

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

July 15, 2025

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

Dear Chairwoman Cunningham:

The Public Defender's Office requests authorization to accept grant funds from the NYS Division of Criminal Justice Services (DCJS) for the Article 13-A Classification/Alternatives to Incarceration Program. The Alternatives to Incarceration Program provides funding toward criminal defense Assistant Public Defender salaries, with the goal of reducing unnecessary incarceration by identifying eligible clients and advocating for community-based, rehabilitative alternatives to jail or prison.

The funds to be accepted for the Public Defender's Office are for an annual award of \$19,921, covering the time period of 7/1/25 through 6/30/26. The total annual award of \$49,037 is shared with and distributed to the County's Department of Probation through a block grant. This is a recurring, direct award based on a DCJS formula, and there is no County match.

Please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions.

Sincerely,

Stephen W. Herrick

Public Defender

cc: Hon. Dennis A. Feeney, Majority Leader Hon. Frank A. Mauriello, Minority Leader Rebekah Kennedy, Majority Counsel

James Curran, Minority Counsel