



Office of the County Executive

Monroe County, New York

Adam J. Bello
County Executive

January 10, 2025

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

Subject: Amend Resolution 475 of 2023 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 Provision of Indigent Legal Services

Honorable Legislators:

I recommend that Your Honorable Body amend Resolution 475 of 2023 to accept additional funding from the New York State Office of Indigent Legal Services in the amount of \$1,592,379 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 January 1, 2024 through December 31, 2026.

By Resolution 475 of 2023, the additional award will be used for the Office of the Public Defender to fund part or all of the salary costs equivalent to ten (10) existing full-time Assistant Public Defender positions and a paralegal. The Office of the Conflict Defender will use the funding for part or all of the salary costs equivalent to two (2) existing full-time Office Clerks and one (1) part-time office clerk. In addition, the Assigned Counsel Program will fund their Tecana Electronic Online Voucher System. The funding amounts for the Office of the Monroe County Public Defender increased from \$2,342,595 to \$3,623,021 and the Office of the Monroe County Conflict Defender increased from \$842,160 to \$1,102,446 and the Assigned Counsel Program increased from \$0 to \$51,667 over a three (3) year period. This additional funding will bring this grant total to \$4,777,134.

The specific legislative actions required are:

1. Amend Resolution 475 of 2023 to accept an additional \$1,592,379 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 \$4,777,134 for the period of January 1, 2024 through December 31, 2026.
2. Amend the 2025 operating budget of the Office of the Public Defender by appropriating the sum of \$1,280,426, 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 \$260,286 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 \$51,667 into general fund 9300, funds center 2402020000, Assigned Counsel Administration.

This action is a Type II Action pursuant to 6 NYCRR § 617.5(c) ("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.

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.

Sincerely,


Adam J. Bello
Monroe County Executive

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