



DANIEL P. McCOY
COUNTY EXECUTIVE

STEPHEN W. HERRICK
PUBLIC DEFENDER

COUNTY OF ALBANY
PUBLIC DEFENDER
112 STATE STREET – 2nd FLR
ALBANY, NEW YORK 12207-2021
PHONE: (518) 447-7150 FAX: (518) 447-5533
WWW.ALBANYCOUNTY.COM

Date: February 3, 2022

Hon. Andrew Joyce, Chairman
Albany County Legislature
112 State Street Room 710
Albany, NY 12207

RE: Contract for Third Counsel at First Appearance (3rd CAFA) Grant

Dear Chairman Joyce:

The Office of the Albany County Public Defender requests approval of the 3rd CAFA Grant contract in the amount of \$749,700.00 to be paid out over a period of three years.

This grant would continue the success of the original CAFA and 2nd CAFA grants for the provision of legal representation for all individuals required to appear for an arraignment or first appearance during off hours in the over two dozen criminal courts in Albany County.

The New York State Office of Indigent Legal Services grant covers the entire cost of the program, including stipends for the participating attorneys and two administrative positions of Grant Administrator and Supervising Attorney.

The CAFA program has been extremely beneficial to all those appearing in off hours court sessions for arraignment or first appearances without counsel. This is a statewide program and has resulted in reduced incarceration, lower bails, and an overall much improved quality of legal representation. There is no funding match or any other cost to Albany County.

If you have any questions or require additional information please do not hesitate to contact myself or Tina Sodhi, Alternative Public Defender whose office also participates in the CAFA Program.

Respectfully yours,


Stephen W. Herrick
Albany County Public Defender

Cc:

Hon. Dennis A. Feeney, Majority Leader

Hon. Frank A. Mauriello, Minority Leader

Rebekah Kennedy, Esq., Majority Counsel

Arnis Zilgme, Esq., Minority Counsel