

RESOLUTION - #23-07

Resolution in Support of Additional Assistant District Attorney

WHEREAS, the Polk County District Attorney and Assistant District Attorneys are State employees; and

WHEREAS, the population of Polk County (2005 estimated Census – Polk County Population 44,613) has increased dramatically since 1976 when Polk County was allocated a full-time Assistant District Attorney position, whereby giving Polk County two prosecutors; and

WHEREAS, the Judicial Branch of Polk County has doubled since 1976; and

WHEREAS, the number of Law Enforcement Officers within Polk County have more than doubled since 1976; and

WHEREAS, the number of Probation Agents for the Department of Corrections have increased from 1.5 in 1976 to 6 in 2007; and

WHEREAS, other counties with a similar population to Polk County have more prosecutors per office than Polk County: for example,

- Dunn County – 1 District Attorney, 2 Assistant District Attorneys
2005 estimated census – 43,000
- Pierce County – 1 District Attorney, 2 Assistant District Attorneys
2005 estimated census – 39,329; and

WHEREAS, counties with a larger population than Polk County have proportionately more prosecutors than Polk County: for example,

- St Croix County – 1 District Attorney, 4 Assistant District Attorneys, 2 part-time Assistant District Attorneys
2005 estimated census – 76,000; and

WHEREAS, the Polk County District Attorney's Office is seriously understaffed and backlogged with cases causing the criminal justice system to suffer as a direct result; and

WHEREAS, the Polk County District Attorney's Office has the clerical personnel to support an additional Assistant District Attorney position within Polk County.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Polk County Board of Supervisors strongly urges the Wisconsin Legislature to pass legislation that provides for one additional Assistant District Attorney for Polk County.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT a copy of this Resolution be forwarded to State of Wisconsin Governor James Doyle, the Representatives of Polk County in the Wisconsin Legislature and to the members of the Joint Finance Committee of the Legislature.

ORIGINAL

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Funding Amount: \$5,000.00 (Office Equipment)

Funding Source: 2007 County Levy Dollars

Finance Committee Recommendation: N/A/ Offered through Suspension of the Rules

Effective Date: Upon Passage and Publication

Approved as to form: Jeffrey B. Fuge
Jeffrey B. Fuge, Corporation Counsel

Dated Submitted to County Board:

March 20, 2007

County Board Action:

Adopted - Unanimous Vote.

Submitted by:

Bryan Beseler 3/13/07
Bryan Beseler, County Board Supervisor

Patricia Schmidt

