



DOUGLAS COUNTY

COUNTY BOARD CHAIR

Mark Liebaert

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DOUGLAS COUNTY MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of Douglas County is to provide cost-effective services, with equal access to all citizens; to continue and enhance partnerships; to responsibly manage our resources and plan for the future.

September 24, 2018

TO: Governor Scott Walker
WI State Public Defender's Office
Wisconsin Counties Association
Wisconsin State Legislators
WI Supreme Court
WI Towns Association
League of WI Municipalities
All Wisconsin Counties

SUBJECT: Douglas County, Wisconsin - Resolution #55-18
Compensation Increases for Defense Attorneys Assigned by State Public
Defender Office Supported

Attached is above referenced Resolution #55-18, certified and adopted by the Douglas County Board of Supervisors at their September 20, 2018, meeting.

Your support for the intent of this Resolution is appreciated.

Best regards,

//Mark Liebaert, Chair
Douglas County Board of Supervisors
mark.liebaert@douglascountywi.org

ML/pt

Enclosure

Roll Call		
District Number	Yes	No
1. Pomush		
2. White		
3. Finn		
4. Clark		
5. Baker		
6. Leino		
7. Glazman		
8. Raunio		
9. Jaques		
10. Quam		
11. Finendale		
12. Lear		
13. Allen		
14. Ryan		
15. Hendrickson		
16. Luostari		
17. Liebaert		
18. Moen		
19. Long		
20. Borgeson		
21. Bergman		
Roll: Ayes _____ Noes _____ Absent _____ Abstain _____ Passed _____ X _____ Lost _____ Refer _____ Amend _____ Other _____		
Rev. 04-17-18		

RESOLUTION #55-18
RESOLUTION BY THE PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

Subject: Compensation Increases for Defense Attorneys Assigned
 by State Public Defender Office Supported

WHEREAS, there is a severe shortage of criminal defense attorneys in Douglas County, and

WHEREAS, State Public Defender appointed private bar attorneys regularly travel over 100 miles, one way, to represent Douglas County clients, and

WHEREAS, the lack of defense attorneys is causing excessive delays and inefficiencies for the Douglas County criminal justice system, including but not limited to excess pre-trial confinement in the Douglas County Jail, and

WHEREAS, in an effort to protect the constitutional rights of the citizens of Douglas County, the Douglas County circuit court judges are being forced to appoint private attorneys to represent individuals at the expense of the citizens of Douglas County.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Douglas County Board of Supervisors urge the State of Wisconsin to provide sufficient resources to the Office of the Public Defender ensuring the criminal justice system is operated effectively and efficiently thereby protecting the constitutional rights of its citizens, including increasing the rate of reimbursement for private attorneys appointed by the Public Defender to a market rate that will ensure the prompt appointment of counsel and that cases are handled in a timely, efficient and competent manner.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the County Clerk is directed to send a copy of this resolution to the Wisconsin Governor, the Wisconsin Supreme Court, the Wisconsin State Public Defender, the Wisconsin Counties Association, the Wisconsin Towns Association, the League of Wisconsin Municipalities, all Wisconsin state legislators, and each Wisconsin county.

Dated this 20th day of September, 2018.
 (Committee Action: Unanimous)
 (Fiscal Note: None)

ACTION: Motion by Pomush, second Lear, to adopt. Motion carried.

STATE OF WISCONSIN
)SS:
) COUNTY OF DOUGLAS)

I hereby certify that this resolution is a true
and correct copy of a resolution adopted by the
Douglas County Board of Supervisors on
9-20-18

Susan T. Sandvick
Susan T. Sandvick, County Clerk