

**AUTHORIZING A CAPITAL BUDGET AMENDMENT FOR THE INSTALLATION OF
DIGITAL AUDIO RECORDING EQUIPMENT IN THE PUBLIC SAFETY BUILDING
COURTROOM**

The Clerk of Circuit Court's office is required to take the verbatim record in proceedings led by Judicial Court Commissioners. Digital Audio Recording (DAR) equipment has been successfully installed in all judicial courtrooms and Commissioner Center hearing rooms under a 2021 capital budget item totaling \$40,000. As of February, 2023, the equipment has been installed in all 17 courtrooms and 6 Court Commissioner Center hearings rooms in the courthouse. There remains \$30,805.76 in the capital account, as our vendor's estimate was higher than the work actually cost.

Not included in the 2021 capital item was the cost of installation for DAR and related equipment in the courtroom in the Public Safety Building (PSB), where commissioner-led in-custody initial appearances are held, as the Clerk of Court was uncertain if that space would be usable once the anticipated construction on the jail project began. One concern was that the space might be physically compromised during the project, causing damage to the new DAR equipment or wiring if it was installed. The jail project has not yet begun and its timing remains uncertain. The PSB courtroom has remained in continuous use.

2022 RES-142 authorized the creation of a Digital Audio Recording (DAR) Court Reporter position in the Clerk of Courts' Office so that commissioner-led proceedings can have a proper verbatim record made when required by law. A significant portion of this position's workload must take place in the PSB courtroom for the daily in-custody proceedings. We have now hired that position, but cannot utilize them in the PSB as it lacks the requisite DAR equipment. Thus, we must pursue the equipment upgrade.

The Court's DAR vendor, Fearing's Audio Video Security, has provided a quote to wire and install DAR equipment in the PSB courtroom, as well as an upgrade to the courtroom's aged videoconferencing system in order to fully interface with the DAR to properly record remote appearances. The quote totals \$42,602.17, which the Clerk of Court is assured is reliable. Thus, in order to pursue the project as soon as practicable, we must secure an additional \$11,796.41 in capital funding to complete the project.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that account CPFACMGT 57422 "Courthouse Roof Rigging System" be reduced by \$12,000 and account COCCAP 57319 "Court/Commissioner Room Wiring" be increased by \$12,000.