2021 RES. 133 AUTHORIZING AN EXTENSION OF LTE HOURS IN THE DANE COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE

With the combined emergencies in Dane County caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, dramatic increase in homicides, attempted homicides and other gun violence and the unfunded mandate passed in the spring election for immediate implementation of Marsy's Law (the WI Crime Victims Constitutional Amendment), the Victim Witness Unit of the Dane County District Attorney's Office, including the Crime Response Program, has been providing critical services to victims of crime. In order to provide these services, the District Attorney's Office employs a number of limited term employees (LTEs). Among them: one LTE is communicating with crime victims, informing them of their rights under the new law and working with Crime Response and community partners to assist in meeting the emergency needs of victims and their children. The second LTE is working to document all the additional victim contacts required by Marsy's Law to maintain federal funding of the Crime Response Program and assisting Crime Response Specialists in meeting the needs of those victims and their children. The final LTE is responsible for administrative duties necessary to maintain victim right's compliance with both statute and the Constitutional Amendment.

Dane County's Civil Service Ordinance, section 18.16(1)(a), limits limited term employees to 1,200 hours per year. One of the LTEs referenced above is approaching the limit for LTE's. The others will do before years' end. The Dane County District Attorney's Office is requesting an extension of hours to retain this capacity as part of its effort to maintain compliance with mandates and to respond to public safety in Dane County.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 323.14, the Dane County Board of Supervisors grants an exception to Ordinance 18.16 (1)(a) to allow the three LTE positions referenced above in the Dane County District Attorney's Office to exceed 1,200 hours in the 2021 payroll year.