

2016 RES-597
AUTHORIZING ACCEPTANCE OF GRANT FUNDS
FOR PRETRIAL SAFETY ASSESSMENT EVALUATION

Dane County has begun using a validated, data-driven Pretrial Safety Assessment (PSA) tool in the criminal justice system with the generous support of the Laura and John Arnold Foundation. The PSA tool is used at initial appearance to provide court commissioners with information to help determine whether an individual should be detained or released before trial.

Last year, the County Board approved a 1.0 FTE project position and a .5 LTE position in the Clerk of Courts – ATIP program to complete the data analysis which results in the assessment score for each individual. The 2017 budget recognized funds from the Laura and John Arnold Foundation to cover the cost of these positions. The pilot period will continue through October 2018 and the LJAF has provided funds sufficient to cover the costs of these positions through the 21 month period.

Additionally, as part of this initiative, Harvard University researchers will complete a multi-year study of the outcomes of use of the tool in Dane County compared to the status quo. This evaluation requires considerable data manipulation and analysis over the course of six years. This highly technical work will be intermittent, occurring a couple months at a time from the Spring of 2017 through the fall of 2022.

The Laura and John Arnold Foundation will support an intermittently employed, highly-skilled LTE position in the County Board Office to work closely with Harvard University and criminal justice system officials on the evaluation of the impact of the PSA over time. In addition to providing Dane County with \$6,000 for office set up, the LJAF will reimburse Dane County quarterly for the cost of the LTE position for up to \$194,000 over the course of the study. The total possible dollar value of the award is \$200,000, with any unused funds remaining with the Foundation. This resolution amends the budget for the expected revenue and expenditures for 2017. Additional amounts will be included in future operating budgets.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Dane County Board of Supervisors and the Dane County Executive hereby accept the grant award from the Laura and John Arnold Foundation for up to \$200,000 to complete data analysis in support of the evaluation of the Pretrial Safety Assessment.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a new revenue account COBOARD–(NEW) “LJAF Data Analysis Revenue” in the amount of \$49,100 shall be established in the Office of the County Board and these funds shall be carried forward until expended; and that a new expense account be created COBOARD – (NEW) “LJAF Data Analysis Expense – Office Equipment” shall also be established in an amount of \$6,000 and shall be carried forward until expended; and the COBOARD-10072 LIMITED TERM EMPLOYEES account be increased by \$40,000 and the COBOARD 10108 - SOCIAL SECURITY account be increased by \$3,100.

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that the County Board hereby authorizes the County Executive and the County Clerk to enter into an agreement with the Laura and John Arnold Foundation memorializing the roles and responsibilities of Dane County and the Foundation regarding this initiative.