



OFFICE OF THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE

*Milwaukee County*

CHRIS ABELE COUNTY EXECUTIVE

To: Marina Dimitrijevic, Chairwoman, County Board of Supervisors

From: Chris Abele, County Executive

Date: July 13, 2012

Re: Department of Labor Relations - Informational

Issue:

Department of Labor Relations reporting to Corporation Counsel.

On July 9, 2012 the County Executive informed Chairwoman Dimitrijevic, Finance, Personnel and Audit Co-Chairs Cullen and Johnson and Labor Relations Specialist, Fred Bau that the Department of Labor Relations would begin reporting to the Office of Corporation Counsel. This will create a supportive environment for Labor Relations because Corporation Counsel has the relevant skills and expertise to advise and assist in its work as labor issues frequently require legal analysis and intervention. The intent of this change is to capitalize on the natural synergies between these two functions to benefit the County as well as minimize the potential for commitment of resources for outside counsel. Additionally, as both Departments have a dual reporting role to the County Board and County Executive which adds to the synergy.

The policy authority governing the Department of Labor Relations will still reside with the Finance, Personnel and Audit Committee per Milwaukee County Ordinance Chapter 79 and 80. Additionally, the Finance, Personnel and Audit Committee will continue to direct the collective bargaining strategy as in the past.