe County Public Defender, the Office of the Monroe County Conflict Defender and the Assigned Counsel Program for the provision of indigent legal services, bringing the total award to \$41,445,417 for the period of April 1, 2024 through March 31, 2027.

- 2. Amend the 2025 operating budget of the Office of the Public Defender by appropriating the sum of \$1,565,347, into general fund 9300, funds center 2601010000, Public Defender Administration.
- 3. Amend the 2025 operating budget of the Department of Public Safety by appropriating the sum of \$362,725 into general fund 9300, funds center 2402010000, Conflict Defender.
- 4. Amend the 2025 operating budget of the Department of Public Safety by appropriating the sum of \$379,719 into general fund 9300, funds center 2402020000, Assigned Counsel Program.
- 5. Authorize the County Executive, or his designee, to create one (1) Senior Project Manager, Group 17, in the Public Defender's Office as part of the amended 2nd Statewide Expansion of the Hurrell-Harring Program grant.

This action is a Type II Action pursuant to 6 NYCRR § 617.5(c)(26) ("routine or continuing agency administration and management, not including new programs or major reordering of priorities that may affect the environment") and is not subject to further review under the State Environmental Quality Review Act.

Partial funding for this rant is included in the 2025 operating budget of the Department of Public Safety, general fund 9300, funds center 2402010000, Conflict Defender. The appropriated amount will adjust the current funding to that established by the grant.

This grant is 100% funded by the New York State Office of Indigent Legal Services. No net County support is required in the current Monroe County budget.

I recommend that this matter be referred to the appropriate committee(s) for favorable action by Your Honorable Body.

Adam J. Bello

Monroe County Executive

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