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**2023 RES-349**

**APPROVING A CONTRACT AND LEASE WITH DEFYNE, LLC TO OFFER OMBUDS SERVICES TO COUNTY EMPLOYEES**

The 2023 Annual Budget included funding for the County to obtain Ombuds services for all employees. In August 2023, the Department of Administration released a Request for Proposals (2023-RFP-091-PR) for Ombuds Services. Defyne, LLC was chosen as the winning bidder from that process and a contract has been negotiated with Defyne, LLC. The contract also contains exclusive use of a small office space in the City-County, the terms of that use are established in a lease.

The 2023 Budget established that a contract for Ombuds services be deemed significant and require County Board approval. The contract provides for services to be provided over a period of 20 months, with three calendar year renewals that could extend service through 2028. This resolution approves the contract with Defyne, LLC and approves the lease agreement for Defyne, LLC to operate out of the City-County Building.

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the County Executive and the County Clerk are authorized to execute on the behalf of Dane County a contract with Defyne, LLC, to provide Ombuds services to county employees, with a maximum cost of \$646,391.98

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the County Executive and the County Clerk are authorized to execute a lease for room 208 in the City-County Building to Defyne, LLC, in order for Defyne, LLC to offer Ombuds services as described in the contract.