December 16, 2019

The Honorable
Erie County Legislature
92 Franklin Street
Buffalo, New York 14202

Re: Chaplain Agreement

Honorable Members:

Attached please find a proposed resolution and accompanying memorandum requesting authorization for the County Executive and the Sheriff’s Office to enter into an agreement with an individual to provide religious services and spiritual counseling for inmates at the holding center and the correctional facility.

A representative from the Sheriff’s Office will be available at meetings to detail the proposed resolution. Thank you for your consideration of this matter.

Very truly yours,

TIMOTHY B. HOWARD
SHERIFF OF ERIE COUNTY

Attachments
ACCOMPANYING MEMORANDUM

To: Honorable Members of the Erie County Legislature
From: Erie County Sheriff’s Office – Jail Management Division
Re: Chaplain Agreement
Date: December 16, 2019

Summary of Recommended Action

The Sheriff’s Jail Management Division needs the authorization to enter into a new agreement with a chaplain for religious services and spiritual services and counseling within the jails.

Fiscal Implications of Proposal

These funds are within the approved 2020 Budget and shall have no impact outside the approved funding.

Reasons for Recommendation

The Chaplain Division of the Sheriff’s Office provides various religious and spiritual services as well as counseling for inmates. The Jail Management Division, in the past, has entered into agreements with religious leaders for different faiths to provide the services.

By entering into agreements with chaplains, the Jail Management Division and Chaplain Division can provide greater access to religious services and leaders.

The Sheriff’s Office will enter into an agreement with the Reverend Jeffery C. Chambliss for a term beginning January 1, 2020, and ending on December 31, 2020. The Reverend Chambliss shall be compensated $50.00 per weekly visit. The agreement cannot exceed $2,600.00 for 2020.

Consequences of Negative Action

The Erie County Sheriff’s Jail Management Division would be unable to provide religious services and counseling to inmates.

Steps Following Approval of Measure

Certified copies of this resolution shall be forwarded to the County Executive, the County Attorney, the Division of Budget and Management, the Erie County Comptroller’s Office and the Erie County Sheriff’s Office for implementation.
A RESOLUTION SUBMITTED BY:
ERIE COUNTY SHERIFF’S OFFICE

Re: Chaplain Agreement

WHEREAS, the Sheriff’s Office maintains a chaplain unit to provide religious services and spiritual counseling to inmates of varying faiths and beliefs; and

WHEREAS, the Sheriff’s Office seeks to enter into an agreement with the Reverend Jeffery C. Chambless to offer such religious services; and

WHEREAS, the Reverend Chambless shall be compensated $50.00 per weekly visit which shall not exceed $2,600.00 for the term of the agreement which begins on or about January 1, 2020, and ends on December 31, 2020.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED, the Legislature does hereby authorize the County Executive and the Sheriff’s Office to enter into an agreement with the Reverend Jeffery C. Chambless at a rate of $50.00 per weekly visit; and be it further

RESOLVED, the agreement will begin on or about January 1, 2020, and end on December 31, 2020, and shall not exceed $2,600.00; and be it further

RESOLVED, the Erie County Comptroller’s Office is hereby authorized to release the designated funds and make payments as necessary; and be it further

RESOLVED, certified copies of this resolution shall be forwarded to the County Executive, the County Attorney, the Division of Budget and Management, the Erie County Comptroller’s Office and the Erie County Sheriff’s Office for implementation.