



# COUNTY OF ERIE

**MARK C. POLONCARZ**

COUNTY EXECUTIVE

January 23, 2015

Erie County Legislature  
92 Franklin Street  
Buffalo, New York 14202

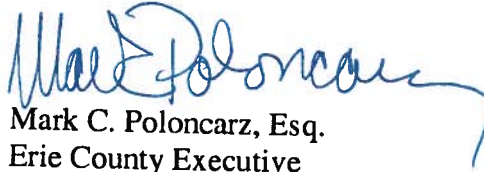
**Re: Indigent Legal Services Grant**

Dear Honorable Members:

The attached resolution requests authorization to establish grant funding in the County Attorney's Office for previously approved New York State Office of Indigent Legal Services grant funding for the final two years of a three year period in the amount of \$970,086. Funds are used to help improve the quality of representation to indigent defendants through the efforts of the Erie County Bar Association's Aid to Indigent Prisoners Society and the Legal Aid Bureau of Buffalo.

Should your Honorable Body require further information, I encourage you to contact the Office of the County Attorney. Thank you for your consideration on this matter.

Sincerely,



Mark C. Poloncarz, Esq.  
Erie County Executive

MCP/map  
Enclosure

cc: Michael Siragusa, County Attorney

## **MEMORANDUM**

TO: Honorable Members of the Erie County Legislature  
FROM: Office of the County Attorney  
RE: Indigent Legal Services Grant  
DATE: January 23, 2015

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### **SUMMARY**

It is recommended that the Legislature authorize the establishment of a grant budget in the amount of \$970,086 for the final two years of a previously approved grant contract with the New York State Office of Indigent Legal Services in the total amount of \$1,455,129.

### **FISCAL IMPLICATIONS**

There are no fiscal implications on the operating budget. All services will be fully reimbursed through New York State in the amount of \$970,086 in the final two years of the grant. \$485,042 of said funds will be utilized by the Erie County Bar Association's Aid to Indigent Prisoners Society and the Legal Aid Bureau of Buffalo will receive \$485,044.

### **REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION**

Legislative approval is required for the Division of Budget and Management to establish the grant budgets.

### **BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

The New York State Office of Indigent Legal Services made \$1,455,129 available to Erie County to improve the quality of representation provided to indigent defendants. Pursuant to Comm. 20E-12 (2013) the Legislature authorized the acceptance of the grant, establishment of the first year grant budget and the execution of contracts. Further action is necessary to establish the grant budget for the final two years of the grant.

### **CONSEQUENCES OF NEGATIVE ACTION**

Failure to approve this resolution will serve to hinder the improvement of State mandated indigent legal services in Erie County.

### **STEPS FOLLOWING APPROVAL**

Grant budgets will be established by the Division of Budget and Management.

A RESOLUTION SUBMITTED BY:  
OFFICE OF THE COUNTY ATTORNEY

RE: Indigent Legal Services Grant

WHEREAS, the New York State Office of Indigent Legal Services ("ILS") has provided a three year grant totaling \$1,455,129 to the County for the provision of indigent defense services, and

WHEREAS, Erie County has contracted with the Erie County Bar Association's Aid to Indigent Prisoners Society and the Legal Aid Bureau of Buffalo to deliver the services required through the grant,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED, that authorization is provided to establish the final two years of ILS Distribution 3 grant funding in the County Attorney's Office as follows:

Erie County Attorney's Office  
Grant Fund 281 – Three Year Quality Improvement Grant  
160D3ILSFY1416  
June 1, 2014 to May 31, 2016

Revenue	Increase
Account 409000 - State Aid Revenue	\$970,086
Appropriation	Increase
Account 516601 - Legal Aid Bureau	\$485,044
Account 516602 - EC Bar Association	<u>485,042</u>
Total Appropriation	\$970,086

and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Director of Budget and Management is hereby authorized to adjust items of appropriations and revenues which may be impacted by changes to the grantor award, provided there are no changes to authorized personnel levels and county share amounts: and be it further

RESOLVED, that certified copies of this resolution be forwarded to the Office of the County Attorney, the Office of the Comptroller, the County Executive's Office and the Division of Budget and Management.

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