

MILWAUKEE COUNTY



OFFICE OF THE SHERIFF

SHERIFF DENITA R. BALL

File No: 25-345

DATE: May 13, 2025

TO: Supervisor Marcelia Nicholson, Chairwoman, Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors

FROM: Brian Barkow, Chief Deputy, Milwaukee County Sheriff's Office

SUBJECT: Request to retroactively amend and extend an Amendment 3 to the intergovernmental cooperation agreement with Racine County from January 1, 2025, to December 31, 2025, pursuant to Wis. Stat. §§ 66.0301 and 302.44 for the temporary housing of certain jail occupants.

BACKGROUND

The Milwaukee County Jail (MCJ) provides the safe and secure detention of all individuals arrested and housed there. As the largest jail in the state, MCJ processes and releases over 15,000 occupants annually. In 2021, for the first time in MCSO history, the Milwaukee County Jail attained accreditation from the blue-ribbon National Commission on Correctional Health Care.

The MCJ is a high-security detention facility with court ordered capacity for 960 persons in custody under non-pandemic public health conditions. Since the construction of the Milwaukee County Jail in 1992, the MCJ has not had the capacity to house all pretrial detainees in Milwaukee County due to infrastructure and capacity constraints. Historically, the Milwaukee County Community Reintegration Center (CRC) has accepted and housed a large portion of the incarcerated pre-trial population in Milwaukee County. Staffing shortages and other restrictions at the MCJ and the CRC has disrupted this practice. In the worst-case scenario, where the CRC would not be able to house the MCJ overflow, MCSO would like to have an alternate housing site option available.

Milwaukee County needs an alternative housing option for MCJ occupants to ensure space within the MCJ for population management purposes. Racine County has capacity at the Racine County Jail (RCJ) to house transferees from the MCJ. In addition to any other costs or amounts expressly set forth in this Agreement, Milwaukee County will pay to Racine County a per diem fee of \$70.00 (the "Daily Fee") for each transferee housed at the RCJ, including partial days.

AGREEMENT DETAILS

The parties have agreed to the following:

1. Modifications to the provisions of this Agreement will be valid only upon execution of a written amendment to the Agreement signed by both parties.
2. Amendment 3 to intergovernmental cooperation agreement is entered into as January 1, 2025, and hereby extended for twelve months until December 31, 2025.

RECOMMENDATION

The Chief Deputy of the Milwaukee County Sheriff's Office respectfully submits this action item to request the authority to enter, amend and extend an amendment 3 to the intergovernmental cooperation agreement with Racine County from January 1, 2025, to December 31, 2025, pursuant to Wis. Stat. §§ 66.0301 and 302.44 for the temporary housing of certain Jail occupants.

FISCAL NOTE

File 22-992 was approved by the County Board in the September cycle that included the intergovernmental cooperative agreement between Milwaukee County and Racine County for the temporary housing of jail occupants. File 22-248, Amendment No. 1 to intergovernmental cooperation agreement with Racine County from January 1, 2023, to December 31, 2023. File 23-933, Amendment No. 2 to intergovernmental cooperation agreement with Racine County from January 1, 2024, to December 31, 2024.

Approved in the resolution in file 22-992 was a \$497,000 fund transfer from the unallocated contingency fund. In 2022, MCSO spent \$244,580. MCSO did not spend the entire allotment of funds by December 31, 2024. MCSO has a remaining balance of \$249,381. No other funds are being requested at this time.

Amendment 3 enters, amends, and extends the intergovernmental cooperation agreement from January 1, 2025, to December 31, 2025. These costs were not anticipated in the 2025 Adopted Budget.

Brian Barkow

Sheriff's Office - Chief Deputy

Brian Barkow, Chief Deputy

Milwaukee County Sheriff's Office

