

**COUNTY OF MILWAUKEE**  
District Attorney's Office  
Inter-Office Communication

Date: November 1, 2019 Legistar File No. 19-841

To: Theodore Lipscomb, Sr., Chairman, County Board of Supervisors

From: District Attorney's Office

Subject: Creation of 1.0 FTE Project Safe Neighborhood Position in the District Attorney's Office

We are requesting the creation of 1.0 FTE position in the District Attorney's Office, as follows, to implement a Project Safe Neighborhoods (PSN) grant award:

1.0 FTE, Victim/Witness Advocate, Job Code 84171, Pay Range 16Z6.

Last Spring, the Wisconsin Department of Justice published a grant announcement soliciting project proposals for collaborative community-wide efforts linking gun violence & gang prevention and intervention efforts (in schools and the community) with law enforcement suppression efforts. The grant announcement was entitled Project Safe Neighborhoods Eastern District (2018). It did not include any match requirement. A total of \$316,576 was available for the grant.

On June 28, 2019, without prior county board approval and as sanctioned by Milwaukee County General Ordinance 56.06(1), the Milwaukee County District Attorney's Office applied for the Project Safe Neighborhoods Eastern District (2018) grant. The District Attorney's Office proposed a project to support the prosecution of persons charged with gun violence in Milwaukee. Specifically, the application proposed funding for a vertical Victim Witness Advocate who will maintain a continuity of contact with gun violence witnesses. This Victim Witness Advocate will ensure that witnesses are supported and available for purposes of prosecution, including trial. He or she will be co-located in both the District Attorney's Violent Crime Unit and at the Milwaukee Police Department. The grant application also proposed a contract with the City of Milwaukee Office of Violence Prevention (OVP). The OVP will provide support in the form of regular contact as well as - where needed - emergency financial support.

On October 1, 2019, the District Attorney's Office received an award letter from the State of Wisconsin Department of Justice indicating that the office had received a grant award, identified as Project Safe Neighborhoods Eastern District 2018-PE-01-15399, in the amount of \$316,576 for "programs or projects that initiate, support, and/or enhance law enforcement efforts to reduce gun-related crime and violence". The award included amounts for a Victim Witness Advocate

(Wages \$114,875 + Fringe \$65,018 = \$179,893), the OVP Contractual/Consultant (\$133,613) and for computer equipment in two locations (\$3,070).

The County Executive accepted the award October 14, 2019.

The period of this award is from approximately September 1, 2019 to September 30, 2021.

In summary, this PSN grant award of \$316,576 includes funding for approximately two years for a new Victim Witness Advocate in the Milwaukee County District Attorney Office (Wages \$114,875 + Fringe \$65,017 = \$179,893). The award includes \$3,070 for computer equipment for the new position, a position requiring co-location at both the District Attorney's Office and at the Milwaukee Police Department. Finally, the award includes an amount of \$133,613 for contractual services to be provided by the City of Milwaukee OVP.

Creation of the new PSN position, which will not be filled until Pay Period 2 of 2020 commencing December 30, 2019, at the earliest, will consequently have no 2019 tax levy effect. Budgetary authority for the 2020 portion of project expenditures and offsetting revenue of this new PSN grant was included in the District Attorney's 2020 budget.

Respectfully Submitted,



John T. Chisholm  
District Attorney