

RESOLUTION # 2026-21

Opposing State Public Defender Rates

To the Honorable Members of the Burnett County Board of Supervisors;

WHEREAS, Wisconsin State Statute 977.02(9) sets forth the manner in which the State Public Defender Board may set rates for copies in discovery in criminal cases; and

WHEREAS, rates have been set by the State Public Defender, who serves a five-year term, for over the last 15 years and not the Board as specified in Statute; and

WHEREAS, the rates have only been noticed to District Attorneys via email and not to the counties who bear the costs of producing the documents; and

WHEREAS, the Public Defender's office may shift money in the budget to other line items thereby depleting the funds needed to pay for discovery; and

WHEREAS, payments to counties for discovery materials have steadily declined and are being further reduced; and

WHEREAS, Burnett County and all Wisconsin Counties will have costs increased by this action; and

WHEREAS, there is no legislative oversight in this matter; and

WHEREAS, the State Public Defender, in arbitrarily setting dollar amounts, appears to be in violation of Statute 977.02(9).

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Burnett County Board opposes such actions and encourages statewide action to change this practice; and

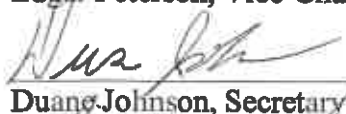
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Board directs copies of this resolution to be sent to all Wisconsin Counties, the Wisconsin Counties Association and area legislators.

Respectfully submitted by the Administration Committee.

Signed and dated this 18th day of May, 2026.


Don Taylor, Chair

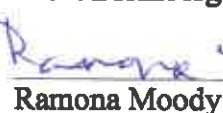

Edgar Peterson, Vice-Chair


Duane Johnson, Secretary


Gerald Pardun


Emily Gall


Brent Blomberg


Ramona Moody

State of Wisconsin
County of Burnett

I, Wanda Hinrichs, the duly elected and qualified County Clerk in and for Burnett County, do hereby certify that the attached Resolution 2026-21, "Opposing State Public Defender Rates" was adopted by the Burnett County Board of Supervisors at a legally assembled meeting at which a quorum was present and acted throughout. The date of passage was May 21, 2026.

Wanda Hinrichs

Wanda Hinrichs,
Burnett County Clerk