

DANIEL P. MCCOY COUNTY EXECUTIVE

STEPHEN W. HERRICK PUBLIC DEFENDER

COUNTY OF ALBANY PUBLIC DEFENDER

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August 21, 2024

Honorable Joanne Cunningham, Chairwoman Albany County Legislature 112 State Street, Room 710 Albany, New York 12207

Dear Chairwoman Cunningham:

The Public Defender's Office, Alternate Public Defender's Office and Assigned Counsel Program are seeking to accept grant funds from the NYS Division of Criminal Justice Services (DCJS) in the amount of \$1,439,718 to administer the Aid to Defense for Discovery Reform and Aid to Defense - Supplemental Programs, as well as to authorize related amendments to the County's 2024 budget.

Funds from the two grant programs will be used toward the following.

Public Defender:

- Discovery Analysis Software, Software Training, and Computer Hardware
- Contracted Services for Trial Presentation and Video Transcription
- New Forensic Attorney Position
- New IT Discovery Tech Position
- Employee Retention Stipends

Alternate Public Defender:

- Case Management System Software
- Employee Retention Stipends

Assigned Counsel Program:

- Case Management System Software
- Contracted Discovery Analysis Services
- Discovery Analysis Software
- New Senior Attorney Position
- Employee Retention Stipends

These direct awards, based on DCJS formulas, cover April 1, 2023 to March 31, 2025 and are expected to be recurring. There are no County matches.

If you require any supplemental information, please feel free to contact me.

TO

Public Defender

Sincerely,

cc: Hon. Dennis A. Feeney, Majority Leader

Hon, Frank A. Mauriello, Minority Leader Rebekah Kennedy, Majority Counsel

Arnis Zilgme, Minority Counsel