2022 RES-205

AUTHORIZING AN EXTENTION OF THE LTE HOURS IN THE DANE COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE DEFERRED PROSECUTION UNIT

- 4 The Deferred Prosecution Unit (DPU) of the Dane County District Attorney's Office has been
- 5 experiencing a staffing shortage since April 2022 when Program Director Melvin Juette went on leave.
- 6 One of the full time case managers is also currently out for an extended period of time on a medical
- 7 leave. To help address this staffing shortage, an LTE Case manager has been carrying a full caseload of
- 8 clients to offset increasing caseload numbers currently experienced by other case managers in the
- 9 office. The LTE case manager serves a critical role in the unit in supporting primarily African American
- 10 female defendants with their Deferred Prosecution Agreements while providing culturally appropriate
- 11 case management services and an extension is necessary to continue this service. As referrals to
- 12 Deferred Prosecution continue to increase as a direct result of the COVID-19 pandemic and the
- 13 subsequent backlog being addressed through the Court and District Attorney's Office, it is imperative for
- 14 the Deferred Prosecution Unit to continue to employ an LTE.

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- 15 Dane County's Civil Service Ordinance, section 18.16(1)(a), limits limited term employees to 1,200 hours
- 16 per year. The LTE case manager referenced above is approaching the 1,200 hour limit. The department
- 17 would need an additional 375 hours for this LTE case manager in the 2022 payroll year. The Dane County
- 18 District Attorney's Office is requesting an extension of hours to allow the department to continue this
- 19 service and retain this capacity as part of its effort to respond to public safety in Dane County. This LTE
- 20 case manager has an ongoing caseload (not seasonal work) that she is already familiar with and it would
- 21 be detrimental to the clients to bring in a new LTE at this point.
- 22 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 323.14, the Dane County Board of
- 23 Supervisors grants an exception to Ordinance 18.16 (1)(a) to allow the Deferred Prosecution LTE case
- 24 manager referenced above in the Dane County District Attorney's Office to exceed 1,200 hours,
- 25 however, not exceed 375 additional hours, in the 2022 payroll year.