



P. DAVID SOARES
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COUNTY OF ALBANY
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November 8, 2023

Andrew Joyce
Albany County Legislature
112 State St, Room 700
Albany, NY 12207

Dear Mr. Joyce,

I am requesting legislative action to further the mission on the Office of the Albany County District Attorney. The attached resolution seeks permission to:

- The Office of the Albany County District Attorney is requesting to move funds from budget lines 19970, 19900D, 130186, 44046, 130171, 130124, 130125, 130126, 130127, and 130128 into the Overtime (19900) and Computer Equipment (22050) lines in order to both balance negative lines and potential shortfalls and also to fund our share of the Courtroom Modernization project being spearheaded by the Unified Court System.

Attached is the request for legislative action and supporting documents. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at 518-275-4701

Thank you for your assistance.

Sincerely,

P. David Soares
Albany County District Attorney

Cc: Rebekah Kennedy, Majority Counsel
Cc: Arnis Zilgme, Minority Counsel

REQUEST FOR LEGISLATIVE ACTION

The Office of the Albany County District Attorney is requesting to move funds from budget lines 19970, 19900D, 130186, 44046, 130171, 130124, 130125, 130126, 130127, and 130128 into the Overtime (19900) and Computer Equipment (22050) lines in order to both balance negative lines and potential shortfalls and also to fund our share of the Courtroom Modernization project being spearheaded by the Unified Court System.

Date:	11/6/2023
Submitted By:	David Soares
Department:	1165- District Attorney
Title:	District Attorney
Phone:	518-275-4701
Department Rep.	
Attending Meeting:	David Soares, Christopher Horn

Purpose of Request:

- ☐ Adopting of Local Law
 - ☐ Amendment of Prior Legislation
 - ☐ Approval/Adoption of Plan/Procedure
 - ☐ Bond Approval
 - ☒ Budget Amendment
 - ☐ Contract Authorization
 - ☐ Countywide Services
 - ☐ Environmental Impact/SEQR
 - ☐ Home Rule Request
 - ☐ Property Conveyance
 - ☐ Other: (state if not listed) _____
-

CONCERNING BUDGET AMENDMENTS

Increase/decrease category (choose all that apply):

- ☐ Contractual
- ☒ Equipment
- ☐ Fringe
- ☒ Personnel
- ☒ Personnel Non-Individual
- ☐ Revenue

Increase Account/Line No.: 19900; 22050

Source of Funds:

19970
19900D
130186
44046
130171
130124
130125
130126
130127
130128

Title Change:

Click or tap here to enter text.

CONCERNING CONTRACT AUTHORIZATIONS

Type of Contract:

- ☐ Change Order/Contract Amendment
- ☐ Purchase (Equipment/Supplies)
- ☐ Lease (Equipment/Supplies)
- ☐ Requirements
- ☐ Professional Services
- ☐ Education/Training
- ☐ Grant

Choose an item.

Submission Date Deadline Click or tap to enter a date.

☐ Settlement of a Claim

☐ Release of Liability

☐ Other: (state if not listed)

Click or tap here to enter text.

Contract Terms/Conditions:

Party (Name/address):

Click or tap here to enter text.

Additional Parties (Names/addresses):

Click or tap here to enter text.

Amount/Raise Schedule/Fee:

Scope of Services:

Bond Res. No.:

Click or tap here to enter text.

Date of Adoption:

Click or tap here to enter text.

CONCERNING ALL REQUESTS

Mandated Program/Service:

Yes ☐ No ☒

If Mandated Cite Authority:

Click or tap here to enter text.

Is there a Fiscal Impact:

Yes ☐ No ☒

Anticipated in Current Budget:

Yes ☐ No ☒

County Budget Accounts:

Revenue Account and Line:

Click or tap here to enter text.

Revenue Amount:

Click or tap here to enter text.

Appropriation Account and Line:

Appropriation Amount:

Click or tap here to enter text.

Source of Funding – (Percentages)

Federal:

0%

State:

0%

County:

100%

Local:

0%

Term

Term: (Start and end date)

Click or tap here to enter text.

Length of Contract:

Click or tap here to enter text.

Impact on Pending Litigation

Yes ☐ No ☒

If yes, explain:

Click or tap here to enter text.

Previous requests for Identical or Similar Action:

Resolution/Law Number:

Click or tap here to enter text.

Date of Adoption:

Click or tap here to enter text.

Justification: (state briefly why legislative action is requested)

The Office of the Albany County District Attorney seeks to balance a negative budget line for Overtime (19900) in the amount of \$39,614.89. We are looking to correct that overage by moving \$25,000 from Temporary Help (9970) and \$30,000 from the Discovery Grant Overtime line (19900D) to the Overtime line (19900). This totals \$55,000 and should cover overtime expenses through the end of the year.

We have also been presented with an opportunity from the Unified Court System (UCS) to upgrade the four main courtrooms in the Judicial Center, the Grand Jury Room, Jury Deliberation rooms, and the Jury Assembly room. Albany County's contribution would be \$50,000 per courtroom for a total of \$250,000 at most. This investment is the intended purpose for the transferring of various unused funds into our computer equipment budget line. A separate RLA has been submitted for authorization to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding with UCS towards this end.

UCS will be investing far more money per courtroom than we will be and they will also provide all installation and support for the equipment that is installed. With UCS handling installation, support, replacements, and coordination, our dollars go further. Their significant per courtroom investment, combined with our contribution, allows for a complete and future proof modernization.

Technology is transforming our justice system, and an investment today will secure Albany County's courts for the future. By contributing to the Unified Court System's technological upgrade program, the District Attorney's office capitalizes on a unique opportunity to enhance justice system interoperability to benefit all stakeholders. Our reasonable contribution, coupled with UCS's major investment, allows the installation of cutting-edge infrastructure for presenting digital evidence in our courtrooms. This equips our county to meet the exponential growth in technological evidence that the pursuit of justice now demands. The benefits are immense - seamless collaboration between the DA, Public Defender, Court Judges, and Commissioner of Jurors to achieve more equitable outcomes. Most importantly, it brings our courts into the 21st century for the people we serve. We have a responsibility to leverage partnerships that provide superior access and engagement with justice proceedings.

The program dollars from the Office of the Albany County District Attorney is a fraction of UCS's fiscal commitment. This unique opportunity presents itself at a time when this office is in the midst of long-term planning for upgrades to keep up with the exponential growth of technological evidence and the demands and expectations of the public for seamless access.

APPROPRIATIONS

ACCOUNT NO.	RESOLUTION DESCRIPTION	INCREASE	DECREASE	UNIT COST	DEPARTMENT NAME
A9 1165 1 19970	Temporary Help		\$ 25,000.00		District Attorney
A9 1165 1 19900D	Overtime - Discovery		\$ 30,000.00		District Attorney
A9 1165 1 19900	Overtime	\$ 55,000.00			District Attorney
A9 1165 1 14020	Criminal Forensic Auditor		\$ 76,700.00		District Attorney
A9 1165 1 44046	Fees for Services		\$ 125,000.00		District Attorney
A9 1165 1 12726	Network & Systems Tech		\$ 20,000.00		District Attorney
A9 1165 1 12011	ADA VI		\$ 17,000.00		District Attorney
A9 1165 1 12011	ADA VI		\$ 17,000.00		District Attorney
A9 1165 1 12012	ADA V		\$ 30,000.00		District Attorney
A9 1165 1 12012	ADA V		\$ 30,000.00		District Attorney
A9 1165 1 12012	ADA V		\$ 30,000.00		District Attorney
A9 1165 1 22050	Computer Equipment	\$ 385,700.00			District Attorney

TOTAL APPROPRIATIONS

\$ 440,700.00 \$ 440,700.00

ESTIMATED REVENUES

ACCOUNT NO.	RESOLUTION DESCRIPTION	DECREASE	INCREASE	UNIT COST	DEPARTMENT NAME
TOTAL ESTIMATED REVENUES					
		\$ -	\$ -		
GRAND TOTALS					
		\$ 440,700.00	\$ 440,700.00		