

**COUNTY OF MILWAUKEE  
INTER-OFFICE MEMORANDUM**

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**DATE:** September 26, 2018

**TO:** Chairperson Theodore Lipscomb, Sr.,  
Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors

**FROM:** Chief Judge Maxine Aldridge White  
Clerk of Circuit Court John Barrett  
Prepared by: Liz Finn Gorski, Judicial Operations Manager (Children's Division)

**SUBJECT:** Guardian ad Litem Services in Milwaukee County Family and Children's  
Division

**Request**

The Chief Judge and the Clerk of Circuit Court request authorization to enter into a contract with Legal Aid Society, a non-profit organization, in the amount of \$2,275,296 in 2019, \$2,472,802 in 2020, and a potential one year extension for \$2,521,258 in 2021. This contract allows attorneys from Legal Aid Society to represent the best interest of children in Family and Children's Court cases, as appointed by the Courts.

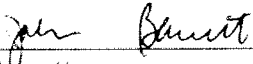
**Background**

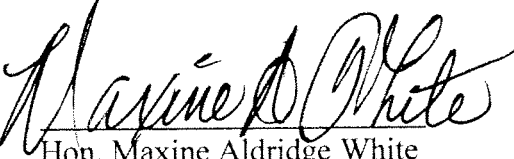
On July 19, 2018 the County issued a Request for Proposal for Guardian ad Litem services for the Children's Division and Family Division Court cases. On September 7, 2018 Milwaukee County received two applications for GAL services for the period of 2019-2020 with a potential one year extension. A Committee was set up to review the applications and Legal Aid Society was selected.

**Fiscal Impact**

The cost of this contract for 2019 is \$2,275,296 and sufficient funds have been requested in the 2019 Requested Budget. The 2020 and 2021 contract funds will be reflected in the budget request for those corresponding years. There is no fiscal impact by entering into this contract beyond the requested budgeted expenditures and revenues.

Sincerely,

  
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John Barrett  
Clerk of Circuit Courts

  
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Hon. Maxine Aldridge White  
Chief Judge

cc: Anthony Staskunas, Chairperson Judiciary, Safety and General Services  
James "Luigi" Schmitt, Chairperson Finance and Audit