



# 2025 DEPARTMENTAL PRESENTATION

CORPORATION COUNSEL

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# Office of the Corporation Counsel

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- ❑ Created by Statute : Wis. Stat. § 59.42
  - ❑ Serves as legal counsel to the County
  - ❑ Prosecutes the County's Ordinances
  - ❑ Defends the County in all civil actions not covered by County Insurance
  - ❑ Serves the public interest in various matters
  
- ❑ The Dane County Corporation Counsel's Office has 3 separate divisions
  - ❑ General Civil Unit/General Operations
  - ❑ Permanency Planning Unit
  - ❑ Child Support Agency

# Corporation Counsel's Office

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## ☐ Civil Litigation Unit/ General Operations

- ☐ Responsible for representing the interests of the county, its elected officials, agencies, boards, and commissions in all legal matters. This includes both prosecutorial and defense responsibilities.

## ☐ Permanency Planning Unit

- ☐ Responsible for representing the interests of the public in matters involving child welfare (Child in Need of Protection or Services/CHIPS, Termination of Parental Rights (TPR), and juvenile guardianships), and behavioral health matters (mental health civil commitments, AODA commitments, and guardianships)

## ☐ Child Support Agency

- ☐ Provides assistance to establish paternity, establish and enforce child support and health insurance orders, and the collection and distribution of support to custodial parents.

# Engagement with the Community

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- ❑ Majority of Corp Counsel's Divisions are Not Public Facing
  - ❑ Civil and Permanency Division work with other county departments, or law enforcement
- ❑ CSA Engages with the Community Through Various Initiatives
  - ❑ Monthly child support clinics are held w/ UW Law School, Urban League and Lift Wisconsin @ UL
  - ❑ Monthly Satellite Office Days at the Dane County Job Center to allow easier access
  - ❑ Targeted outreach to Spanish-speaking communities:
    - ❑ Presentations at Centro Hispano to families
    - ❑ Participated in radio program at La Movida to provide general information
    - ❑ Participation in LaSup monthly meetings at the Catholic Multicultural Center
    - ❑ Participation in Madison Area Partners and Allies (MAPA) resource fair
  - ❑ Community Access Day Initiative

# Budget Summary

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- ❑ Status Quo Budget: In Accordance with County Executive Guidelines
  - ❑ A number of DI's reflect an increase in outside non-GPR revenue as a result of an equal increase in expenses due to personnel salaries and benefits.
  - ❑ In all divisions, there are DI's that reflect an increase in expenses due to price increases for essential services, supplies and software.
  - ❑ CSA is asking to create an outreach line for its Community Access Day Initiative by reallocating funding.

# Civil Unit/ General Operations Decision Items

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- ❑ DI: Atty positions #2521 and #3158 provide services unique to DCRA, including federal regulatory matters and issues related to PFAS . A portion of the funding necessary for these positions can be paid out of Airport Revenue, and it is anticipated personnel costs for these positions will increase.
  - ❑ An increase in personnel costs results in an increase in non-GPR revenue of \$20,949
  
- ❑ DI: Position #290 is partially funded by the Groundwater Initiative Revenue line (landfill). It is anticipated that the costs for that attorney will increase in 2025.
  - ❑ An increase in personnel costs results in an increase of non-GPR revenue of \$14,809
  
- ❑ DI: Increase Office Supply Expense line to cover increase costs of equipment such as laptops, webcams, etc by \$2,000.

# Permanency Planning Unit

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- ❑ DI: Projected revenue increase of federal IV-E reimbursement for child welfare services of \$33,171
- ❑ DI: Increase the division's library expense line to cover the growing costs of legal resources by \$1,000
- ❑ DI: Increase case management software expense line to cover the anticipated price increase upon contract renewal by \$6,993.

# Child Support Agency

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- ❑ DI: Projected revenue increase of federal IV-D reimbursement for child support services of \$38,949
- ❑ DI: Increase Office Supply Expense line to cover the cost of purchasing its own copier/printer paper by \$5,060.
- ❑ DI: Create a new expense line for Community Access Day to cover outreach materials and other supplies by reallocating \$1,000 from the Conference & Training expense line. Budget neutral.



Any Questions?

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