

COUNTY OF MILWAUKEE
Inter-Office Communication

Date: April 20, 2022

To: Marcelia Nicholson, Chair, Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors

From: Mary Triggiano, Chief Judge, First Judicial District

Subject: Request to Create Position

File Type: Action Report

REQUEST

The Chief Judge requests to create the following position:

1 FTE Court Coordinator-Mental Health Treatment Court, pay grade 29M.

POLICY

| | |
|----------------------------------------------|---------------------|
| Wisconsin State Statutes: | Wis Stats 59.17 |
| Milwaukee County Code of General Ordinances: | MCGO 17.05(1) |
| Specific Adopted Budget: | 2022 Adopted Budget |

BACKGROUND

Milwaukee County Combined Courts started a pilot Mental Health Treatment Court (MHTC) in 2014. The pilot court serves between 5 and 7 individuals at any given time. The court has been limited to a pilot due to not having dedicated staff; however, the need for a Mental Health Treatment Court remains present. It is estimated that in 2020, 26% of the population who went through Universal Screening were assessed as needing a further mental health assessment based on the Brief Jail Mental Health Screen¹.

In March of 2022, the Milwaukee Community Justice Council submitted a request for American Rescue Plan Act dollars to Governor Evers to help the courts address the backlog of cases due to the pandemic. Included in the request was funding for 1 FTE

¹ Universal Screening is an evidence-based program that operates 24/7/365 in the Criminal Justice Facility (CJF). The contracted provider conducts an assessment on all individuals booked into the CJF on a bailable charge(s) to determine pretrial risk. Universal Screening includes an interview to determine the needs of the individuals and possible early intervention eligibility. The Brief Jail Mental Health Screen (BJMHS) is included in the interview. It is a self-report mental health screen to help with early identification of severe mental illnesses and other acute psychiatric problems during the intake process.

Mental Health Treatment Court Coordinator.

The Mental Health Treatment Court Coordinator will provide the critical resource for the MHTC by ensuring coordination in the development, adherence to best practices/standards, accountability of stakeholders for the court. This dedicated FTE will help build the foundation and move the MHTC from a pilot court to an institutionalized therapeutic court in Milwaukee County.

| | |
|-------------------------------------------------------|--------|
| Related File No's: | 22-476 |
| Associated File No's (Including Transfer Packets): | |
| Previous Action Date(s): | |

FISCAL EFFECT

County Board resolution 22-476 authorized the Office of Strategy, Budget, and Performance to process appropriation transfers to recognize and increase revenues and expenditures by \$14,719,000 to Org Unit 2000 – Combined Court Related Operations, of which \$195,000 is for the Mental Health Treatment Court Coordinator. The position will be paid for by ARPA funding.

POSITION INFORMATION

| <u>Action</u> | <u>FTE</u> | <u>Title</u> | <u>Pay Range</u> | <u>Annual Salary Range</u> |
|---------------|------------|---------------------------------------------------------|------------------|----------------------------|
| Create | 1 | Court Coordinator – Mental Health Treatment Court | 29M | \$62,670 - \$75,088 |

VIRTUAL MEETING INVITES

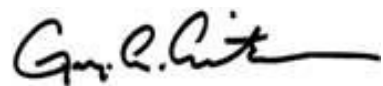
George Christenson
Mary Triggiano
Brenda Ottesen
Stephanie Garbo
Donya Saffold

PREPARED BY:

Stephanie Garbo
Judicial Operations Manager-Pretrial

APPROVED BY:

George Christenson
Clerk of Circuit Court

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "George Christenson". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a prominent initial "G" and a long, sweeping underline.

George Christenson

cc: Kelly Bablitch, Chief of Staff, Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors
Janelle M. Jensen, Legislative Services Division Manager, Office of the County Clerk