

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

Date: November 13, 2015

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

From: District Attorney's Office

Subject: Permission to Apply for Supplemental VOCA Grant Funding and to Accept the Grant if Awarded

We are requesting, pursuant to section 56.06(1) of the county general ordinances, permission to apply for supplemental Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) funding of \$83,760 (\$67,005 federal funds + \$16,755 local match) from the Wisconsin Department of Justice and to accept the supplemental VOCA grant if awarded.

The district attorney's office has a longstanding VOCA program that provides funding for some training expenses and the salaries and fringe benefits of 5.0 FTE employees - 3.0 FTE sensitive crime victim advocates in the sensitive crimes unit and 2.0 FTE victim/witness advocates in the crisis response unit. VOCA funds 80 percent of project expenses with a 20 percent local match requirement.

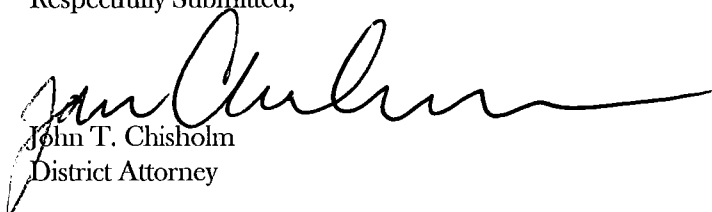
In mid-October 2015, the state Justice Department announced a round of supplemental VOCA funding, with an application deadline of November 17, 2015, to provide up to \$100,000 in supplemental VOCA funding to existing VOCA grant recipients to enhance services to crime victims.

The district attorney's 2015 and 2016 budgets include funding for equipment, but no personnel, for the district attorney's portion of the Family Justice Center, scheduled to open in January 2016 within the new Sojourner Family Peace Center at 6th and Walnut Streets in Milwaukee. District attorney victim/witness advocates, Sojourner victim advocates, Children's Hospital, the Milwaukee Police Department, Jewish Family Services, Wraparound Milwaukee, and other service providers will be located at the Family Justice Center to provide collaborative, one-stop services to victims of domestic violence and child abuse and their families.

We are requesting permission to apply for this supplemental VOCA grant of \$83,760, and to accept the grant if awarded, with funding of approximately \$79,110 for the salary and fringe benefits of a new victim/witness advocate, located at the Family Justice Center, and approximately \$4,650 in computer equipment, consisting of a tablet and printer for the new victim/witness advocate and an additional laptop for the district attorney's crisis response unit.

Acceptance of this supplemental VOCA grant, if awarded, will have no tax levy effect because the district attorney's office will absorb the local match expenses of approximately \$16,755 within its 2016 budget. No appropriation of funds is required.

Respectfully Submitted,


John T. Chisholm
District Attorney