

**COUNTY OF MILWAUKEE
INTEROFFICE COMMUNICATION**

DATE: April 16, 2021

TO: Marcelia Nicholson, Chairwoman, County Board of Supervisors

FROM: Joseph Lamers, Director, Office of Performance, Strategy and Budget,
Department of Administrative Services

SUBJECT: Request to create 3.0 FTE Deputy Sheriff positions in the Office of the Sheriff

Background

The Office of the Sheriff is requesting to create 3.0 FTE Deputy Sheriff positions to form a Crisis Assessment and Response Team (CART). The Office of the Sheriff has 273 Deputy Sheriff positions authorized in the 2021 Budget and this request, if approved, would increase their authorized staffing level to 276 positions.

In 2020, The Office of the Sheriff entered into a partnership with the Milwaukee County Mental Health Board and Behavioral Health Division (BHD) to create a CART team to provide services in the seventeen municipalities that do not current have a CART program. In September 2020, the Mental Health Board approved a one time transfer out of their reserves to fund the three deputy positions.

CART is a national recognized program in law enforcement crisis responses where BHD mental health clinicians are paired with deputy sheriffs to utilize a broader spectrum of situationally tailored interventions. The goal of the program is to reduce the number of emergency detentions and create greater connectivity between law enforcement and community-based mental health programs.

Fiscal Impact

There is no tax levy impact to this request in the Office of the Sheriff. The increased salary and society security costs of the three positions are offset by a fund transfer from BHD reserves which has already been approved by the Mental Health Board..

Recommendation

The Department of Administrative Services – Performance, Strategy, and Budget recommends that 3.0 FTE Deputy Sheriff position be created in the Office of the Sheriff.

JOSEPH LAMERS

Joseph Lamers, Director
Office of Performance, Strategy and Budget
Department of Administrative Services