COUNTY OF MILWAUKEE

INTEROFFICE COMMUNICATION

DATE : August 26, 2014

TO : Chris Abele, County Executive

Supervisor Willie Johnson, Jr., Co-Chairman, Finance, Personnel and Audit Committee Supervisor David Cullen, Co-Chairman, Finance, Personnel and Audit Committee

Don Tyler, Director, Department of Administrative Services

FROM : John Barrett, Clerk of Circuit Court/Register in Probate

SUBJECT: Revenue Deficits in excess of \$75,000 - Clerk of Circuit Court's office

Policy Issue:

County Ordinance 56.02 requires each person in charge of any County office, department agency, or any non-departmental account to:

"... submit a written report to the County Executive, the committee on Finance and Audit of the County Board and the Department of Administration whenever such person has reason to know or believe that a deficit of seventy-five thousand dollars (\$75,000.00) or more in any revenue account will occur for the division of county government under the supervision of that person.

Background:

| Item | Short Description | Budget Amount | Actual amount to date | Projected Amount | Variance between budget and projected |
|------|--------------------------------|------------------|------------------------------|---------------------|---|
| 3157 | Special Dispensation Fees | \$240,000 | \$78,630 (six months) | \$157,260 | \$(82,740) |
| 3160 | General Action Large Claims | \$825,000 | \$339,927 (six months) | \$679,855 | \$(145,145) |

Special Dispensation Fees are charged on each traffic case that is closed. With the decreasing number of traffic citations issued, this revenue amount continues to decrease. This decreasing revenue was taken into account when formulating the requested budget for 2015 by lowering the revenue amount by \$30,000.

General Action Large Claims is primarily the County's share of filing fees for large claims (i.e. above \$10,000). With the success of the Foreclosure Mediation Program as well as the improving economy, the number of foreclosure filings has been decreasing. This decreasing revenue was taken into account when formulating the requested budget for 2015 by lowering the revenue amount by \$125,000.

For 2014, our office will take the projected revenue deficits into account and attempt to lower expenditures for the remainder of the calendar year. The expenditure reduction required is

approximately 1.9% of our total departmental budget. Our intent is to come as close as possible to a zero deficit amount for the year.

John Barrett

Clerk of Circuit Court

cc: Marina Dimitrijevic, Chairwoman, County Board of Supervisors

Theodore Lipscomb, Sr., Chair, Judiciary, Safety, and General Services Comm.

Josh Fudge, Budget Director, DAS

Stephen Cady, Director, Research & Policy

Jerome Heer, Director, Department of Audit

Jeffrey Kremers, Chief Judge

Holly Szablewski, District Court Administrator

Jim Smith, Chief Deputy, Clerk of Circuit Court