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July 1, 2025

Dear Legislators,

The Department of Law seeks legislative approval to enter into a new agreement with Thompson Reuters for the Westlaw legal research tool. The new agreement will be a substantial upgrade from our existing services. Further, the upgrade is necessary to be in step with the tools available to the Courts and with opposing counsel. It is expected that full utilization of the new Westlaw Precision AI and CoCounsel Core will lead to thousands of hours a year saved in legal research, document preparation and discovery review.

This upgrade is for services County-wide. I have reached out to the District Attorney's Office, the Conflict Defender's Office, Assigned Counsel, Public Defender's Office and the Counsel to the Chair of the Legislature to discuss the changes and all are "onboard" with the upgrade.

Further, I have negotiated a free upgrade from now until the end of the year with our existing contract in place. The new agreement being proposed will begin in January of 2026. However, if we can get approval now for the change to occur to our contract next year, Thompson Reuter has agreed to provide the enhanced services for the remainder of the year at our existing contract rate.

Thank you for your courtesies and consideration in this matter.

Very truly yours,

JEFFERY V. JAMISON, Esq.
Albany County Attorney