

DANIEL P. MCCOY
COUNTY EXECUTIVE

STEPHEN W. HERRICK PUBLIC DEFENDER

COUNTY OF ALBANY PUBLIC DEFENDER

112 STATE STREET, 2ND FLOOR ALBANY, NEW YORK 12207 PHONE: (518) 447-7150 FAX: (518) 447-5533 www.albanycounty.com

February 6, 2023

Honorable Andrew Joyce, Chairman Albany County Legislature 112 State Street, Room 710 Albany, New York 12207

Dear Chairman Joyce:

The Albany County Public Defender's Office, Alternate Public Defender's Office and Assigned Counsel Office request authorization for budget amendments to incorporate the Second Upstate Family Defense (Child Welfare) Quality Improvement & Caseload Reduction Grant into their respective budgets.

The newly created Assistant Public Defender and Alternate Public Defender Social Worker positions, along with non-attorney professional services (experts, investigators, interpreters, etc.), trainings and CLEs in the Assigned Counsel Office, will improve the quality of representation provided by the County to parents accused of child maltreatment who cannot afford to retain counsel.

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

Sincerely,

Stephen W. Herrick Public Defender

cc:

Hon. Dennis A. Feeney, Majority Leader Hon. Frank A. Mauriello, Minority Leader Rebekah Kennedy, Majority Counsel Arnis Zilgme, Minority Counsel