Community Safety and Justice

Nicole Gorle

ECAF: 2023-1396

Motion: 23-526

Type:
☒Contract
☐Board Appt.
☐Code Amendment
☐Budget Action
☐Other

Requested Handling:
☒Normal
☐Expedite
☐Urgent

Fund Source:
☒General Fund
☐Other
☐N/A

Executive Rec:
☒Approve
☐Do Not Approve
☐N/A

Approved as to Form:
☐Yes
☐No
☒N/A

Subject: Indigent Defense Improvement Funds – Funding Award to County

Scope: Motion 23-526 would approve an agreement with the Washington State Office of Public Defense under which the State would provide the County Office of Public Defense with $436,528 to improve or expand legal representation to indigent defendants. Funding shall be expended as authorized under RCW 10.101.060-070.

The Office of Public Defense has stated the anticipated use for these additional dollars will be for a contempt of court position at the Snohomish County Public Defender Association and aggravated murder costs.

Duration: January 1, 2024 through December 31, 2024

Fiscal Impact: ☐Current Year ☒Future-Year ☐N/A

Expenditures	Current Year	2024	2025	2026	2027	Total
Fund 002		$436,528				$436,528
Total's		$436,528				$436,528

Revenue	Current Year	2024	2025	2026	2027	Total
Fund 002		$436,528				$436,528
Total's		$436,528				$436,528

Authority Granted: Authorizes the Executive to execute the agreement.

Background: Chapter 10.101 RCW established a grant program to improve public defense services within local jurisdictions of Washington State. The statute outlines a procedure for allocation and expenditure of these indigent defense improvement funds. If funds are set aside by the legislature for this purpose, jurisdictions can apply to the Washington State Office of Public Defense for a portion of these funds. The Snohomish County Office of Public Defense applied and has been awarded funding for 2024.

Requested Action: Move to GLS on December 13th for consideration.