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TO: Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors

FROM: Chief Judge Jeffrey A. Kremers
Stephanie Garbo, Judicial Operations Manager

DATE: June 1, 2015

RE: **Request to Accept the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation Safety and Justice Challenge Award**

Milwaukee County applied for and was notified on May 11, 2015 of being awarded the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation Safety and Justice Challenge Award. Milwaukee County was one of twenty sites to be selected out of 191 applications.

Stage One of the award is for nine months of intensive technical assistance and mapping of the criminal justice system and how the community uses incarceration. During Stage One, focus will be on seven key criminal justice decision points: arrest, charge, assignment of counsel, pretrial release, case processing, disposition/sentencing, and post-conviction process/supervision. The local project team along with the expert technical assistance providers will determine which decision point(s) to focus on and develop an implementation plan for creating a more fair and effective justice system. Funding (\$149,500) provided during Stage One will cover the travel expenses and staff time dedicated to working on the project.

With the expert technical assistance received throughout the five phases of Stage One and extensive use of data, Milwaukee County will be equipped to apply for Stage Two of the Challenge. If selected for Stage Two of the Safety and Justice Challenge technical assistance will be provided for the proposed change(s) identified in Stage One. The MacArthur Foundation has stated that the selected Stage Two sites will receive upwards of \$2 million a year for two years to help with the implementation changes.